OLD NORSE SERIES · VOLUME 48

Knytlinga Saga

Knýtlinga saga

Knytlinga Saga

The Kings of Denmark

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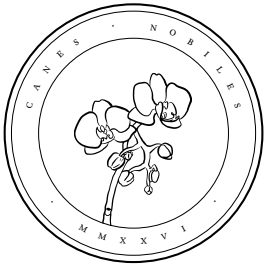
with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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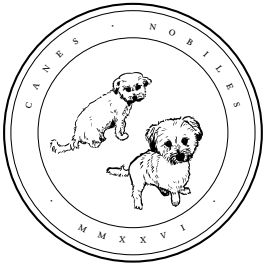

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Haraldr Gormsson took the kingdom after his father, won Holstein and an earldom in Wendland, and founded Jómsborg with a garrison, the Jómsvíkingar. He contrived the death of Haraldr Gunnhildarson at Hals, laid Norway under himself, and set Hákon jarl over it. Otto the Red, beaten at the Danevirke, later won the land and drove him to the Limfjord; Haraldr took baptism, and his son Sveinn was christened Otto-Sveinn, the emperor his godfather.

Haraldr Gormsson var tekinn til konúngs í Danmörk eptir
Harald Gorm's-son was taken to king in Denmark after
föður sinn, hann var ríkr konúngr ok hermaðr mikill;
father his he was a-mighty king and warrior great
hann eignaðist Holsetaland í Saxlandi, ok hafði hann mikit
he acquired Holstein in Saxony and had he a-great
jarlsríki í Vindlandi; hann lét þar gjöra Jómsborg, ok setti
earldom in Wendland he let there make Jomsborg and set
þar herlið mikit, hann setti þeim mála ok rétt, en þeir
there a-garrison great he set them pay and law but they
unnu landit undir hann; á sumrum láu þeir í hernaði, en
won the-land under him in summers lay they in raiding but
sátu heima á vetrum, þeir voru kallaðir Jómsvíkíngar. Haraldr
sat at-home in winters they were called Jomsvikings Harald
konúngr Gormsson réð svikum ok lífláti Haralds konúngs
king Gorm's-son contrived treacheries and death of-Harald king
Gunnhildarsonar, Noregs konúngs, þá er hann féll at Hálsi
Gunnhild's-son Norway king then when he fell at Hals
í Limafirði, sem ritað er í æfi Noregs konúnga; en
in Limafjord as written is in (the)-lives Norway kings but
síðan fór Haraldr konúngr í Noreg með her sinn, ok lagði
afterward went Harald king to Norway with host his and laid
land allt undir sik, ok setti þar yfir höfðíngja Hákon jarl
land all under himself and set there over (as)-chieftain Hakon earl

Sigurðarson, en Danakonúngr tók skatta af landi öllu. Á
Sigurd's-son but (the)-Danes'-king took tributes from land all In
dögum Haralds konúngs Gormssonar var keisari í Saxlandi
days of-Harald king Gorm's-son was emperor in Saxony
Ottó hinn rauði, hann hafði ófrið við Danakonúng, ok
Otto the Red he had war with (the)-Danes'-king and
bauð Dönum kristni, en Danakonúngr hafði þar úti her
offered to-Danes Christianity but (the)-Danes'-king had there out a-host
í móti, ok vildi með öngu móti við kristni taka. Haraldr
in against and wished with no means with Christianity to-take Harald
konúngr Gormsson átti mikla orustu við Ottó keisara suðr
king Gorm's-son had a-great battle with Otto emperor south
við Danavirki, þá var þar Hákon jarl af Noregi með
by (the)-Danevirke then was there Hakon earl from Norway with
Danakonúngi; þar fékk keisarinn ósigr, en þó vann hann
(the)-Danes'-king there got the-emperor defeat but yet won he
landit nokkru síðar, ok kom þeim þá á flótta Haraldi
the-land somewhat later and brought them then to flight Harald
konúngi ok Hákoni jarli til Limafjarðar, ok allt út í Mársey.
king and Hakon earl to Limafjord and all out to Marsey
Síðan tók Haraldr konúngr við kristni, ok keisarinn veitti
Afterward took Harald king with Christianity and the-emperor granted
guðsifjar Sveini syni hans, ok gaf honum nafn sitt, ok var
god-kinship to-Svein son his and gave him name his and was
hann með því skírðr, at hann hét Ottó-Sveinn; var þá
he with that baptized that he was-called Otto-Svein was then
alkristin Danmörk, ok skildist keisarinn eigi fyrr við.
all-Christian Denmark and parted the-emperor not sooner from(-it)

Fall Styrbjarnar ens sterka

II · THE FALL OF STYRBJÖRN THE STRONG

Styrbjörn the Strong, son of the Swedish king Óláfr Björnsson, came raiding into Denmark and took King Haraldr captive; Haraldr gave him his daughter Þyri and sailed with him to Sweden. When Styrbjörn burned his ships, Haraldr slipped home; Styrbjörn fell fighting his uncle Eiríkr the Victorious at Fyrisvellir.

Á dögum Haralds konúngs Gormssonar var Styrbjörn enn
In days of-Harald king Gorm's-son was Styrbjorn the
sterki í hernaði í Austrveg. Styrbjörn var son Ólafs
Strong in raiding in (the)-East-Way Styrbjorn was son of-Olaf
Bjarnarsonar, Svíakonúngs. Styrbjörn kom með her sinn í
Bjorn's-son (the)-Swedes'-king Styrbjorn came with host his into
Danmörk, ok fékk handtekit Harald konúng; þá gipti
Denmark and could take-captive Harald king then married
Haraldr honum Þyri dóttur sína, ok fór sjálfr til Svíþjóðar
Harald to-him Thyri daughter his and went himself to Sweden
með Styrbirni. Styrbjörn brendi öll skip sín, áðr hann gengi
with Styrbjorn Styrbjorn burned all ships his before he went
á land upp; en er Haraldr konúngr verðr þess varr, at
on land up but when Harald king becomes of-this aware that
Styrbjörn er skipalauss, þá hélt hann skipum sínum út á
Styrbjorn is ship-less then steered he ships his out onto
Löginn ok síðan í braut, ok aptr til Danmerkr. Styrbjörn
the-Lake and afterward off away and back to Denmark Styrbjorn
barðist á Fýrisvöllum við Eirík enn sigrsæla Svíakonúng,
fought on Fyrisvellir with Eirik the Victorious (the)-Swedes'-king
föðurbróður sinn; þar féll Styrbjörn ok mestr hluti liðs
father's-brother his there fell Styrbjorn and greatest part of-troop
hans, en sumt flýði; þat kalla Svíar Fýriseltu.
his but some fled that call (the)-Swedes Fyris-chase

Frá hernaði Haralds konúngs

III · OF KING HARALDR'S RAIDING

Haraldr had Hákon jarl baptized and sent priests with him, but Hákon put them ashore and raised sacrifices in Norway. Haraldr harried the Norwegian coast from Líðandisnes to Staðr and meant to avenge the Icelanders' libel, but a wizard sent in whale-shape reported monsters on the land and a sea too wide for longships, and he gave it up.

Þá er Haraldr konúngr Gormsson hafði skírast látit, sem
Then when Harald king Gorm's-son had be-baptized let as
fyrr var sagt, þá nauðgaði hann Hákoni jarli Sigurðarsyni at
before was said then forced he Hakon earl Sigurd's-son to
taka við trú, ok var hann skirðr ok allir menn, þeir sem þá
take with faith and was he baptized and all men those who then
voru með honum af Noregi; fékk Haraldr konúngr honum
were with him from Norway gave Harald king him
þá presta ok aðra lærða menn, ok bauð honum at láta skíra
then priests and other learned men and bade him to let baptize
allt fólk í Noregi, ok hét Hakon jarl því með svardögum;
all folk in Norway and promised Hakon earl that with oaths
en er þeir skildu konúngr ok jarl, þá fór Hákon til
but when they parted king and earl then went Hakon to
Noregs, en skaut enum vígðum mönnum á land at Hálsi
Norway but put the ordained men on land at Hals
í Limafirði, en hann kastaði kristni, ok efldi síðan hin
in Limafjord but he cast-off Christianity and raised afterward the
mestu blót í Noregi. En er Haraldr konúngr spurði þat,
greatest sacrifices in Norway But when Harald king heard that
at Hákon hafði kastat kristni, ok þat annat, at hann hafði
that Hakon had cast-off Christianity and that other that he had

herjat land Danakonúngs, þá fór Haraldr konúngr með
harried (the)-land of-the-Danes'-king then went Harald king with
her sinn til Noregs, ok eyddi land allt með sjá, svá at
host his to Norway and wasted land all along (the)-sea so that
allt var brennt milli Líðandisness ok Staðs, nema fimm bær
all was burned between Lidandisnes and Stad except five farms
í Læradal í Sogni, en fólk allt flýði á fjöll ok markir
in Laeradal in Sogn but folk all fled to mountains and forests
með allt lausafé, þat er komizt fékk. Haraldr konúngr lá
with all movable-wealth that which get-away could Harald king lay
um hríð með her sinn í Sólundum, ok ætlaði þá að herja
for a-while with host his in (the)-Solundir and intended then to harry
til Íslands með liði því, er hann hafði þar, ok vildi hann
to Iceland with troop that which he had there and wished he
hefna níðs þess, er Íslendíngar höfðu gjört um hann,
to-avenge (the)-libel that which Icelanders had made about him
ok níddan hann. Haraldr konúngr bauð kúngum manni at
and libeled him Harald king bade a-cunning man to
fara í hamförum til Íslands, ok vita hvat hann kynni þaðan
go in shape-faring to Iceland and know what he could thence
at segja konúngi; sá fór í hvalslíki umhverfis landit, ok
to tell (the)-king that-one went in whale-shape around the-land and
sagði síðan konúngi at margar kúngar óvættir byggja land
told afterward (the)-king that many cunning monsters inhabit land
þat, en haf svá mikit milli landanna, at þar var ekki fært
that but sea so great between the-lands that there was not passable
lángskipum; ok er Haraldr konúngr varð þessa var, þá
for-longships and when Harald king became of-this aware then
þóttist hann skilja, at þetta var en mesta ófæra,
thought-himself he to-understand that this was the greatest impassability
ok ekki mátti þessu til leiðar koma. Eptir hernat þenna,
and not could this to way come After raiding this

er Haraldr Gormsson hafði gjört í Noregi, þá snéri hann
which Harald Gorm's-son had done in Norway then turned he
heim til Danmerkr með lið sitt, en Hákon jarl lét byggja
home to Denmark with troop his but Hakon earl let settle
land allt í Noregi, en galt önga skatta síðan Danakonúngi.
land all in Norway but paid no tributes afterward to-the-Danes'-king

Fall Haralds konúngs

IV · THE FALL OF KING HARALDR

Haraldr would give his son Sveinn, a concubine's son, no realm, so Sveinn raided at home and abroad. Haraldr gathered a host against him, and Sveinn's foster-father Pálnatóki joined Sveinn. In the Isefjord Sveinn was overborne and fled, but Haraldr was shot with an arrow and died, the first Danish king buried in consecrated earth, after eighty winters on the throne.

Sveinn, son Haralds konúngs Gormssonar, beiddist ríkis
Svein son of-Harald king Gorm's-son asked-for realm
nokkurs af Haraldi konúngi feðr sínum, en Haraldr konúngr
some from Harald king father his but Harald king
unni honum lítit, þvíat hann var frilluson, ok vildi hann
loved him little because he was a-concubine's-son and wished he
ekki ríki fá honum til forráða. En er Sveinn gjörðist
no realm to-give him for rule But when Svein became
fullkominn maðr, þá fékk hann sér skip ok lið, ok
a-grown man then got he for-himself ships and troop and
herjaði víða bæði utanlands ok innanlands; þá varð Haraldr
harried widely both abroad and at-home then became Harald
konúngr reiðr honum, ok safnaði liði í móti honum; þá
king angry with-him and gathered troop in against him then
var kominn til liðs við Svein Pálnatóki fóstri hans, sem
was come to support with Svein Palnatoki foster-father his as

segir í sögu Jómsvíkínga, ok héldu þeir þá til Sjólands
says in (the)-saga of-(the)-Jomsvikings and steered they then to Zealand
ok inn í Ísafjörð, þar var þá fyrir Haraldr konúngr með
and in into Isefjord there was then before Harald king with
skipum sínum. Sveinn lagði þegar til orrostu við hann, varð
ships his Svein laid at-once to battle with him became
þar bardagi mikill, dreif þá lið til Haralds konúngs, svá
there fight great drove then troop to Harald king so
at Sveinn varð ofrliði borinn, ok flýði hann. Í þeirri
that Svein became by-superior-force borne and fled he In that
orrostu, fékk Haraldr konúngr banasár, ok var hann skotinn
battle got Harald king a-death-wound and was he shot
öru til bana, ok var hann fyrstr Danakonúnga grafinn
with-an-arrow to death and was he first of-Danes'-kings buried
í vígða jörð; þá hafði hann verit konúngr 80 vetra, 30
in consecrated earth then had he been king eighty winters thirty
vetra at lifanda Gormi konúngi feðr sínum, 50 vetra síðan.
winters at living Gorm king father his fifty winters afterward

Frá Sveini konúngi

V · OF KING SVEINN

Sveinn Forkbeard took the kingdom. The Jómsvíkingar fought Hákon jarl at Hjörungavágr, where Búi fell and Sigvaldi fled; Óláfr Tryggvason took Norway, and Sveinn married first Gunnhildr, daughter of Búrizláfr, then Sigríðr stórráða, whose daughter Ástríðr married Úlfr jarl. After Óláfr fell at Svöldr, Sveinn, Óláfr the Swede, and Eiríkr jarl divided Norway in thirds.

Sveinn tók konúngdóm í Danmörk eptir Harald konúng
Svein took kingship in Denmark after Harald king
feðr sinn, hann var kallaðr Sveinn tjúguskegg, hann var
father his he was called Svein Forkbeard he was
ríkr konúngr. Á hans dögum fór Sigvaldi jarl ok aðrir
a-mighty king In his days went Sigvaldi earl and other
Jómsvíkíngar til Noregs, ok barðist við Hákon jarl á Mæri
Jomsvikings to Norway and fought with Hakon earl in More
á Hjörúngavági, þar féll Búi digri, en Sigvaldi jarl flýði.
at Hjorungavag there fell Bui (the)-Stout but Sigvaldi earl fled
Eptir þat hvarf ríki í Noregi undan Danakonúngum, en
After that turned realm in Norway away-from (the)-Danes'-kings but
litlu síðar kom Ólafr Tryggvason til Noregs, ok tók ríki.
a-little later came Olaf Tryggvi's-son to Norway and took (the)-realm
Sveinn konúngr átti Gunnhildi dóttur Búrizlafs Vindakonúngs,
Svein king had Gunnhild daughter of-Burizlaf (the)-Wends'-king
ok voru þeirra synir Knútr ok Haraldr. Síðan átti Sveinn
and were their sons Knut and Harald Afterward had Svein
konúngr Sigríði ena stórráðu, dóttur Sköglartosta, móður
king Sigrid the High-Minded daughter of-Skogul-Tosti mother
Ólafs Svíakonúngs; hana hafði fyrr átt Eiríkr hinn sigrsæli
of-Olaf (the)-Swedes'-king her had before had Eirik the Victorious

Svíakonúngr. Dóttir Sveins konúngs ok Sigríðar var
(the)-Swedes'-king (The)-daughter of-Svein king and of-Sigrid was
Ástríðr, er átti Úlfr jarl, son Þorgils sprakaleggs. Sveinn ok
Astrid whom had Ulf earl son of-Thorgils Sprakalegg Svein and
Björn hétu synir þeirra. Gyða hét enn dóttir Sveins
Bjorn were-called sons their Gyda was-called still a-daughter of-Svein
konúngs tjúguskeggs, hana átti Eiríkr jarl Hákonarson í
king Forkbeard her had Eirik earl Hakon's-son in
Noregi; þeirra son var Hákon jarl, er Ólafr hinn helgi tók
Norway their son was Hakon earl whom Olaf the Holy took
í Sauðúngs sundi. Sveinn konúngr tjúguskegg var at falli
in of-Saudung sound Svein king Forkbeard was at (the)-fall
Ólafs konúngs Tryggvasonar með þeim Ólafi sænska, stjúpsyni
of-Olaf king Tryggvi's-son with them Olaf (the)-Swede stepson
sínum, ok Eiríki jarli, mági sínum; þeir börðust við
his and Eirik earl kinsman-by-marriage his they fought at
Svöldr; ok eptir fall Ólafs konúngs Tryggvasonar eignuðust
Svold and after (the)-fall of-Olaf king Tryggvi's-son acquired
þeir þrír Noreg, Sveinn Danakonúngr einn þriðjúng, annann
they three Norway Svein (the)-Danes'-king one third (the)-second
Ólafr Svíakonúngr, enn þriðja Eiríkr jarl.
Olaf (the)-Swedes'-king the third Eirik earl

Enn helgi Játmundr drap Svein konúng

VI · SAINT EDMUND KILLED KING SVEINN

Sveinn harried in the East-Way and Saxony and then in England against King Aðalráðr, winning the greater part of the land, so that the English called him their fiend. Aðalráðr fled, but Sveinn died suddenly in his bed, and the English said Saint Edmund had killed him as Saint Mercurius killed Julian.

Sveinn konúngr var hermaðr mikill ok enn ríkasti konúngr;
Svein king was a-warrior great and the mightiest king
hann herjaði víða bæði um Austrveg ok suðr um Saxland;
he harried widely both about (the)-East-Way and south about Saxony
at lyktum fór hann með her sinn vestr til Englands,
at last went he with host his west to England
ok herjaði þar víða, ok átti þar margar orrostur; þar var
and harried there widely and had there many battles there was
þá Aðalráðr konúngr Játgeirsson. Þeir Sveinn konúngr áttu
then Aethelred king Edgar's-son They Svein king had
margar orrostur, ok höfðu ýmsir sigr. Sveinn konúngr vann
many battles and had by-turns victory Svein king won
mestan hlut Englands, var hann þá á Englandi marga vetr,
(the)-greatest part of-England was he then in England many winters
ok herjaði víða landit ok brenndi, hann kölluðu þeir fjanda
and harried widely the-land and burned him called they (the)-fiend
Engla. Í þessum ófrið (flýði) Aðalráðr konúngr landit
of-the-English In this war fled Aethelred king the-land
fyrir Sveini konúngi, en Sveinn konúngr varð bráðdauðr
before Svein king but Svein king became sudden-dead
um nótt í rekkju sinni, ok segja þat enskir menn, at
in (the)-night in bed his and say that English men that

Játmundr konúngr enn helgi hafi drepit hann með þeim
Edmund king the Holy have killed him with that
hætti, sem hinn helgi Merkúríus drap Júlíanum níðíng.
manner as the holy Mercurius killed Julian (the)-villain

Frá Þíngamanna liði

VII · OF THE ÞINGAMENN

After Sveinn's death the Danish chieftains held what they had won in England, but Aðalráðr came home with the help of Óláfr the Holy. The Danes set the Þingamannalið, a paid troop, in England, and it bore the fighting for the Danes.

Eptir dauða Sveins konúngs héldu Danahöfðíngjar því ríki
After (the)-death of-Svein king held (the)-Danes'-chieftains that realm
í Englandi, er þeir höfðu unnit af landinu; höfðust þá
in England which they had won of the-land arose then
enn orrostur af nýju, þvíat þegar Sveinn konúngr var
still battles of new because as-soon-as Svein king was
dauðr, fór Aðalráðr konúngr heim í landit, ok komst þá
dead went Aethelred king home into the-land and got then

í ríki sitt með styrk Ólafs ens helga, svá sem sagt er í
into realm his with strength of-Olaf the Holy so as said is in
sögu hans eptir orðum Óttars svarta skálds; hann segir svá:
saga his after words of-Ottar (the)-Black (the)-poet he says so

Komtu í land ok lendir
Brought-you into land and landed
láðvörð Aðalráði
land-guard Aethelred
þín naut rekka rúni
your enjoyed of-warriors (the)-confidant
ríki efldr at slíku;
(the)-realm strengthened at such
harðr var fundr sá er færðut
hard was (the)-meeting that which brought-you
friðlands á vit niðja
of-peace-land to visit kinsmen
réð ættstuðill áðan
ruled kin-prop before
Játmundar þar grundu.
of-Edmund there (the)-ground

Í þann tíma settu Danir Þíngamannalið í Englandi, þar
In that time set (the)-Danes (the)-Thingmen's-troop in England there
váru þá málamenn, ok var þat eð fræknasta lið, ok héldu
were then paid-men and was that the boldest troop and held
Þíngamenn mjök upp orrostu af hendi Dana við Englismenn.
(the)-Thingmen much up battle on behalf of-the-Danes with Englishmen

Knútr konúngr lagði England (undir sik)

VIII · KING KNÚTR LAID ENGLAND UNDER HIMSELF

Knútr, ten winters old at his father's death, was taken as king of Denmark; after three winters he sailed for England with Eiríkr jarl, Úlfr jarl Sprakaleggsson, and other chieftains. He harried and burned, won battles in Lindsey, at Hemingaborg, and on the Tees, and laid the land under him as he moved south, as the skalds tell.

Knútr, son Sveins konúngs tjúguskeggs, var 10 vetra, þá
Knut son of-Svein king Forkbeard was ten winters then
er faðir hans andaðist, var hann þá til konúngs tekinn í
when father his died was he then to king taken in
Danmörk yfir allt Danaveldi, þvíat Haraldr bróðir hans var
Denmark over all (the)-Danes'-realm because Harald brother his was
andaðr. Danahöfðíngjar, þeir er þá sátu í Englandi, ok þar
dead (The)-Danes'-chieftains those who then sat in England and there
héldu landinu, því er Sveinn konúngr hafði unnit, þá sendu
held the-land that which Svein king had won then sent
þeir þau orð til Danmerkr, at Knútr konúngr skyldi koma
they those words to Denmark that Knut king should come
vestr til Englands með Danaher til styrks við þá; en með
west to England with a-Danish-host for strength with them but with
því at Knútr konúngr var þá á barns aldri, ok var ekki vanr
that that Knut king was then in child's age and was not used-to
herstjórn, þá lögðu vinir hans þat ráð fyrir hann, at hann
war-command then laid friends his that counsel before him that he
skyldi senda herlið til Englands, ok setja þar höfðíngja yfir,
should send a-war-troop to England and set there chieftains over
en fara eigi sjálfr, meðan hann var eigi meirr á legg kominn,
but go not himself while he was not more on leg come
ok svá var gjört at konúngr sat 3 vetr í Danmörku, síðan
and so was done that (the)-king sat three winters in Denmark since

hann tók konúngdóm; en at liðinni þeirri stundu bauð hann
he took kingship but at passed that time called he
út herliði af Danmörku; hann sendi boð ok til Noregs
out a-war-troop from Denmark he sent word also to Norway
Eiríki jarli mági sínum, at hann skyldi safna liði
to-Eirik earl kinsman-by-marriage his that he should gather troop
ok fara til Englands með honum, þvíat Eiríkr jarl var frægr
and go to England with him because Eirik earl was famous
mjök at hreysti ok at hernaði, er hann hafði borit sigr af
much for valor and for raiding since he had borne victory from
þeim tveim orrostum, er frægstar hafa verit á Norðrlöndum:
those two battles which most-famous have been in (the)-Northlands
önnur var sú, er þeir Sveinn konúngr tjúguskegg ok
one was that when they Svein king Forkbeard and
Ólafr sænski Svíakonúngr ok Eiríkr jarl börðust við Ólaf
Olaf (the)-Swede (the)-Swedes'-king and Eirik earl fought with Olaf
Tryggvason við Svöldr; en önnur sú, er þeir Hákon
Tryggvi's-son at Svold but (the)-other that when they Hakon
jarl ok Eiríkr jarl börðust við Jómsvíkínga á Hjörúngavági.
earl and Eirik earl fought with (the)-Jomsvikings at Hjorungavag
Knútr konúngr hélt her sínum vestr til Englands, ok höfðu
Knut king steered host his west to England and had
allmikit lið. Svá sagði Óttar svarti í Knútsdrápu:
a-very-great troop So said Ottar (the)-Black in Knutsdrapa

Hrestu lit gamall lýtir
Refreshed-you color old harmer
lavgreiðar fram skeiðum
of-sea-chariot forth with-warships
fór-at fylkir æri
went-not prince younger
fólk sveimaðr þér heiman;
folk mover than-you from-home
hilmir bjóttu ok hættir
prince prepared-you and risked
harðbrynjuð skip kynjum
hard-mailed ships in-wondrous-ways
reiðr hafðir þú rauðar
angry had you red
randir Knútr fyrir landi.
shields Knut before land

Ok enn segir hann svá:
And still says he so

At fylgðu þeir Jótar
So followed those Jutes
auðmildr flugar trauðir
wealth-mild of-flight reluctant
skaut reina bjó skreytir
skirt of-strips prepared adorner
Skánúnga lið vánir;
of-Scanians troop promising

vað blés of þér vísi
rope blew — for-you leader
vestr settir þú flesta
west set you most
kunnt gjörðir þú þenna
known made you this
þitt nafn í haf stafna.
your name into sea of-prows

Knúti konúngi fylgðu margir höfðíngjar til Englands; þar
To-Knut king followed many chieftains to England there
var fyrstr maðr Úlfr jarl Sprakaleggsson, mágr hans,
was first man Ulf earl Sprakalegg's-son kinsman-by-marriage his
hann átti þá Ástríði Sveinsdóttur, systur Knúts konúngs;
he had then Astrid Svein's-daughter sister of-Knut king
þar voru ok þeir bræðr, synir Strútharalds jarls, Hemíngr
there were also they brothers sons of-Strut-Harald earl Heming
ok Þorkell háfi, ok margir höfðíngjar aðrir. Knútr konúngr
and Thorkel (the)-Tall and many chieftains other Knut king
kom til Englands, ok sigldi utan at Englandi, þar sem
came to England and sailed outside at England there where
Fljót heita. Svá segir Hallvarðr Háreksblesi í Knútsdrápu:
Fljot are-called So says Hallvard Hareksblesi in Knutsdrapa

Knútr léztu fram til Fljóta,
Knut let-you forth to Fljot
frægr leið vörðr um ægi
famous way guardian over sea
heipt snarr Hildar leiptra,
hate keen of-Hild lightnings

harðbrynjuð skip dynja;
hard-mailed ships roar
Ullar léztu við Ellu
of-Ull let-you at of-Ella
ættleifð ok má reifðir
inheritance and gull gladdener
sverð manns snyrti gerðar
sword of-man trimmer of-Gerd
sund vigs flota bundit.
sound of-the-war fleet bound

En þegar Knútr konúngr kom til Englands, gekk hann
But as-soon-as Knut king came to England went he
upp, ok herjaði landit, drap mannfólkit, en brendi bygð
up and harried the-land killed the-people but burned settlement
alla. Svá segir Óttar svarti:
all So says Ottar (the)-Black

Herskjöld bartu ok hélduð
War-shield bore-you and held-you
hilmir ríkr af slíku
prince mighty from such
hykkað ek þengil þektust
think-not I prince relished
þik kyrsetu mikla;
you rest great

ætt drap Jóta drottinn
kin killed of-Jutes lord
Játgeirs í för þeirri
of-Edgar in journey that
þveit rakt þrár er heitinn
stretch drove-you stubborn which called
þeim stillis kom illan.
to-them of-the-ruler came ill

Ok enn kvað hann svá:
And still recited he so

Brunnu bygðir manna
Burned settlements of-men
buðlúng fyrir þér úngum
king before you young
opt léztu hús ok heiptir
often let-you houses and hates
her kall búendr gjörva.
host cry farmers make

Landsmenn drógu her saman, ok fóru í móti Dönum, ok
Landsmen drew host together and went in against (the)-Danes and
héldu upp orrostum. Svá sagði Þórðr Kolbeinsson:
held up battles So said Thord Kolbein's-son

Gengu upp þeir er Englum
Went up they who to-the-English
ár ramn gefendr váru
early raven givers were
langa stund á landi
long while on land
leiðir grund af skeiðum;
leaders ground from warships
en í gegn þeir er gáðu
but in against they who heeded
glaum skers bæi verja
joy of-skerry farms defend
galt hilmis lið hjalta
paid of-prince troop of-hilt
herferð búendr gjörðu.
war-journey farmers made

Knútr konúngr átti ena fyrstu orrostu á Englandi í Lindisey,
Knut king had the first battle in England in Lindsey
ok varð þar mikit mannfall, þá vann hann ok Hemíngaborg
and became there great slaughter then won he also Hemingaborg
á Englandi, ok drap þar mikið fólk. Svá segir Óttar:
in England and killed there much folk So says Ottar

Gunni léztu í grænni
Battle let-you in green
gramr Lindisey framda
king Lindsey performed
beldu viðr því er vildu
pressed at that which wished
víkíngar því ríki;
vikings that realm
bíða léztu í breiðri
await let-you in broad
borg Hemínga sorgar
town of-Hemings of-sorrow
æst fyrir Usu vestan
urged on Ouse west-of
Engst fólk Svía þröngvir.
English folk of-Swedes oppressor

Því næst átti hann miklar orrostur á Norðimbralandi við
To-that next had he great battles in Northumbria by
Tesu, drap hann þar mikit fólk, en sumt flýði, ok týndist
(the)-Tees killed he there much folk but some fled and perished
þar sem voru fen nokkur eða díki; síðan flutti Knútr
there where were fens some or ditches afterward moved Knut
konúngr her sinn lengra suðr á landit, ok lagði allt undir
king host his further south into the-land and laid all under
sik þar sem hann fór.
himself there where he went

Knútr konúngr fékk Emmu

IX · KING KNÚTR MARRIED EMMA

Aðalráðr died the autumn or summer Knútr landed. His queen Emma, of the line of Göngu-Hrólfr, made ready to sail to her brothers in Normandy, but Knútr's men took her ship, and on his chieftains' counsel Knútr married her.

Aðalráðr Englakonúngr varð sóttdöðr þat sama haust eða sumar,
Aethelred Englishmen's-king became sickness-dead that same autumn or summer
er Knútr konúngr kom með her sinn til Englands; hann hafði
when Knut king came with host his to England he had
þá verit konúngr í Englandi 18 vetr ok 20; en Emma
then been king in England eighteen winters and twenty but Emma
drottníng, kona hans, bjóst þegar eptir andlát hans at fara
queen wife his made-ready at-once after death his to go
af landi á bröt, hon ætlaði at fara vestr til Vallands á fund
from land off away she intended to go west to Valland to meeting
bræðra sinna, Vilhjálms ok Róberts, þeir voru jarlar í Vallandi.
of-brothers her Vilhjalm and Robert they were earls in Valland
Faðir þeirra var Rikarð Rúðujarl Rikarðsson, Vilhjálmssonar
Father their was Rikard Rouen-earl Rikard's-son of-Vilhjalm's-son
lángaspjóts; hann var son Gönguhrólfs, þess er vann
Long-Spear he was son of-Walking-Hrolf that-one who won
Normandí; hann var son Rögnvalds Mæra jarls. Menn Knúts
Normandy he was son of-Rognvald of-More earl Men of-Knut
konúngs urðu varir við för Emmu drotníngar; þá er hon ok
king became aware of journey of-Emma queen then when she and
hennar voru búnir til hafs, þá komu þar menn Knúts konúngs,
hers were ready for sea then came there men of-Knut king
ok tóku skipit ok allt þat er á var, fluttu þeir drotníngu á
and took the-ship and all that which on was brought they (the)-queen to

fund Knúts konúngs; ok var þat ráð höfðíngja með konúngi,
meeting of-Knut king and was that counsel of-chieftains with (the)-king
at Knútr konúngr skyldi fá Emmu drotníngar, ok svá var gjört.
that Knut king should get Emma queen and so was done

Frá Játmundi konúngi

X · OF KING EDMUND

Aðalráðr's sons by Emma, Edmund the Strong first among them, raised a host against Knútr. At Skorsteinn Edmund rode through the Danish ranks and struck at Knútr, splitting his shield and his horse; when he rode back unseen, his men thought him dead and fled, and the Danes drove the flight until night.

Eptir andlát Aðalráðs konúngs voru til konúnga teknir synir
After (the)-death of-Aethelred king were to kings taken sons
hans ok Emmu drotníngar: Játmundr hinn sterki var elztr;
his and of-Emma queen Edmund the Strong was eldest
annar Játgeirr; þriði var Játvígr; fjórði Játvarðr enn góði.
(the)-second Edgar (the)-third was Edwy (the)-fourth Edward the Good
Játmundr konúngr dró nú her saman mikinn, ok fór síðan
Edmund king drew now a-host together great and went afterward
í móti Knúti konúngi, ok varð fundr þeirra þar sem heitir at
in against Knut king and became meeting their there where is-called at
Skorsteini, ok var þat en frægsta orrosta, er í þann tíma
Skorstein and was that the most-famous battle which in that time
hafði verit; varð þar eð mesta mannfall í hvárutveggja liði.
had been became there the greatest slaughter in each troop
Játmundr konúngr reið fram í miðjan Danaher, ok kom
Edmund king rode forth into middle (the)-Danish-host and came
svá nær Knúti konúngi, mági sínum, at hann náði
so near Knut king kinsman-by-marriage his that he reached

til hans með sverðshöggvi. Knútr konúngr skaut skildinum
to him with sword-blow Knut king thrust the-shield
fram yfir háls hestinum, er hann sat á, en höggit kom
forth over (the)-neck of-the-horse which he sat on but the-blow came
á skjöldinn litlu fyrir neðan mundriðann, ok varð höggit svá
on the-shield a-little on below the-handle and became the-blow so
mikit, at sundr tók skjöldinn, ok fyrir framan söðulinn klauf
great that apart took the-shield and on before the-saddle split
hann í sundr hestinn í bógunum, en þá sóttu Danir at
he in sunder the-horse in the-shoulders but then attacked (the)-Danes at
honum svá fast, at Játmundr konúngr snéri aptr til sinna
him so hard that Edmund king turned back to his
manna, ok hafði hann þá þó áðr drepit marga Dani, en
men and had he then yet before killed many Danes but
konúngrinn varð lítt sárr eðr ekki. En er konúngrinn hafði
the-king became little wounded or not But when the-king had
framriðit allt frá liði sínu, þá hugðu hans menn at hann
ridden-forth all from troop his then thought his men that he
mundi vera fallinn, er þeir sá hann hvergi, ok kom þá flótti
would be fallen when they saw him nowhere and came then flight
í lið þeirra, en sumir sá at hann reið undan Dönum;
into troop their but some saw that he rode away-from (the)-Danes
flýðu þá allir, þeir er þat sá, en konúngr kallaði hátt, bað
fled then all they who that saw but (the)-king called loud bade
herinn aptr snúa ok berjast, en þá lét engi sem heyrði;
the-host back turn and fight but then acted none as heard

flýði þá allr herinn, ok varð þá einna ákafast mannfallit, ok
fled then all the-host and became then of-all fiercest the-slaughter and
ráku Danir flóttann allt til nætr. Svá segir Óttar svarti:
drove (the)-Danes the-flight all to night So says Ottar (the)-Black

Úngr fylkir léztu Engla
Young leader let-you of-the-English
allnær Thesu falla
very-near Tees fall
flæði djúpt of dauða
flood deep — dead
dík Norðimbra líkum;
ditch of-Northumbrians with-corpses
svefn braut svörtum hrafni
sleep broke for-black raven
sunnar havtuðr gunnar
further-south arouser of-battle
olli sókn enn snjalli
caused attack the bold
Sveins mögr at Skorsteini.
of-Svein son at Skorstein

Frá Úlfi jarli

XI · OF ÚLFR JARL

Úlfr jarl, lost in a wood after the battle, met a herdboy, Guðini, who refused his gold ring but led him home to his father Úlfnaðr and then to Knútr's ships, since he could no longer stay among the English. Úlfr set him beside himself, married him to his sister Gyða, and won him an earldom; their sons were Haraldr, king of the English, and many earls.

Úlfr jarl var þá enn sem optar í fremra lagi af mönnum
Ulf earl was then still as oftener in foremost place of men
Knúts konúngs, ok fylgði lengst flóttamönnum; hann var þá
of-Knut king and followed longest (the)-fleeing-men he was then
kominn í skóg nokkurn svá þröngvan, at hann komst ekki
come into wood some so narrow that he got not
or á allri nóttinni, fyrr enn lýsti; þá sá hann á völlum
out in all the-night before than dawned then saw he on fields
nokkurum fyrir sér at smali var rekinn, ok sveinn nokkur
some before himself that a-flock was driven and a-lad some
vel frumvaxta rak féið. Úlfr jarl gekk at sveininum, ok
well full-grown drove the-livestock Ulf earl went to the-lad and
heilsaði honum, ok spurði hann nafns. Hann svaraði: ek
greeted him and asked him name He answered I
heiti Guðini; eða ertu af Knúts mönnum? Úlfr jarl svarar:
am-called Godwine or are-you of of-Knut men Ulf earl answers
ek em einn víst af leiðángrsmönnum hans; eða hversu lángt
I am one surely of levy-men his or how long
er nú til skipa várra? Ekki veit ek, segir sveinninn, at
is now to ships our Not know I says the-lad that
þér Danir megit vænta af oss liðsinnis, ok hafi þér Danir
you Danes may expect of us help and have you Danes

heldr til annars gjört. Úlfr jarl svarar: þiggja munda ek
rather to other done Ulf earl answers accept would I
nú þó af þér, sveinn! ef þú vildir greiða ferð mína til
now yet of you lad if you wished to-further journey my to
skipa várra. Sveinninn svarar: þú hefir beint þvers farit frá
ships our The-lad answers you have straight across gone from
skipunum, ok lángt á land upp yfir eyðiskóga, en þér
the-ships and long on land up over desert-woods but you
Knúts menn erut ekki hér mjög þokkaðir af landsmönnum,
of-Knut men are not here much liked by (the)-land-men
ok þikkir mönnum þó nokkur várkunn til þess, en nú er
and seems to-men yet some excuse to that but now is
spurt í bygðina mannfall þat, er varð í gær at
learned into the-settlement (the)-slaughter that which became in yesterday at
Skorsteini, ok muntu hvergi grið hafa, ok enginn annara
Skorstein and will-you nowhere truce have and none of-others
Knútsmanna, ef bændr finna þik, ok svá ef nokkur helpr
Knut's-men if farmers find you and so if any helps
þér; en svá lízt mér á þik, sem gott mannkaup muni í
you but so seems to-me on you as good man-bargain would in
þér vera, ok ætla ek þik annann mann, enn þú segir. Úlfr
you be and think I you another man than you say Ulf
jarl tók þá gullhríng af hendi sér ok segir: gefa vil ek
earl took then a-gold-ring from hand his and says give will I
þér hríng þenna, ef þú vilt fylgja mér til várra manna.
you ring this if you will follow me to our men
Guðini sá upp á hann um stund, ok mælti seint: eigi vil
Godwine looked up on him for a-while and spoke slowly not will
ek þiggja hrínginn, en freista mun ek nú, ef ek má koma
I accept the-ring but try will I now if I may bring
þér til þinna manna, ok vil ek heldr eiga undir þér launin,
you to your men and will I rather have under you the-reward

ef ek fæ þér nokkvat viðhólpit, en ef þér verðr þetta at
if I give you any help but if to-you becomes this to
öngri liðveizlu, þá er öngra launa fyrir vert; skaltu nú fyrst
no support then is no reward for worth shall-you now first
fara heim til feðr míns með mér. Þeir gjörðu svá; en er
go home to father my with me They did so but when
þeir komu til bæjarins, gengu þeir til litlu stofu, ok lét
they came to the-farmstead went they to (the)-little room and let
Guðini setja þar borð, ok var þar gefinn góðr drykkr. Úlfr
Godwine set there a-table and was there given good drink Ulf
jarl sá, at þar var góðr húsabær ok vel búinn. Þá kom til
earl saw that there was good house-farm and well furnished Then came to
þeirra bóndi ok húsfreya, þau voru fríðir menn bæði
them (the)-farmer and (the)-housewife they were handsome people both
ok vel búin; fögnuðu þau vel gestnum, ok sat hann þar
and well dressed welcomed they well the-guest and sat he there
um daginn, ok var hann þar í enum bezta fagnaði; en
for the-day and was he there in the best welcome but
í móti nótt voru þar búnir tveir góðir hestar með enu
in against night were there made-ready two good horses with the
bezta reiði. Þá mæltu þau við Úlf: far þú nú vel, ok fæ
best harness Then spoke they to Ulf fare you now well and give
ek þér í hendr son minn, þann einn er ek á; nú bið
I you into hands son my that one whom I have now bid
ek, ef þú kemr til konúngsins, ok megi þín orð nákkvað
I if you come to the-king and may your words somewhat
standast, þá kom þú honum þar í þjónostu, því at ekki
stand then bring you him there into service because that not
má hann með mér vera síðan, ef várir landsmenn spyrja,
may he with me be afterward if our land-men learn
at hann hafi þér á bröt fylgt, hversu sem ek fæ undan
that he has you off away followed however as I may away

stýrt. Úlfr jarl hét því at koma Guðina þar í sveit.
steer Ulf earl promised that to bring Godwine there into (the)-troop
Guðini var enn fríðasti maðr sýnum, ok vel at orði farinn.
Godwine was the handsomest man in-looks and well at word gone
Bóndi nefndist Úlfnaðr. Þeir Úlfr jarl ríða þá nótt alla,
(The)-farmer was-named Ulfnad They Ulf earl ride that night all
en at morni, þá er ljóst var orðit, koma þeir til skipa
but at morning then when light was become come they to ships
Knúts konúngs, ok voru menn á landi uppi; en er þeir
of-Knut king and were men on land up but when they
sá jarl, ok kendu hann, þá hurfu menn þegár at honum
saw (the)-earl and knew him then turned men at-once to him
allir, ok fögnuðu honum, ok þóttust hann or helju
all and welcomed him and thought-themselves him out-of Hel
heimt hafa, þvíat hann var svá vinsæll, at allir menn unnu
fetched have because he was so popular that all men loved
honum hugástum. Varð Guðini þá hið fyrsta viss, hverjum
him with-heart-love Became Godwine then the first aware whom
hann hafði fylgt. Jarl setti Guðina í hásæti hjá sér,
he had followed (The)-earl set Godwine in (the)-high-seat beside himself
ok hélt hann at öllu sem sjálfan sik eða son sinn, ok
and held him in all as self himself or son his and
er þat skjótast af at segja, at jarl gipti honum Gyðu
is that quickest of to say that (the)-earl married to-him Gyda
systur sína, ok með framkvæmd Úlfs jarls ok liðveizlu, þá
sister his and with (the)-furtherance of-Ulf earl and support then
gaf Knútr konúngr Guðina jarldóm fyrir (sakir) Úlfs jarls
gave Knut king Godwine an-earldom for sake of-Ulf earl
mágs síns. Voru synir þeirra Guðina ok Gyðu:
kinsman-by-marriage his Were sons their of-Godwine and of-Gyda
Haraldr Englakonúngr ok Tosti jarl, er kallaðr var tréspjót,
Harald Englishmen's-king and Tosti earl who called was Tree-Spear

Maurukári jarl ok Valþjófr jarl ok Sveinn jarl; þaðan er mart
Maurukari earl and Valthjof earl and Svein earl thence is much
stórmenni komit í Englandi ok í Danmörku ok í Svíaríki
great-men come in England and in Denmark and in Sweden
ok austr í Garðaríki; eru þat konúngaættir í Danaríki.
and east in Gardariki are those kings'-lines in Denmark
Gyða hét dóttir Haralds konúngs Guðinasonar, hana
Gyda was-called (the)-daughter of-Harald king Godwine's-son her
átti Valdamar konúngr í Hólmgarði; þeirra son var Haraldr
had Valdamar king in Holmgard their son was Harald
konúngr, hann átti dætr 2, er enn skal frá segja síðar.
king he had daughters two which still shall of tell later

Frá Knúti konúngi

XII · OF KING KNÚTR

Knútr won a second battle at Brandfurða and broke the town, a third at Assatún north of the Danes' Wood, and a fourth at Norwich against Edmund and his brothers. Óttarr the Black's stanzas follow each.

Knútr konúngr átti aðra orustu við borg, þá er
Knut king had another battle with (the)-city that which
Brandfurða heitir, varð þar enn mikil orrosta, ok hafði
Brandfurda is-called became there again great battle and had
Knútr konúngr sigr, en Aðalráðs synir flýðu, ok létu lið
Knut king victory but of-Aethelred sons fled and lost troop
mikit, en Danir brutu borgina. Svá segir Óttar svarti:
much but (the)-Danes broke the-city So says Ottar (the)-Black

Fjörlausa hýr Frísi
Lifeless hewed (the)-Frisian
friðskerir þeir gjörðu
peace-breaker they made
brauztu með bygðu setri
broke-you with settled seat
Brandfurðu þér randa;
Brandfurda for-you of-shields
Játmundar laut undir
of-Edmund bowed under
ættniðr göfugr hættir
kin-descendant noble risks
danskr her skaut þá dörum
Danish host shot then with-darts
drótt er þú rakt flótta.
(the)-band when you drove (the)-flight

Knútr konúngr átti ena þriðju orrostu við Aðalráðs sonu,
Knut king had the third battle with of-Aethelred sons
þar sem heita Assatún, varð þar enn mikil orrosta, þat
there where is-called Assatun became there again great battle that
er norðr frá Danaskógum. Svá segir Óttarr:
is north from Dane-woods So says Ottar

Skjöldúngr vantu und skildi
Skjoldung won-you under shield
skæru verk enn sterki
of-battle work the strong
fékk blóðtrani bráðir
got blood-crane meats
brúnar Assatúnum;
dark at-Assatun
váttu en valfall þótti
fought-you but (the)-slaughter seemed
verðúng jöfurr sverði
to-(the)-retinue prince with-sword
nær norðan fyrir stóru
near from-the-north before great
nafngnóg Danaskóga.
name-rich of-Dane-woods

Knútr konúngr átti ena fjórðu orrostu við Játmund konúng
Knut king had the fourth battle with Edmund king
ok þá bræðr í Norðvík, varð þar enn mikil orrosta ok
and those brothers in Norwich became there again great battle and

mannfall mikit, ok fékk Knútr konúngr sigr, en Aðalráðs
slaughter great and got Knut king victory but of-Aethelred
synir flýðu. Svá segir Óttarr svarti:
sons fled So says Ottar (the)-Black

Bjóð vantu brynjur rauðar
Bade won-you mail-coats red
blíð stórgjafa síðan
glad of-great-gifts afterward
lætr þú önd áðr þrek þrjóti
lose you breath before strength fails
þinn fyrir Norðvík innan.
your on Norwich inside-of

Frá Knúti konúngi

XIII · OF KING KNÚTR

Knútr held his fleet to the Thames, where Eiríkr jarl met him, and Þórðr Kolbeinsson's verses tell of it. The English held a castle in the river; Knútr attacked it and fought the English ships that came out of London, as Óttarr tells.

Síðan heldr Knútr konúngr öllu liðinu til Tempsár, þvíat
Afterward holds Knut king all the-troop to (the)-Thames because
hann spurði at Játmundr konúngr ok þeir bræðr hefði
he learned that Edmund king and those brothers had
flýið til Lundúnaborgar; en er Knútr konúngr kom til
fled to London but when Knut king came to
Tempsármynnis, þá sigldi þar af hafi utan Eiríkr jarl
(the)-Thames-mouth then sailed there off sea from-outside Eirik earl

Hákonarson, mágr hans, ok fundust þeir þar, ok
Hakon's-son kinsman-by-marriage his and met they there and
lögðu síðan upp í ána með herinn. Svá segir Þórðr
laid afterward up into the-river with the-host So says Thord
Kolbeinsson í Eiríksdrápu:
Kolbein's-son in Eiriksdrapa

Ítr þrifust jöfra hleti
Glorious throve of-princes harmer
eggveðrs í favr seggja
of-edge-storm in journey of-men
skeið hélt mörg í móðu
warship held many into (the)-river
misslaung sem ek vissa;
of-unequal-length as I knew
bládýrum hélt báru
with-blue-beasts held of-the-wave
brands svá nær landi
of-sword so near land
Ullr, at enska völlu
Ull to English fields
áttstórr sjá knátti.
high-born see could

Ok enn kvað hann:
And again recited he

Enn at eyrar grunni
Again at of-sandbank bottom
endr skjöldúngum renndi
formerly with-Skjoldungs ran
sá er kjölslóðir kníði
he who keel-tracks pressed
Knútr lángskipum utan;
Knut with-longships from-outside
varð þar er vildu fyrðar
became there where wished men
varrláð koma báðir
sea-land-ward come both
hjálmað jarls ok hilmis
helmeted of-earl and of-ruler
hægr fundr á því dægri.
easy meeting on that day

Útí ánni Temps var gjörr kastali mikill, ok settr þar
Out-in the-river Thames was made a-castle great and set there
í herr manns til landvarnar, at eigi skyldi skipaherr mega
in a-host of-men to land-defense that not should a-ship-host be-able
upp fara í ána. Knútr konúngr lagði þegar upp í
up go into the-river Knut king laid at-once up into
ána, ok at kastalanum, ok barðist við þá, en enskir
the-river and at the-castle and fought with them but English

menn lögðu skipaherr frá Lundúnum ok út eptir ánni,
men laid a-ship-host from London and out along the-river
lögðu þeir til orrostu við Dani. Svá segir Óttar svarti:
laid they to battle with (the)-Danes So says Ottar (the)-Black

Fram gekk enn þar er unnuð
Forth went still there where won-you
álmr gall hátt við málma
elm-bow rang loud against metals
knáttuð sæ þar er sóttuð
could-you sea there where attacked-you
sverð kastala verða;
sword castle become
unnuð eigi minni
won-you not less
Úlfs gómr veit þat rómu
Of-wolf palate knows that of-battle
hnekkir hleypi blakka
checker of-the-runner of-steeds
hlunns á Tempsár grunni.
of-roller on of-Thames bottom

Atsókn Knúts konúngs

XIV · KING KNÚTR'S ATTACK

Knútr laid siege to London and attacked it daily, as the poem of his troops tells, but the townsmen held, and he could not take it.

Knútr konúngr lagði öllum hernum upp til Lundúnaborgar,
Knut king laid all the-host up to London
ok setti þar um herbúðir sínar; síðan veittu þeir atsókn
and set there about war-booths his afterward made they an-attack
til borgarinnar, en borgarmenn vörðu. Svá segir í flokki
to the-city but (the)-townsmen defended So says in poem
þeim, er þá var ortr af liðsmönnum:
that which then was composed by troop-men

Hvern morgin sér horna
Each morning sees of-horns
Hlökk á Tempsár bakka
Hlokk on of-Thames bank
skala hánga má húngra
shall-not of-the-hanged gull hunger
hræskóð lituð blóði;
corpse-harmer colored with-blood
hve sigrfíkinn sækir
how victory-eager attacks
snarla borgarkarla,
briskly the-town-fellows
dynr á brezkar brynjur
din on British mail-coats
blóð-ís, Dana vísi.
blood-ice of-Danes leader

Ok enn þetta:
And again this

Margr fer Ullr í illan
Many goes Ull into evil
od-sennu dag þenna
point-quarrel day this
frár þar fæddir várum
swift there born were-we
fornan serk um bornir;
ancient shirt about borne
en á enskra manna
but on of-English men
ölum gjóð Hnikars blóði
feed-we osprey of-Hnikar with-blood
ært mun skáld í skyrtu
enough will (the)-poet in shirt
skæðazt hamri sæða.
most-harmful with-hammer sewn

Knútr konúngr átti þar marga bardaga, ok fékk eigi unnit borgina.
Knut king had there many fights and got not won the-city

Frá Eiríki jarli

XV · OF EIRÍKR JARL

Eiríkr jarl went inland with part of the host and the Þingamenn and defeated Úlfkell the Bold, then beat the English again at Hringmaraheiðr, as Þórðr Kolbeinsson's Eiríksdrápa records.

Eiríkr jarl fór með suman herinn upp á landit, ok fylgðu
Eirik earl went with some the-host up on the-land and followed
honum þíngamenn í móti enskum her, er fyrir réð Úlfkell
him (the)-thingmen in against English host which before ruled Ulfkel
snillíngr, mikill höfðíngi, varð þar orrosta, ok hafði Eiríkr sigr,
(the)-Bold great chieftain became there battle and had Eirik victory
en Úlfkell flýði. Svá segir Þórðr Kolbeinsson í Eiríksdrápu:
but Ulfkel fled So says Thord Kolbein's-son in Eiriksdrapa

Gullkennir lét gunni
Gold-tester let battle
græðis hests fyrir vestan
of-the-sea of-steed on west-of
Þundr vá leyfr til landa
Thund fought praised for lands
Lundún saman bundit;
London together bound

fékk regn þorinn rekka
got rain bold of-warriors
rönn af þíngamönnum
houses from thingmen
æglig högg þar er eggjar
terrible blows there where edges
Úlfkels blá skulfu.
of-Ulfkel dark shook

Aðra orrostu átti Eiríkr jarl á Hríngmaraheiði við enska
Another battle had Eirik earl on Hringmara-Heath with English
menn. Svá segir Þórðr Kolbeinsson:
men So says Thord Kolbein's-son

Hvatr vann Freyr á flotna
Bold wrought Frey on seamen
fólk stafns sá er gaf hrafni
folk of-stem he who gave to-raven
sollit hold né sjaldan
swollen flesh nor seldom
sverðs eggja spor leggi;
of-sword of-edges tracks lay
snjallr lét opt ok olli
valiant let often and caused
Eiríkr bana þeirra
Eirik death their
rauð Hríngmaraheiði
reddened Hringmara-Heath
her Engla lið þverra.
host of-English troop dwindle

Þar hafði Eiríkr jarl sigr. Enn segir Þórðr Kolbeinsson
There had Eirik earl victory Again says Thord Kolbein's-son
fleira í Eiríksdrápu frá hernaði hans:
more in Eiriksdrapa from raiding his

Gengu upp þeir er Englum
Went up they who to-the-English
ár hrafn gefendr váru
early raven givers were
lánga stund á landi
long while on land
leiðir upp frá skeiðum;
leaders up from warships
en í gegn þeir er gáðu
but in against they who heeded
glaum skers bæi verja
joy of-skerry farms defend
galt hjálmað lið hjalta
paid helmeted troop of-hilt
herferð bændr gjörðu.
war-journey farmers made

Sætt konúnga

XVI · THE KINGS' SETTLEMENT

While Knútr besieged London, men went between him and Edmund, whose mother Emma Knútr had married, and the two made peace, dividing England between them, each to inherit if the other died childless. Heiðrekr strjóna, Edmund's foster-father, took Knútr's money and murdered Edmund; Knútr drove Aðalráðr's sons out, and they went to their mother's brothers in Normandy. Eiríkr jarl died after an operation on his throat.

Knútr konúngr sat um Lundúnaborg, en Játmundr konúngr
Knut king sat about London but Edmund king
ok þeir bræðr vörðu borgina; þá fóru menn á millum þeirra.
and those brothers defended the-city then went men on between them
Knútr konúngr átti Emmu drottníngu, móður þeirra, ok kom
Knut king had Emma queen mother their and came
svo, at gislar voru settir í millum þeirra, ok voru grið sett til
so that hostages were set in between them and were truce set to
tals ok umleitanar meiri sætta; ok á þeim stefnum var sætt
talk and approach of-greater settlements and at those meetings was settlement
gjör millum þeirra, svá at skipta skyldi í helmínga landi með
made between them so that divide should in halves land with
þeim, ok hafa hálft ríki hvár, meðan þeir lifði, en ef annarhvár
them and have half realm each while they lived but if either
andaðist barnlaus, þá skyldi sá taka allt ríki með frjálsu, er
died childless then should he take all realm with freedom who
eptir lifði, ok var sú sætt eiðum bundin. Heiðrekr strjóna
after lived and was that settlement with-oaths bound Heidrek Strjona
hét einn ríkr maðr, er fé tók til þess af Knúti konúngi,
was-called one powerful man who wealth took to that from Knut king
at hann sviki Játmund konúng, ok dræpi hann með
that he should-betray Edmund king and should-kill him with

morðvígi, ok þetta varð hans bani. Heiðrekr var þó fóstri
murder-slaying and this became his death Heidrek was yet foster-father
Játmundar konúngs, ok trúði hann honum sem sjálfum sér.
of-Edmund king and trusted he him as self himself
Síðan rak Knútr konúngr braut af Englandi alla syni Aðalráðs
Afterward drove Knut king away from England all sons of-Aethelred
konúngs, ok urðu um þat orrostu-slög mörg, en eigi fengu
king and became about that battle-strokes many but not got
þeir styrk fjölmennis í móti Knúti konúngi, síðan Játmundr
they strength of-multitude in against Knut king since Edmund
konúngr var drepinn. Svá segir Sighvatr skáld í Knútsdrápu:
king was killed So says Sighvat (the)-poet in Knutsdrapa

Ok senn sonu
And at-once sons
sló hvern ok þó
struck each and yet
Aðalráðs eða
of-Aethelred or
út flæmdi Knútr.
out drove Knut

Synir Aðalráðs konúngs voru þá vestr í Vallandi í Normandí,
Sons of-Aethelred king were then west in Valland in Normandy
ok voru þar lengi með móðurbræðrum sínum, Róðbert ok
and were there long with mother's-brothers their Robert and
Vilhjálmi, svá sem sagt er í sögu Ólafs ens helga. Eiríkr
Vilhjalm so as said is in (the)-saga of-Olaf the Holy Eirik
jarl Hákonarson andaðist á Englandi, ok var hann þá búinn
earl Hakon's-son died in England and was he then ready
til Rómferðar; honum var skorinn úfr, ok varð eigi
for Rome-journey for-him was cut (the)-uvula and became not

blóð stöðvað, fékk hann af því bana. Knútr konúngr ok
blood stanched got he from that death Knut king and
Emma drotníng áttu 3 börn: Haraldr var elztr, annar
Emma queen had three children Harald was eldest (the)-second
Hörða-Knútr; dóttir þeirra var Gunnhildr, er síðan var
Horda-Knut daughter their was Gunnhild who afterward was
gipt Heinreki keisara enum milda, er hinn þriði var sinna
married Heinrek emperor the Mild who the third was of-his
lángfeðga með því nafni. Sveinn hét enn þriði son Knúts
forefathers with that name Svein was-called the third son of-Knut
konúngs; hans móðir var Alfífa en ríka, dóttir Álfrúns jarls.
king his mother was Alfifa the Mighty daughter of-Alfrun earl

Sveinn konúngr kom í Noreg

XVII · KING SVEINN CAME TO NORWAY

Knútr and Hákon jarl Eiríksson drove Óláfr the Holy from Norway, and Óláfr fell at Stiklarstaðir on his return. Knútr set Sveinn, his son by Álfífa, over Norway, Hörða-Knútr over Denmark, and Haraldr over Scotland, himself overking of all. On his pilgrimage to Rome he spent so freely that no one could count the marks, and Sighvatr praises the journey.

Í þann tíma er Knútr konúngr réð Englandi ok Danmörk,
In that time when Knut king ruled England and Denmark
þá réð Ólafr Haraldsson fyrir Noregi. En er Ólafr konúngr
then ruled Olaf Harald's-son over Norway But when Olaf king
kom þar til ríkis, þá stukku or landi fyrir honum
came there to (the)-realm then fled out-of (the)-land before him
Sveinn jarl Hákonarson ok Hákon jarl Eiríksson, systurson
Svein earl Hakon's-son and Hakon earl Eirik's-son sister's-son
Knúts konúngs; hann fór til Englands á fund Knúts
of-Knut king he went to England to meeting of-Knut

konúngs frænda síns, ok tók hann vel við honum. Síðan
king kinsman his and took he well with him Afterward
ófriðaðist með þeim Ólafi konúngi ok Knúti konúngi.
became-unpeaceful between them Olaf king and Knut king
Knútr konúngr ok Hákon jarl komu í Noreg með her
Knut king and Hakon earl came into Norway with a-host
óvígjan, var þat ovarla á dögum Ólafs konúngs, ok lögðu
unconquerable was that scarcely in days of-Olaf king and laid
þeir land allt undir sik. Knútr konúngr setti þá Hákon
they land all under themselves Knut king set then Hakon
frænda sinn til ríkis í Noregi, en hann fór þaðan til
kinsman his to (the)-realm in Norway but he went thence to
Danmerkr, en Ólafr konúngr flýði þá landit, ok fór þá
Denmark but Olaf king fled then the-land and went then
austr í Garðaríki, ok kom þá aptr í Noreg tveim vetrum
east into Gardariki and came then back into Norway two winters
síðarr, ok átti þá orrostu mikla á Stiklarstöðum við lenda
later and had then a-battle great at Stiklarstadir with landed
menn sína, er þá höfðu gjörzt honum ótrúir, ok voru þá
men his who then had become to-him unfaithful and were then
mótstöðumenn hans; þar féll Ólafr konúngr, sem alkunna
opponents his there fell Olaf king as well-known
er orðit, ok er hann heilagr, ok liggr í skríni í Níðarósi.
is become and is he holy and lies in a-shrine in Nidaros
Hákon jarl Eiríksson týndist í Englandshafi einum vetri áðr
Hakon earl Eirik's-son was-lost in (the)-England-sea one winter before
Ólafr konúngr enn helgi féll. Þá kom Sveinn, son Knúts
Olaf king the Holy fell Then came Svein son of-Knut
konúngs ok Alfífu, í Noreg, ok var hann þá til konúngs
king and of-Alfifa into Norway and was he then to king
tekinn yfir land allt at tilskipan Knúts konúngs föður síns.
taken over land all at (the)-arrangement of-Knut king father his

Knútr konúngr setti Hörða-Knút son sinn yfir Danaveldi,
Knut king set Horda-Knut son his over (the)-Danes'-realm
ok skyldi hann þar konúngr vera. Knútr konúngr hafði ok til
and should he there king be Knut king had also to
forráða mikinn hlut af Skotlandi, ok setti hann þar Harald,
rule great part of Scotland and set he there Harald
son sinn, konúng yfir, en þó var Knútr konúngr yfirkonúngr
son his king over but yet was Knut king overking
allra þeirra; hann var kallaðr Knútr hinn ríki eða Knútr
of-all them he was called Knut the Mighty or Knut
gamli, hann hefir verit ríkastr konúngr ok víðlendastr á
(the)-Old he has been mightiest king and widest-landed in
danska túngu. Knútr konúngr byrjaði ferð sína af landi
(the)-Danish tongue Knut king began journey his from land
í bröt, ok fór hann suðr til Rúms, ok hafði hann í þeirri
off away and went he south to Rome and had he on that
ferð svá mikinn fékostnað, at engi maðr kunni markatal
journey so great money-cost that no man knew mark-count
um ok varla pundatal; hann hafði of lausafjár af
about and scarcely pound-count he had too-much of-movable-wealth from
sínu ríki, en tók keisarans fé at frjálsu, hvar sem hann
his realm but took the-emperor's wealth at freedom wherever as he
vildi. Meðan Knútr konúngr var á Rúmavegi, þá þyrfti engi
wished While Knut king was on (the)-Rome-way then needed no
maðr sér matar at biðja, sá er hans fundi mátti ná,
man for-himself food to ask he who his meeting could reach
so gaf hann öllum nóga skotpenninga. Knútr konúngr gekk
so gave he all enough shot-pennies Knut king walked
af Flæmingjalandi til Rómaborgar. Svá segir Sighvatr skáld:
from Flanders to Rome So says Sighvat (the)-poet

Svá mun fár ferill
So will few path
fetum suðr metinn
in-steps south measured
hríngdrifr hafa
ring-scatterer have
höfuð fremst jöfur.
head foremost prince

Knútr konúngr setti spítala, þann er alla menn skyldi fæða
Knut king set hospital that which all men should feed
um nótt, þá er þar kæmi af danskri túngu; víða gaf hann
for (the)-night then when there came of Danish tongue widely gave he
ok til stórfé, þar sem voru klaustr eða aðrir stórir staðir.
also to great-wealth there where were cloisters or other great places

Andlát Knúts

XVIII · THE DEATH OF KNÚTR

Knútr fell sick of jaundice on his return and died on the ides of November, after twenty-seven winters over Denmark, twenty-four over England, and seven over Norway, the mightiest and widest-ruling king of the Northlands.

En er Knútr konúngr kom aptr til Englands í ríki sitt,
But when Knut king came back to England into realm his
þá fékk hann sjúkleik, ok var fyrst með því móti, sem
then got he a-sickness and was first in that manner as
gulusótt er köllut; hann lá lengi um sumarið, ok um
jaundice is called he lay long through the-summer and in

haustið andaðist hann íðus Nóvembris, þat var í borg
the-autumn died he (on)-ides of-November that was in city
þeirri er heitir í Morstr, þat er mikill höfuðstaðr, ok er
that which is-called in Morstr that is great chief-place and is
hann þar jarðaðr. Þá hafði hann at aldri 17 vetr ok
he there buried Then had he in age seventeen winters and
20, þá hafði hann verit konúngr yfir Danmörku 7 vetr
twenty then had he been king over Denmark seven winters
ok 20, en ráðit fyrir Englandi 4 vetr ok 20, en fyrir
and twenty but ruled over England four winters and twenty but over
Noregi 7 vetr. Þat er allra manna mál, at Knútr konúngr
Norway seven winters That is of-all men talk that Knut king
hafi ríkastr verit ok víðlendastr konúnga á Norðrlöndum.
have mightiest been and widest-landed of-kings in (the)-Northlands

Frá Knúti konúngi

XIX · OF KING KNÚTR

Knútr was the most generous king in the North. Þórarinn loftunga brought him a short poem; Knútr, angered that anyone should make so short a poem about him, bade him bring a thirty-stanza drápa by the next day or die, and Þórarinn made Höfuðlausn and was paid fifty marks. Knútr gave Bersi two gold rings and a sword, as Sighvatr's verse tells, and with his death the greatness of the Danish kings ended.

Knútr konúngr hefir verit örvastr konúnga á Norðrlöndum,
Knut king has been most-generous of-kings in (the)-Northlands
þvíat þat er sannliga sagt, at eigi hafði hann þat miðr
because that is truly said that not had he that less
umfram aðra konúnga, hversu mikit fé hann veitti í
beyond other kings how much wealth he granted in
vingjafir á hverju ári, heldr enn hitt, at hann tók miklu
friend-gifts in each year rather than that that he took much

meira í skatta ok skuldir á hverju ári af 3 þjóðlöndum
more in tributes and dues in each year from three people-lands
enn hverr sá annarra, er hafði eitt konúngsríki fyrir at ráða,
than each one of-others who had one king's-realm over to rule
ok þó þat með at England er auðgast at lausafé allra
and yet that with that England is richest in movable-wealth of-all
Norðrlanda. Þat var eitt mark um örleik hans, at maðr er
Northlands That was one token of generosity his that a-man who
nefndr Þórarinn loftúnga, íslenzkr, hann var skáld mikið, ok
named Thorarin Praise-Tongue Icelandic he was poet great and
hafði hann bundizt á höndum konúngum ok ríkum mönnum
had he bound-himself in hands to-kings and mighty men
lánga æfi, ok var þá gamall, er hann sótti til fundar við
long life and was then old when he went to meeting with
Knút konúng, ok hafði ort kvæði um hann, en þat var
Knut king and had composed a-poem about him but that was
þá, er hann gekk fyrir konúnginn, ok kvaddi hann, ok
then when he went before the-king and greeted him and
spurði ef hann vildi hlýða til kvæðis, er hann hafði ort
asked if he wished to-listen to (the)-poem which he had composed
um hann; en þat var þá er konúngr sat yfir borðum, ok
about him but that was then when (the)-king sat over tables and
vist var upptekin; menn nokkurir stóðu fyrir borðinu, þeir er
food was taken-up men some stood before the-table they who
töluðu mál sitt, ok hlýddi konúngr þeim fyrst, en er þeir
spoke case their and listened (the)-king to-them first but when they
luku sinni ræðu, þá mælti Þórarinn, þvíat hann var maðr
finished their speech then spoke Thorarin because he was a-man
konúngdjarfr, ok hafði opt flutt mál sitt fyrir höfðíngjum:
king-bold and had often brought case his before chieftains
herra! segir hann, enn vil ek biðja, at þér heyrið kvæði mitt,
lord says he still will I ask that you hear poem my

ok mun yðr þat skömm dvöl vera, þvíat þat eru fár vísur.
and will to-you that short delay be because those are few verses
Knútr svarar, ok leit til hans heldr reiðuliga: þat hefir engi
Knut answers and looked to him rather angrily that has no
maðr fyrr gjört enn þú, at yrkja um mik dræplínga, ok
man before done than you to compose about me little-poems and
vittu þat víst, at á morgin at dögurðar máli kom þú hér,
know-you that surely that on morning at breakfast time come you here
ok flyt mér þá þrítuga drápu eða lengri, þá er þú hefir
and bring me then a-thirty-verse drapa or longer than which you have
nú ort um mik á þessi stundu, en at öðrum kosti skaltu
now composed about me at this hour but in other case shall-you
deya. Þá gekk Þórarinn í bröt, ok tók at yrkja drápu um
die Then went Thorarin off away and took to compose a-drapa about
Knút konúng, ok er sú drápa kölluð Höfuðlausn, ok nýtti
Knut king and is that drapa called Head-Ransom and used
hann allt úr flokkinum, þat er svá mátti, ok eptir um
he all out-of the-poem that which so could and after in
daginn flutti hann kvæðit at konúngs borði, ok tókst honum
the-day brought he the-poem at (the)-king's table and went to-him
eð bezta. Konúngr launaði honum kvæðit, ok gaf honum
the best (The)-king rewarded him the-poem and gave him
50 marka skírra. Síðan orti Þórarinn aðra drápu um
fifty marks of-pure(-silver) Afterward composed Thorarin another drapa about
Knút konúng, ok er þat kölluð Tugdrápa, þar segir svá:
Knut king and is that called Tugdrapa there says so

Gjöld hefi ek marka
Payments have I of-marks
málmdyns fyrir hlyn
of-metal-din for maple
fram fimm tigu
forth five tens
forvist borit;
first-place borne
þeirra er veitti
of-those which granted
víghagr brag
war-skilled poem
mér morðstórir
to-me murder-great
mannbaldr er ek fann.
man-Baldr when I found

Knútr konúngr gaf Bersa Skáldtorfusyni tvá gullhrínga, er
Knut king gave Bersi Skaldtorfa's-son two gold-rings which
báðir stóðu mörk, ok þar með sverð gullbúit. Svá segir
both weighed a-mark and there with a-sword gold-adorned So says
Sighvatr skáld:
Sighvat (the)-poet

Knútr hefir okkr enn ítri
Knut has us-two the glorious
all-dáðgöfugr báðum
all-deed-noble both
hendr er hilmi fundum
hands when (the)-ruler we-met
húns skrautliga búnar;
of-the-cub splendidly adorned
þér gaf hann mörk eða meira
to-you gave he a-mark or more
margvitr ok hjör bitran
much-wise and blade bitter
gulls, ræðr gjörfa öllu
of-gold rules made all
gud sjálfr, en mér hálfa.
God himself but to-me half

Þá er Knútr konúngr andaðist í Englandi, endist sá hinn
Then when Knut king died in England ended that the
mikli höfðíngskapr Danakonúnga, er þeir lángfeðgar höfðu
great lordship of-Danes'-kings which they forefathers had
haft, at hverr enn síðarri hafði meira ríki enn hans faðir.
had that each the later had greater realm than his father

Frá Knúti ok Sveini

XX · OF KNÚTR AND SVEINN

Knútr was tall and strong, handsome but for a thin, high, hooked nose, fair-haired and keen-eyed, generous and lucky, though no great sage, like Sveinn, Haraldr, and Gormr before him.

Knútr var manna mestr vexti ok sterkr at afli, manna fríðastr,
Knut was of-men greatest in-growth and strong in strength of-men handsomest
nema nef hans var þunt, ok eigi lágt, ok nákkvað bjúgt, hann
except nose his was thin and not low and somewhat crooked he
var ljóslitaðr, fagrhárr ok mjök hærðr, hverjum manni var hann
was light-colored fair-haired and much haired than-each man was he
betr eygðr, bæði fagreygðr ok snareygðr; hann var ör maðr,
better eyed both fair-eyed and keen-eyed he was a-generous man
hermaðr mikill ok enn vápndjarfasti, sigrsæll, hamingjumaðr
warrior great and the most-weapon-bold victorious a-luck-man
mikill um alla hluti, þá er til ríkdóms heyrði; ekki var hann
great in all things those which to power belonged not was he
stórvitr maðr, ok svá Sveinn konúngr með sama hætti, ok enn
a-great-wise man and so Svein king in same manner and still
áðr Haraldr ok Gormr, at þeir voru öngir spekíngar at viti.
before Harald and Gorm that they were no sages in wit

Frá Hörða-Knúti

XXI · OF HÖRÐA-KNÚTR

Hörða-Knútr took Denmark and Haraldr England; Játvarðr the Good came to England. Gunnhildr, Knútr's daughter married to the emperor, died, then Haraldr; Hörða-Knútr held both realms and died two winters later, ending the old line. Játvarðr took England, Magnús the Good Denmark, until Sveinn Úlfsson, Knútr's sister's son, rose against him.

Hörða-Knútr, son gamla Knúts, tók ríki allt í Danmörku eptir
Horda-Knut son of-old Knut took realm all in Denmark after
föður sinn, en Haraldr, annarr son gamla Knúts, tók ríki yfir
father his but Harald (the)-second son of-old Knut took realm over
Englandi eptir föður sinn; þá kom til Englands Játvarðr enn
England after father his then came to England Edward the
góði Aðalráðsson, bróðir þeirra Haralds ok Hörða-Knúts, hafði
Good Aethelred's-son brother their of-Harald and of-Horda-Knut had
hann í Englandi gott yfirlát, sem vert var. Tveim vetrum eptir
he in England good favor as worth was Two winters after
andlát gamla Knúts andaðist Gunnhildr drottníng í Saxlandi,
(the)-death of-old Knut died Gunnhild queen in Saxony
dóttir Knúts konúngs, er Heinrekr keisari hafði átt; en
daughter of-Knut king whom Heinrek emperor had had but
þrim vetrum síðarr andaðist Haraldr Knútsson Englakonúngr,
three winters later died Harald Knut's-son Englishmen's-king
ok er hann jarðaðr hjá föður sínum í Morstr, tók þá
and is he buried beside father his in Morstr took then
Hörða-Knútr bróðir hans bæði ríkin, England ok Danmörk,
Horda-Knut brother his both the-realms England and Denmark
en Magnús son Ólafs ens helga, svarabróðir Hörða-Knúts,
but Magnus son of-Olaf the Holy sworn-brother of-Horda-Knut

réð þá Noregi, svá sem ritað er í æfi Noregs konúnga;
ruled then Norway so as written is in (the)-lives Norway kings
en tveim vetrum eptir andlát Haralds Knútssonar andaðist
but two winters after (the)-death of-Harald Knut's-son died
Hörða-Knútr, var hann ok jarðaðr í Morstr hjá gamla Knúti,
Horda-Knut was he also buried in Morstr beside old Knut
feðr sínum. Eptir dauða Hörða-Knúts var aldauða en forna
father his After (the)-death of-Horda-Knut was all-dead the old
ætt Danakonúnga. Þá var Játvarðr Aðalráðsson til konúngs
line of-Danes'-kings Then was Edward Aethelred's-son to king
tekinn yfir Englandi, var hann þar lengi konúngr, ok
taken over England was he there long king and
eignuðust Danakonúngar aldregi England síðan. En þá tók
owned Danes'-kings never England afterward But then took
Magnús, son Ólafs ens helga, ríki í Danmörk, var hann þá
Magnus son of-Olaf the Holy realm in Denmark was he then
þar konúngr yfir, sem segir í æfi Noregs konúnga; hann
there king over as says in (the)-lives Norway kings he
réð einn Danmörk, áðr þar hófst til ríkis í móti honum
ruled alone Denmark before there rose to realm in against him
Sveinn, sá er sagt er, Magnús héti öðru nafni, hann
Svein he who said is (that)-Magnus was-called by-other name he
var son Úlfs jarls Þorgilssonar sprakaleggs. Móðir Sveins var
was son of-Ulf earl Thorgil's-son Sprakalegg Mother of-Svein was
Ástríðr, dóttir Sveins konúngs tjúguskeggs, var hún systir
Astrid daughter of-Svein king Forkbeard was she sister
Knúts konúngs gamla, en móðir Ástríðar var Sigríðr hin
of-Knut king (the)-Old but mother of-Astrid was Sigrid the
stórráða, dóttir Sköglar-Tosta, hon var ok móðir Ólafs sænska.
High-Minded daughter of-Skogul-Tosti she was also mother of-Olaf (the)-Swede

Frá Dana konúngi

XXII · OF THE KING OF THE DANES

Sveinn Úlfsson took an earldom from Magnús, broke his oath, and took the Danish kingdom. Magnús beat the Wends at Hlýrskógsheiðr and Sveinn at Erri, Áróss, and Helganes, as Arnórr's verses tell. Sveinn fled to Sweden, joined Haraldr Sigurðarson, and became king after Magnús died; Haraldr warred on him every summer, won at the Niz, and the two made peace three winters later.

Sveinn Úlfsson tók jarldóm af Magnúsi konúngi Ólafssyni,
Svein Ulf's-son took an-earldom from Magnus king Olaf's-son
ok þar með Danaveldi til forráða ok yfirsóknar, þá er
and there with (the)-Danes'-realm to rule and authority then when
þeir fundust í Gautelfi, ok batt Sveinn eiðum sætt
they met at (the)-Gaut-Elf and bound Svein with-oaths settlement
þeirra, fór Magnús þá norðr í Noreg, en Sveinn til
their went Magnus then north into Norway but Svein to
Danmerkr. Þat sama haust tóku Danir Svein Úlfsson til
Denmark That same autumn took (the)-Danes Svein Ulf's-son to
konúngs, ok lagði hann þá land allt undir sik, ok gjörðist
king and laid he then land all under himself and became
konúngr yfir; þat spurði Magnús konúngr, ok eptir um
king over that learned Magnus king and after in
várið fór Magnús til Danmerkr með mikinn her. Þat
the-spring went Magnus to Denmark with great host That
sumar barðist Magnús konúngr á Vindlandi við Jómsborg, ok
summer fought Magnus king in Wendland at Jomsborg and
fékk sigr, brendi hann borgina ok víða annarstaðar landit.
got victory burned he the-city and widely elsewhere the-land
Aðra orrostu átti Magnús konúngr um haustið næsta dag
Another battle had Magnus king in the-autumn next day

fyrir Mikkjáls messu á Jótlandi, skamt norðr frá Heiðabæ á
before of-Michael mass in Jutland short north from Hedeby on
Hlýrskógsheiði við Skotborgará; þá barðist hann við Vindr,
Lyrskog-Heath by Skotborg-River then fought he with (the)-Wends
þar sigraði Magnús konúngr með heilagleik ok jarteiknagjörð
there conquered Magnus king with holiness and miracle-working
Ólafs konúngs föður síns, ok drap þar ógrynni hers
of-Olaf king father his and killed there a-countless-number of-host
heiðinna manna. Þat er sögn sumra manna at Sveinn
of-heathen men That is (the)-tale of-some men that Svein
Úlfsson hafi verit í þeirri orrustu með Magnúsi konúngi,
Ulf's-son have been in that battle with Magnus king
ok sætt þeirra héldist þá enn. Svá segir Þorleikr fagri
and settlement their held then still So says Thorleik (the)-Fair
í flokki þeim, er hann orti um Svein Úlfsson:
in poem that which he composed about Svein Ulf's-son

Fur sendir vann fjandum
Fire sender wrought to-enemies
fjörspell í gný hjörfa
life-loss in din of-swords
bráð fékk hrafn fyrir Heiða-
meat got raven before Hede-
hauk storða bæ norðan;
hawk of-stumps -by from-the-north
rákust Vindr en vakar
were-driven (the)-Wends but hawks
vals ginu þeir um halsa,
of-slain gaped they about necks

dauðr lá herr á heiði
dead lay (the)-host on (the)-heath
hund margr, fáir undan.
hundred many few away

Þat sama haust áttu þeir orrostu á öndurðum vetri, Magnús
That same autumn had they a-battle in early winter Magnus
konúngr ok Sveinn konúngr Úlfsson, við Erri; þar hafði
king and Svein king Ulf's-son at Erri there had
Magnús konúngr sigr, en Sveinn flýði til Jótlands. Aðra orrostu
Magnus king victory but Svein fled to Jutland Another battle
áttu þeir litlu fyrir jól, fyrir Jótlandi fyrir sunnan Árós; þar
had they a-little before Yule off Jutland on south-of Aros there
var hörð orrosta, ok mikið mannfall, þar flýði Sveinn konúngr,
was hard battle and great slaughter there fled Svein king
ok lét þar 7 skip, sem segir í sögu Magnús konúngs ens
and lost there seven ships as says in (the)-saga of-Magnus king the
góða. Sveinn flýði fyrst til Sjólands, með þat lið er undan
Good Svein fled first to Zealand with that troop which away
hafði komizt, ok honum vildi fylgja, en Magnús konúngr sigldi
had come and him wished to-follow but Magnus king sailed
þegar eptir honum, ok kom at Sveini, þar sem heitir í Höfn,
at-once after him and came at Svein there where is-called in Hofn
lá hann þar fyrir fám skipum; varð þar skömm viðrtaka, flýði
lay he there with few ships became there short resistance fled
Sveinn á land upp, féll þar enn mart lið hans. Sveinn flýði
Svein on land up fell there still much troop his Svein fled
þá til Fjóns, en Magnús konúngr hélt eptir honum, ok urðu
then to Fyn but Magnus king held after him and became

þar enn mörg slög veitt Sveins mönnum, ok voru þat ekki
there still many blows given of-Svein men and were those not
stórar orrostur, en þó segir Arnór jarlaskáld í Magnúsardrápu:
great battles but yet says Arnor Earls'-Poet in Magnusdrapa

Fjórar hefir þú randa rýrir
Four have you of-shields diminisher
reyrar setrs á einum vetri
of-reed of-seat in one winter
allvaldr ertu ofveg kallaðr
mighty-king are-you over-mighty called
örva hríðir fræknum gjörvar.
of-arrows storms bold made

Sveinn konúngr gekk á skip, ok hélt austr fyrir Skáni, ok fór
Svein king went on ship and held east off Scania and went
þar upp á land, ok svá austr í Svíaveldi á fund Önundar
there up on land and so east into (the)-Swedes'-realm to meeting of-Onund
konúngs Ólafssonar, frænda síns, ok dvaldist þar til vars.
king Olaf's-son kinsman his and stayed there till spring
Magnús konúngr fór um várið til Noregs, ok dvaldist þar
Magnus king went in the-spring to Norway and stayed there
lengi um sumarit, en er Sveinn spurði þat, fór hann þegar
long through the-summer but when Svein learned that went he at-once
út í Danmörk, ok lagði land undir sik; ok er Magnús
out into Denmark and laid land under himself and when Magnus
konúngr spurði þat til Noregs, þá fór hann til Danmerkr um
king learned that to Norway then went he to Denmark in
haustið með her sinn, ok var fundr þeirra Sveins, þar sem heitir
the-autumn with host his and was meeting their of-Svein there where is-called

Helganes, þar varð allmikil orrosta, ok flýði Sveinn á land upp
Helganes there became very-great battle and fled Svein on land up
um síðir, ok lét öll skipin. Svá segir Arnór í Magnúsdrápu:
at last and lost all the-ships So says Arnor in Magnusdrapa

Keppinn vantu, þat er ey mun uppi
Contending wrought-you that which ever will up
Yggjar veðr, meðan heimrinn byggist,
of-Ygg storm while the-world is-inhabited
valgammr skók í vápna rimmu
slaughter-vulture shook in of-weapons fray
við Helganes blóðugt fiðri;
at Helganes bloody feather
ýngvi féktu öll með hríngum
prince got-you all with rings
jarl vissi sik foldar missa
(the)-earl knew himself of-land lose
þjóðkuðr en þú tókt síðan
people-known but you took afterward
þeirra flaust við sigri meira.
their ships with victory greater

Sveinn flýði þá enn til Svíþjóðar, ok dvaldist þar annann
Svein fled then again to Sweden and stayed there another
vetr, en Magnús konúngr fór þá til Noregs. Haraldr
winter but Magnus king went then to Norway Harald
Sigurðarson kom þat vár til Svíþjóðar austan or
Sigurd's-son came that spring to Sweden from-the-east out-of
Garðaríki, mágr Sveins. Haraldr átti þá Ellisif,
Gardariki kinsman-by-marriage of-Svein Harald had then Ellisif
dóttur Jarizleifs konúngs or Hólmgarði; móðir hennar var
daughter of-Jarizleif king out-of Holmgard mother her was

Íngigerðr, dóttir Ólafs sænska, en hann var móðurbróðir
Ingigerd daughter of-Olaf (the)-Swede but he was mother's-brother
Sveins Úlfssonar. Sveinn ok Haraldr gjörðu félagskap sinn,
of-Svein Ulf's-son Svein and Harald made partnership their
ok drógu her saman, ok fóru síðan til Danmerkr, foru
and drew a-host together and went afterward to Denmark went
þar allt herskildi yfir, ok lögðu land allt undir sik. En
there all with-war-shield over and laid land all under themselves But
er Magnús konúngr spurði þat, þá fór hann móti þeim
when Magnus king learned that then went he against them
með her or Noregi, þá fór Hallkell móðurbróðir þeirra
with a-host out-of Norway then went Hallkel mother's-brother their
Ólafs ens helga ok Haraldar Sigurðarsonar af Magnúsar
of-Olaf the Holy and of-Harald Sigurd's-son from of-Magnus
liði á fund Haralds Sigurdarsonar, ok gjörði sætt á
troop to meeting of-Harald Sigurd's-son and made settlement on
milli þeirra Magnús konúngs; fór þá Haraldr til Noregs,
between them of-Magnus king went then Harald to Norway
ok tók þar halft ríki af Magnúsi konúngi frænda sínum,
and took there half realm from Magnus king kinsman his
en Sveinn flýði þá enn til Svíþjóðar, ok fór þá aptr út í
but Svein fled then again to Sweden and went then back out into
Danmörk, þegar er konúngarnir voru norðr farnir, var hann
Denmark at-once when the-kings were north gone was he
í Danmörk um vetrinn, en eptir um sumarit fór Magnús
in Denmark through the-winter but after in the-summer went Magnus
konúngr ok Haraldr til Danmerkr. Sveinn var þá á Skáni.
king and Harald to Denmark Svein was then in Scania
Þat haust varð Magnús konúngr sóttdauðr á Jótlandi, en
That autumn became Magnus king sick-dead in Jutland but
allr Norðmannaherr fylgði líki hans norðr í Noreg; en
all (the)-Norwegians'-host followed body his north into Norway but

Sveinn varð konúngr at Danmörk at frjálsu, ok réð því
Svein became king over Denmark at freedom and ruled that
ríki lengi síðan; en Haraldr var þá konúngr í Noregi, ok
realm long afterward but Harald was then king in Norway and
stóð lengi ófriðr milli þeirra, ok herjaði Haraldr konúngr
stood long unpeace between them and harried Harald king
hvert sumar í Danmörk, ok eru um þat lángar frásagnir
each summer in Denmark and are about that long accounts
í sögu Haralds konúngs. Þá er Haraldr hafði verit 16
in (the)-saga of-Harald king Then when Harald had been sixteen
vetr yfir Noregi, áttu þeir Sveinn konúngr orrostu mikla
winters over Norway had they Svein king a-battle great
fyrir Hallandi á Jöfnfirði fyrir Nizi, þar hafði Haraldr
off Halland in Jofnfjord off (the)-Nissa there had Harald
konúngr sigr, en Sveinn konúngr flýði; þrim vetrum síðar
king victory but Svein king fled three winters later
gjörðu þeir sætt sína Haraldr ok Sveinn ok frið millum
made they settlement their Harald and Svein and peace between
landanna; einum vetri síðarr féll Haraldr konúngr á Englandi.
the-lands one winter later fell Harald king in England
Sveinn konúngr hafði ok ófrið við Steinkel Svíakonúng, ok
Svein king had also unpeace with Steinkel Swedes'-king and
fór hann með herr sinn á hendr Sveini konúngi, ok vann
went he with host his on hands Svein king and won
ekki af landi hans. Svá segir Þorleikr fagri:
nothing of land his So says Thorleik (the)-Fair

Hætt hafa sér þeir er sóttu
Risky have for-themselves they who sought
Sveins fundar til stundum
of-Svein meeting to at-times
litt hefir þeir at þreyta
little have they to contend
þrimr bragníngum hagnað;
to-three princes profited
þó hefir höldvinr haldit
yet has men's-friend held
(hann er snjallr konúngr) allri
he is valiant king all
Jótagrund með endum
Jutes'-ground with ends
ógnsterkr ok Danmörku.
terror-strong and Denmark

Frá börnum Sveins konúngs

XXIII · OF KING SVEINN'S CHILDREN

Sveinn Úlfsson had fourteen sons who grew up, Knútr the Holy, Óláfr, Eiríkr the Good, and Nikulás among them, and was the best-loved Danish king.

Sveinn konúngr Úlfsson átti Gunnhildi, dóttur Sveins jarls
Svein king Ulf's-son had Gunnhild daughter of-Svein earl
Hákonarsonar; þeirra sun hét Sveinn. Sveinn konúngr
Hakon's-son their son was-called Svein Svein king
átti mörg frillubörn, hann átti 14, sonu, þá er or
had many concubine-children he had fourteen sons those who out-of

barnæsku komust: Knútr hét enn elzti, hann andaðist
childhood came Knut was-called the eldest he died
at lifanda feðr sínum í Rúmferð; annarr hét Haraldr;
in living father his on a-Rome-journey (the)-second was-called Harald
þriði Knútr enn helgi; fjórði Ólafr; fimti Sveinn;
(the)-third Knut the Holy (the)-fourth Olaf (the)-fifth Svein
sétti Eríkr enn góði; sjaundi Þorgils; átti Sigurðr;
(the)-sixth Eirik the Good (the)-seventh Thorgils (the)-eighth Sigurd
níundi Benedikt; tíundi Björn; ellefti Guttormr; tólfti
(the)-ninth Benedikt (the)-tenth Bjorn (the)-eleventh Guttorm (the)-twelfth
Eymundr; þrettándi Nikulás; fjórtándi Úlfr, er Ubbi var
Eymund (the)-thirteenth Nikulas (the)-fourteenth Ulf who Ubbi was
kallaðr. Þær voru dætr Sveins konúngs: Íngiríðr, er síðan
called These were daughters of-Svein king Ingirid whom afterward
átti Ólafr kyrri Noregs konúngr Haraldsson; önnur
had Olaf (the)-Quiet Norway king Harald's-son (the)-second
var Ragnhildr, er átti Sveinn, son Áskels Erlíngssonar,
was Ragnhild whom had Svein son of-Askel Erling's-son
þeirra son var Knútr á Sóla. Sveinn Úlfsson var ágætr
their son was Knut at Soli Svein Ulf's-son was an-excellent
konúngr ok vinsæll, svá at eigi hefir einhverr Danakonúnga
king and popular so that not has any-one of-Danes'-kings
ástsælli verit af öllu landsfólkinu, hann var lengi konúngr
more-beloved been by all the-land-folk he was long king
yfir Danmörk. Þorgils, son Sveins konúngs, fór austr í
over Denmark Thorgils son of-Svein king went east into
Garðaríki, þar átti hann móðurætt göfga, fæddist hann þar
Gardariki there had he mother's-kin noble was-raised he there
upp, ok var þar til konúngs tekinn, ok kom ekki síðan
up and was there to king taken and came not afterward
til Danmerkr. Sigurðr, son Sveins konúngs, féll á Vindlandi.
to Denmark Sigurd son of-Svein king fell in Wendland

Frá Sveini konúngi

XXIV · OF KING SVEINN

At an assembly in Jutland, after twenty-nine winters of rule, Sveinn asked the Danes to let him choose his successor so that his sons should not fight over the realm. They granted it, and he named Knútr, not Haraldr the eldest, as the boldest and most accomplished.

Þá er Sveinn konúngr hafði ráðit fyrir Danmörku 9
Then when Svein king had ruled over Denmark nine
vetr ok 20, síðan Magnús konúngr enn góði andaðist,
winters and twenty since Magnus king the Good died
þá var hann staddr austr á Jótlandi; hann lét þá þings
then was he placed east in Jutland he let then (the)-assembly
kveðja, ok var þar allfjölment; en er þingið var sett, þá
summon and was there very-crowded but when the-assembly was set then
talaði Sveinn konúngr ok mælti: guð launi ok þakki yðr
talked Svein king and spoke God reward and thank you
Dönum ást ok hlýðni, er þér hafit við mik lánga stund
Danes love and obedience which you have toward me long while
haft; vænti ek at enn muni svá vera um þá hluti, er
had expect I that still will so be about those things which
mér þikkja miklu máli skipta; ek hefi haldit lög forn við
to-me seem much matter concern I have held laws old with
yðr Dani, en nú er sá hlutr í málinu, er yðr man ek
you Danes but now is that thing in the-matter which to-you will I
þikkja taka um fram lögin, er þat ok svá; ek vil þess biðja,
seem take about beyond the-laws is that and so I will that ask
at þér látit mik kjósa konúng eptir mik, bið ek þess fyrir
that you let me choose a-king after me ask I that for
þá sök, at ek á marga sonu ok vel mannaða, vil ek heldr
that reason that I have many sons and well manned will I rather

skipta ríki með þeim ok konúngdómi, enn þéir deili með
divide realm among them and kingdom than they quarrel with
ófriði sín í milli, ok verði fyrir þat styrjöld í landinu
unpeace themselves in between and become for that strife in the-land
ok hernaðr. Konúngrinn talaði ekki lángt, en er hann
and raiding The-king talked not long but when he
hætti ræðunni, þá varð góðr rómr at máli hans, ok játuðu
stopped the-speech then became good acclaim at speech his and granted
allir honum bæn sína fyrir sakir vinsælda hans ok ástar,
all him request his for sake of-popularity his and of-love
er allt fólk unni honum, var þat þá gjört lögtekit, ok
which all folk loved him was that then done law-taken and
átt vápnatak at, at Sveinn konúngr skyldi kjósa þann
had (the)-weapon-taking at that Svein king should choose that-one
af sonum sínum, sem hann vildi, til konúngs eptir sik
of sons his as he wished to king after himself
í Danmörk. Þá tók Sveinn konúngr til máls ok sagði svá:
in Denmark Then took Svein king to speech and said so
Haraldr er elztr sona minna, sem þér vitið, at vetratali, en
Harald is eldest of-sons my as you know in winter-count but
Knútr er röskastr í skapi ok bezt at íþróttum búinn allra
Knut is briskest in temper and best in accomplishments furnished of-all
sona minna, er hann nú ok reyndr at herstjórn, ok þikki
sons my is he now also tried in war-command and seems
mér hann bazt til konúngs fallinn af sonum mínum, vil
to-me he best to king fitted of sons my will
ek hann til konúngs kjósa eptir mik. Var þá slitit þínginu.
I him to king choose after me Was then broken the-assembly

Andlát Sveins

XXV · THE DEATH OF SVEINN

Sveinn fell sick at Suddaþorp and died, and his body was carried in state to Hringstaðir. He was handsome, strong, gentle, and just but not victorious in battle, and Steinn Herdísarson's Nizarvísur praise him.

Síðan fór Sveinn konúngr aptr í þorpið, þar sem hann
Afterward went Svein king back into the-village there where he
hafði áðr veizlu haft, þar heitir Suddaþorp. En er konúngr
had before a-feast had there is-called Suddathorp But when (the)-king
kom til herbergis, þá lét hann búa hvílu sína, ok lagðist
came to lodging then let he prepare bed his and lay-down
í sótt, ok leiddi sú sótt hann til bana. Lík hans var flutt
in sickness and led that sickness him to death Body his was carried
til Hríngstaða, ok var hann þar jarðaðr. Kálfr Mánason segir
to Hringstadir and was he there buried Kalf Mani's-son says
svá í kvæði því, er hann orti um Knút enn helga,
so in poem that which he composed about Knut the Holy
son Sveins konúngs, at líkit Sveins konúngs var flutt á
son of-Svein king that the-body of-Svein king was carried in
13 dögum sunnan af Jótlandi ok norðr til Hríngstaða
thirteen days from-the-south from Jutland and north to Hringstadir
með miklum prís ok virðulegri líkfylgju. Sveinn konúngr
with great honor and worthy funeral-procession Svein king
andaðist þriðja Kal. Mají, þá hafði hann verit konúngr at
died (the)-third Kalends of-May then had he been king over
Danmörku 9 vetr ok 20, síðan Magnús konúngr andaðist,
Denmark nine winters and twenty since Magnus king died
en áðr 2 vetr í úfriði við Magnús konúng. Sveinn konúngr
but before two winters in unpeace with Magnus king Svein king

andaðist 10 vetrum eptir fall Haraldanna á Englandi. Þá
died ten winters after (the)-fall of-the-Haralds in England Then
voru liðnir frá andláti gamla Knúts 40 vetra. Sveinn konúngr
were passed from (the)-death of-old Knut forty winters Svein king
var allra manna fríðastr, hann var ok hverjum manni meiri
was of-all men handsomest he was also than-each man greater
ok sterkari, lítillátr ok blíðmæltr, manna örvastr, snjállr
and stronger humble and gentle-spoken of-men most-generous eloquent
í máli, stjórnsamr ok réttlátr, þolinmóðr, enn hraustasti ok
in speech masterful and just patient the bravest and
enn vápndjarfasti; ekki var hann sigrsæll í orrostum, svá
the most-weapon-bold not was he victorious in battles so
sem hér er áðr sagt. Svá segir Steinn Herdísarson í Nizar
as here is before said So says Stein Herdis's-son in of-Nissa
vísum, er hann orti um Harald konúng Sigurðarson:
verses which he composed about Harald king Sigurd's-son

Oss dugir hrafns ens hvassa
Us befits of-raven the keen
húngr-deyfi svá leyfa,
hunger-duller so praise
linns at lastim annan
of-serpent that we-blame other
látrs sveiganda eigi;
of-lair bender not
aldregi kvöddust oddum,
never greeted-each-other with-points

annað hverjum manni
other each man
tál er um tiggja at mæla,
deceit is about (the)-prince to speak
tveir fullhugar meiri.
two full-heroes greater

Ok enn kvað hann:
And again recited he

Eigi mundi undan
Not would away
allvaldr Dana halda,
mighty-king of-Danes hold
oss dugir satt um snotran
us befits true about wise
sælínga kon mæla;
of-princes scion speak
ef menn fyrir sjá sunnan
if men before see from-the-south
sverð reiddust at ferðir
swords were-swung at troops
þeir er herskildi héldu
they who war-shield held
hrafn fæði vel tæði.
raven feed well helped

Haraldr til konúngs tekinn

XXVI · HARALDR TAKEN AS KING

After Sveinn's death his sons divided, Ásbjörn jarl holding to Haraldr by the old law. At the Viborg assembly a farmer urged that Knútr be king, but Eyvindr bifra broke the assembly off; while Eyvindr kept Knútr talking at a second assembly, Haraldr's party took Haraldr as king at a secret one. Knútr, red as blood, was offered an earldom over Sjáland and the succession, and chose to yield the name of king rather than fight his brother.

Eptir andlát Sveins konúngs varð þegar sundrþykki mikit
After (the)-death of-Svein king became at-once discord great
með sonum hans, ok dró hverr þeirra at sér vini sína,
among sons his and drew each of-them to himself friends his
ok leitaði sér fulltíngs. Ásbjörn Eydana jarl hafði gipt
and sought for-himself support Asbjorn of-Isle-Danes earl had married
dóttur sína Haraldi, syni Sveins konúngs, ok gekk hann
daughter his Harald son of-Svein king and went he
at með enu mesta kappi, at halda Haraldi til konúngs, ok
at-it with the greatest zeal to hold Harald to king and
hurfu at því margir aðrir höfðíngjar með honum; drógu þeir
turned to that many other chieftains with him drew they
þat fram, sem forn lög voru, at enn elzti konúngsson skyldi
that forth as old laws were that the eldest king's-son should
konúngr vera, en hirtu ekki, hvat Sveinn konúngr hafði
king be but heeded not what Svein king had
þarum mælt, eðr hverju þeir höfðu honum heitit. Knútr,
thereabout spoken or what they had him promised Knut
son Sveins konúngs, hafði áðr verit í hernaði í Austrveg,
son of-Svein king had before been in raiding in (the)-East-Way
ok hafði hann lið mikit ok góðan skipakost. Svá segir Kálfr
and had he troop great and good ship-supply So says Kalf

Mánason í kvæði sínu, at Knútr hafi sigrað 10 konúnga,
Mani's-son in poem his that Knut have conquered ten kings
þá er hann var í hernaði í Austrveg. Þeir báðir bræðr
then when he was in raiding in (the)-East-Way They both brothers
Knútr ok Haraldr sóttu nú til Jótlands, þvíat þar skyldi
Knut and Harald made now to Jutland because there should
konúng taka á Vebjarga þingi, var þar allmikit fjölmenni. En
king take at Viborg assembly was there very-great multitude But
er þingit var sett, ok höfðingjar þar komnir, þeir sem
when the-assembly was set and chieftains there come those whom
ván var, þá talaði þar annar at öðrum, ok birtist þá
expectation was then talked there one after another and showed-itself then
hverr hverjum fulltíngði; fór svá þann dag allan til nætr,
who whom supported went so that day all to night
ok var ekki þá nær lyktinni enn áðr; en annann dag, er
and was not then nearer the-end than before but (the)-second day when
menn komu á þingið, ok nokkurir menn höfðu talað, þá
men came to the-assembly and some men had talked then
stóð upp einn maðr í bóndaliðinu, ok talaði ok mælti svá:
stood up one man in the-farmer-troop and talked and spoke so
vér Jótarnir höfum lengi haft vald til þess, at kjósa konúng
we the-Jutes have long had power to that to choose a-king
yfir Danaveldi, höfum vér Danir verit jafnan konúngsælir,
over (the)-Danes'-realm have we Danes been always king-lucky
ok þessi konúngr, er nu var næstum, hafði alla hluti þá
and this king who now was nearest had all things those
með sér, er konúng fríðir, en þat er herða ok stjórn at
with himself which a-king adorn but that is hardness and rule to
gæta landsins, þvíat land várt er mjök herskátt af víkíngum;
guard the-land because land our is much war-harried by vikings
þurfum vér þann konúng, at áðr sé reyndr í bardögum
need we that king who before be tried in fights

ok at stjórn hersins ok þar með lands ok laga; hafi hann
and in command of-the-host and there with of-land and of-laws have he
ok bæði til vit ok vanda at vera höfðingi; konúngr þarf
also both to wit and care to be chieftain a-king needs
að vera snjallr í máli ok stiltr vel, ok þó harðr til
to be eloquent in speech and restrained well and yet hard to
réttra refsínga, örr af fé, þvíat hann tekr af mörgum,
just punishments generous of wealth because he takes from many
skal hann af því mikit gefa; þat er ok hans prýði, at
shall he of that much give that is also his adornment that
hann sé fríðr ok fagr, ok sæmiligr í enum bezta búnaði;
he be handsome and fair and seemly in the best dress
tökum þann til konúngs, er þessa hluti hefir einn alla,
take-we that-one to king who these things has alone all
sem nú eru upptaldir, þvíat góðr konúngr er oss betri ok
as now are counted-up because a-good king is to-us better and
nytsamligri enn öll en fornu lög vár. Knútr einn hefir þetta
more-useful than all the old laws our Knut alone has this
með sér, er nú er upptalt, hann viljum vér til konúngs
with himself which now is counted-up him will we to king
taka; var ok Sveinn konúngr svá heilráðr sínu landsfólki,
take was also Svein king so sound-in-counsel to-his land-folk
at þat mun öllum bazt gegna, at hafa hans forsjá um
that that will for-all best serve to have his foresight about
slíka hluti, er oss liggr svá stórt við. Þá varð at máli
such things which to-us lies so great with Then became at speech
hans rómr mikill, ok þótti öllum vel mælt. Eyvindr bifra
his acclaim great and seemed to-all well spoken Eyvind Bifra
hét einn ríkr maðr, vinr mikill Ásbjarnar jarls, hann
was-called one powerful man friend great of-Asbjorn earl he
stóð þá upp, ok talaði, þegar hljóð fékst, ok tók svá til
stood then up and talked as-soon-as silence was-got and took so to

orðs: mikit vandamál egum vér hér at kæra, en þó eigi
word great difficult-matter have we here to complain but yet not
at síðr heldr oss nauðsyn til, at taka einnhvern konúng
the less holds us necessity to to take some king
yfir oss; allir megu þat sjá, at Knútr hefir flesta hluti til
over us all may that see that Knut has most things to
þess, að vera konúngr yfir Danmörk, þó at forn lög vár
that to be king over Denmark though that old laws our
vísi heldr til annars, ok eigi vildum vér í móti honum
point rather to another and not wished we in against him
mæla; en þó ef vér skulum lögin brjóta, þá hæfir þat, at
to-speak but yet if we shall the-laws break then befits that that
allir landsstjórnarmenn ok höfðíngjar gjaldi þar til jáyrði, ok
all land-governors and chieftains pay there to yes-word and
verði allir á eitt sáttir; Björn konúngs bróðir er eigi hér
become all on one agreed Bjorn of-(the)-king brother is not here
á þínginu, er einn er ágætastr af lands mönnum ok mest
at the-assembly who alone is most-excellent of land men and most
ráðandi, en þetta er ekki svá lítit vandamál, ok sýnist oss
ruling but this is not so little difficult-matter and seems to-us
ráð, at hafa hér við alla ena beztu menn, þá er nokkurs
counsel to have here with all the best men those who of-anything
eru ráðandi, finnumst hér á morgin, ok tökum oss þá
are ruling let-us-meet here on morrow and take-we for-ourselves then
konúng at lögum, þó at Knútr sé nú líkastr til. Sleit svá
a-king by laws though that Knut be now likeliest to Broke so
þínginu, ok fór Knútr til skipa sinna. Á þeirri nótt áttu
the-assembly and went Knut to ships his In that night had
höfðíngjar stefnu ok tal sitt, var þar Haraldr Sveinsson ok
(the)-chieftains a-meeting and talk their was there Harald Svein's-son and
Ásbjörn jarl, mágr hans, Björn konúngs bróðir ok
Asbjorn earl kinsman-by-marriage his Bjorn of-(the)-king brother and

Eyvindr bifra ok margir aðrir vinir þeirra, þeir er Harald
Eyvind Bifra and many other friends their they who Harald
vildu til konúngs taka. Þá talaði Eyvindr bifra, ok mælti
wished to king to-take Then talked Eyvind Bifra and spoke
svá: þíng áttum vér í dag við Knút, ok fór þar, sem
so an-assembly had we in day with Knut and went there as
ek sagða yðr áðr, at Knútr var mjök flytjandi síns máls,
I said to-you before that Knut was much pleading of-his case
en hann hafði ólög at mæla, en þó kom hann svá sínu
but he had unlaw to speak but yet brought he so his
máli, at þat þótti öllum áheyriligt, bar til þess snild hans
case that that seemed to-all worth-hearing bore to that eloquence his
ok prettr sá, er hann hafði skotit í munn manni þeim,
and trick that which he had shot into mouth to-man that
er talaði í flokki várum, svá at allr múgr geystist fram
who talked in party our so that all crowd rushed forth
með einu samþykki, at vilja Knút hafa til konúngs, brá
with one consent to wish Knut have to king broke
ek fyrir þá sök upp þínginu, mun oss ekki annat duga,
I for that reason up the-assembly will us not other avail
ef vér viljum þó kapp á leggja, at Haraldr verði konúngr,
if we will yet zeal on lay that Harald become king
at fullna þat svá, at Knútr sé hvergi nær; skolum vér fá
to complete that so that Knut be nowhere near shall we get
nú til menn at eiga þíng við Knút, þá er snjallir sé ok
now to men to hold assembly with Knut those who eloquent be and
slægir, en sumir skolu sitja á meðan launþíng, ok taka
sly but some shall sit in meanwhile a-secret-assembly and take
Harald þar til konúngs. Þetta ráð líkaði öllum vel, ok var
Harald there to king This counsel pleased all well and was
svá gjört, var Eyvindr bifra sendr at þínga við Knút,
so done was Eyvind Bifra sent to hold-assembly with Knut

ok með honum mikit bóndalið. En er þingið var sett,
and with him great farmer-troop But when the-assembly was set
þá kom Knútr þar, hann stóð upp, ok talaði lángt ok
then came Knut there he stood up and talked long and
snjalt, ok beiddi bændr gefa sér konúngsnafn, sem áðr
eloquently and asked farmers give to-himself king's-name as before
var rætt. Þá svaraði Eyvindr bifra, bað bændr bíða þess,
was discussed Then answered Eyvind Bifra bade farmers wait that
er jarl eða aðrir höfðingjar kæmi til þíngsíns, þeir er
when (the)-earl or other chieftains came to the-assembly they who
þángat var ván, ok þikkir oss þat meiri sæmd, at sem
thither was expectation and seems to-us that greater honor that as
flestir sé við, þeir er nokkurs sé ráðandi, enn vér væntum
most be with they who of-anything be ruling but we expect
at hér mæli engi í móti. Síðan veik hann svá ræðunni,
that here speaks none in against Afterward turned he so the-speech
at hann taldi upp mannkosti Knúts, talaði þar um lángt
that he counted up (the)-qualities of-Knut talked there about long
ok snjalt, at hann væri bazt til konúngs fallinn af öllum
and eloquently that he were best to king fitted of all
sonum Sveins konúngs, fann hann til þess mörg sönn orð;
sons of-Svein king found he to that many true words
hann talaði lengi, en áðr hann hafði lokit tölunni, þá
he talked long but before he had finished the-speech then
komu menn á þíngit, ok sögðu þau tíðindi, at Haraldr
came men to the-assembly and told those tidings that Harald
Sveinsson var til konúngs tekinn yfir öllu Danaveldi. En
Svein's-son was to king taken over all (the)-Danes'-realm But
er Knútr heyrði þetta sagt, stóð hann þegar upp, ok gekk
when Knut heard this said stood he at-once up and went
í braut ok til skipa sinna, en er hann kom á skipin,
off away and to ships his but when he came on the-ships

þá undruðust allir menn, þeir er hann sá, hvílíkr hann
then wondered all men those who him saw what-like he
var, sumir hugðu hann sjúkan orðinn, þvíat andlit hans var
was some thought him sick become because face his was
svá rautt sem blóð; hann settist niðr á hásætis kistuna,
so red as blood he sat down on (the)-high-seat chest
ok mælti ekki, engi þorði at krefja hann máls, ok var svá
and spoke not none dared to ask him speech and was so
lánga stund dags. Eyvindr bifra fór þegar á fund Haralds
long while of-day Eyvind Bifra went at-once to meeting of-Harald
ok Ásbjarnar jarls ok annarra þeirra höfðingja, er at þessu
and of-Asbjorn earl and of-other of-those chieftains who to this
ráði höfðu horfit; hann sagði þeim þessi tíðindi, ok lét þat
counsel had turned he told them these tidings and let that
fylgja, at hann hugði þat, at vís ván mun ófriðar í
follow that he thought that that sure expectation will of-unpeace in
landi. Þeir segja at svá búit mun nú standa hljóta, at þeir
land They say that so settled will now stand must that they
munu þann konúng til lands halda, er þeir hafa þá tekit
will that king to land hold whom they have then taken
yfir sik. Eyvindr mælti: þat mundi þá vera mitt ráð,
over themselves Eyvind spoke that would then be my counsel
at bjóða Knúti sættir, þvíat yðr mun hann verða harðr í
to offer Knut settlements because to-you will he become hard in
horn at taka, ef hann snýst til ófriðar. Jarl svaraði: kunnu
horn to take if he turns to unpeace (The)-earl answered know
vér nú stórleika Knúts, at ekki mun hann gæla mega með
we now (the)-greatness of-Knut that not will he soothe can with
sættarboðum. Eyvindr svarar: Knútr er grimmr ok skapstórr,
settlement-offers Eyvind answers Knut is grim and great-tempered
vitr ok guðhræddr, mun hann sjá alla meinbugi þá, sem
wise and God-fearing will he see all impediments those which

á eru þessu máli, at berjast við bróður sinn, en ekki
on are this matter to fight with brother his but not
mun þurfa af at draga, nema konúngdóminn einn ef hlýða
will need off to draw except the-kingship alone if obey
skal. Jarl svarar: hvað viltu bjóða láta? Eyvindr mælti:
shall (The)-earl answers what will-you offer let Eyvind spoke
bjóði þér honum jarldóm, ok þar með Sjólönd ok þar með
offer you him an-earldom and there with Zealand and there with
svardaga af öllum Danahöfðíngjum, at Knútr skal konúngr
oaths from all Danes'-chieftains that Knut shall king
vera, ef hann lifir lengr enn Haraldr bróðir hans, hverir aðrir
be if he lives longer than Harald brother his whoever others
sem þá eru á lífi synir Sveins konúngs. Jarl svarar: ekki
as then are in life sons of-Svein king (The)-earl answers not
mun Knútr annað vilja, enn vera konúngr. Eyvindr svarar:
will Knut other wish than be king Eyvind answers
eigi má þat vita, fyrr enn reynt er, mun ek enn fara til
not may that know before than tried is will I still go to
Knúts með þessum boðum, ef þér vilið. Þessu játuðu þeir
Knut with these offers if you wish To-this agreed they
allir. Ferr Eyvindr á fund Knúts, ok fann hann á skipi,
all Goes Eyvind to meeting of-Knut and found him on ship
ok gekk fyrir hann, ok bar upp þetta erindi. Knútr svaraði
and went before him and bore up this errand Knut answered
seint, en er hann tók til máls, segir hann svá: þat mun ek
slowly but when he took to speech says he so that will I
kjósa, er yðr mun þikkja lítilmannligra, at ek mun þann
choose which to-you will seem more-unmanly that I will that
kost upptaka, at leifa konúngsnafn, heldr enn berjast við
choice take-up to leave king's-name rather than fight with
Harald bróður minn til ríkis, ok skipti guð vár í milli.
Harald brother my for (the)-realm and divide God us in between

Síðan tók Eyvindr sætt þessa af Knúti, ok kysti á hönd
Afterward took Eyvind settlement this from Knut and kissed on hand
honum, ok tók orlof af honum, at flytja svá búit til Haralds
his and took leave from him to bring so settled to Harald
konúngs, gekk sú sætt saman, ok var eiðum bundin.
king went that settlement together and was with-oaths bound

Andlát Haralds konúngs

XXVII · THE DEATH OF KING HARALDR

Haraldr ruled quietly and spoke little, while his landless brothers chafed; the Danes called him hein, whetstone. He died after four winters.

Haraldr konúngr Sveinsson tók konúngdóm í Danmörk eptir
Harald king Svein's-son took kingship in Denmark after
föður sinn, sem nú var sagt, var þá Knútr Sveinsson jarl
father his as now was said was then Knut Svein's-son earl
yfir Sjólöndum, ok hélzt vel sætt þeirra ok frændsemi,
over Zealand and held well settlement their and kinship
meðan þeir lifðu, en aðrir synir Sveins konúngs, þeir sem
while they lived but other sons of-Svein king those who
ekki ríki höfðu til forráða, undu illa sínum hlut, ok var
no realm had to rule liked ill their lot and was
órói mikill í landinu, svá sem hér segir:
unrest great in the-land so as here says

Stundu vér til stikka
Strove we to (the)-stake
styrr vex í Danmörku
strife grows in Denmark
er at Sveins synir sáttir
is that of-Svein sons reconciled
at sinn föður dauðan;
at their father dead
Haraldr skal vígi verja
Harald shall with-battle defend
þá er vel tamiðr stiki
then is well tamed (the)-stake
jörð af ærnu magni
earth with ample might
fyrir ellifu bræðrum.
against eleven brothers

Haraldr konúngr var maðr kyrrlátr ok fálátr, úmálugr, ekki
Harald king was a-man quiet and taciturn unspeaking not
talaðr á þíngum, urðu aðrir mjök at hafa túngu fyrir honum,
talkative at assemblies became others much to have tongue for him
var hann ok lítill atkvæðamaðr um þá hluti er þurfa þótti,
was he also little decisive-man about those things which need seemed
engi var hann hermaðr, kyrr ok hægr við fólkit, ok stóð
no was he warrior quiet and easy with the-folk and stood
lítil stjórn af honum, fór nær slíku hverr fram í landinu,
little rule from him went nearly as-such each forth in the-land
sem vildi. Danir kölluðu hann Harald hein, en er
as wished (the)-Danes called him Harald Whetstone but when
hann hafði konúngr verit 4 vetr, þá varð hann sóttdauðr.
he had king been four winters then became he sick-dead

Knútr varð konúngr

XXVIII · KNÚTR BECAME KING

Knútr was taken as king and, since the Danes had mocked Haraldr as a whetstone, promised to be a hard whetstone to them. In Halland the farmers refused him horses until he forbade them his forest, and their chief spokesman was killed; in Scania they refused his demands until he claimed the sea and with it their herring-fishing, and both gave way.

Þá er Haraldr konúngr var andaðr, áttu Danir Vebjarga
Then when Harald king was dead had (the)-Danes Viborg
þíng; þar skulu Danir sér konúng taka jafnan á því
assembly there shall (the)-Danes for-themselves king take always at that
þíngi, at ráði allra landsmanna yfir allt Danaveldi; var
assembly by counsel of-all land-men over all (the)-Danes'-realm was
þá Knútr til konúngs tekinn; hann gjörðist brátt ríkr
then Knut to king taken he became soon a-powerful
maðr ok stjórnsamr. Hann mælti svá á einu þíngi, er
man and masterful He spoke so at one assembly when
hann talaði: þér Danir launuðut svá Haraldi bróður mínum
he talked you Danes repaid so Harald brother my
góðvilja ok linleik, þann sem hann hafði við yðr, at þér
goodwill and softness that which he had toward you that you
kölluðut hann Harald hein, ok gjörðut þat til spots við
called him Harald Whetstone and made that to mockery of
hann; en nú skal ek þat launa yðr, er þér kunnut þat illa
him but now shall I that repay you which you know that ill
at þiggja, þvíat nú skal ek vera yðr frekr harðsteinn. Knútr
to accept because now shall I be to-you a-greedy hard-stone Knut
konúngr reið yfir landit, en er hann kom í Halland,
king rode over the-land but when he came into Halland

átti hann þar þíng, ok talar hann sjálfr á þínginu, ok
had he there an-assembly and talks he himself at the-assembly and
bað bændr játa sér reiðskjóta, er hann færi yfir landit,
bade farmers grant to-himself riding-horses when he went over the-land
þvíat hann hafði með skipum þángat farit. Einn bóndi, sá
because he had with ships thither gone One farmer he
er þar var snjallastr, stóð upp ok talaði, sagði at bændr
who there was most-eloquent stood up and talked said that farmers
vildi ekki hafa frekari álög af konúngi, enn forn lög stæði
wished not to-have greater levies from (the)-king than old laws stood
til; en er hann hætti ræðu sinni, þá gjörðu bændr mikinn
to but when he stopped speech his then made farmers great
róm at máli hans, ok sögðust í aungu vilja láta pinta
acclaim at speech his and said-of-themselves in nothing to-wish let press
sik, meir enn lög stóðu til. En er þessi kurr staðnaði,
themselves more than laws stood to But when this murmur stopped
þá mælti konúngr: þér hafit vel gjört, bændr! at þér segit,
then spoke (the)-king you have well done farmers that you say
at ek skal hafa lög af yðr, en eigi framar; veit ek ok þat,
that I shall have law from you but not further know I also that
at þér munut láta mik ná lögum af yðr; vil ek þá hafa í
that you will let me get laws from you will I then have in
frelsi eign mína fyrir yðr; ok því játuðu honum allir. Þá
freedom property my against you and that granted him all Then
mælti konúngr: þá vil ek banna yðr Hallandsförum at neyta
spoke (the)-king then will I forbid you Halland-farers to use
eða beita mörk þá, er ek á, ok hér liggr nær yðr, bæði
or graze (the)-forest that which I own and here lies near you both
svínum yðrum ok öðrum smala. Bændr urðu ókvæða við
for-swine your and for-other livestock Farmers became speechless at
þetta, ok sáu at þeim dugði þat eigi, þvíat konúngsmörk
this and saw that to-them availed that not because (the)-king's-forest

liggr fyrir ofan allt Halland, en þeir hafa mikinn fjölda
lies on above all Halland but they have great number
svína, er gánga í bækiskógi ok í eikiskógi. Taka bændr
of-swine which go in beech-wood and in oak-wood Take farmers
nú þat til ráðs, at játa konúngi þat allt, er hann beiddi.
now that to counsel to grant (the)-king that all which he asked
Var þat þá fest með þeim, þvíat bændr máttu eigi við
Was that then fixed with them because farmers could not with
hit búa. Í þann tíma var drepinn bóndi sá, er mest
the-other dwell In that time was killed farmer that who most
hafði í móti mælt konúngi. Fór konúngr þá til Skáni, ok
had in against spoken to-(the)-king Went (the)-king then to Scania and
átti hann þar fjölmennt þíng við bændr, ok þótti bændum
had he there a-crowded assembly with farmers and seemed to-farmers
hann yfrit frekt mæla í kvöðunum; æpa bændr upp allir
he excessively greedily speak in the-demands shout farmers up all
senn, ok neittu því er konúngr beiddi. En er hljóð
at-once and refused that which (the)-king asked But when silence
fékst, þá mælti konúngr: þér Skánúngar eruð menn vitrir,
was-got then spoke (the)-king you Scanians are men wise
skil ek þat á tiltæki yðru, at þér hafit spurt, hversu
understand I that in undertaking your that you have learned how
farit hafa skipti vár Hallendínga; hafit þér fundit miklu
gone have dealings our of-Hallanders have you found much
snjallara ráð enn þeir, at neita því, er ek vil kraft hafa,
cleverer counsel than they to refuse that which I will force have
þvíat hér má ek nú aungum einum gefa sök á svörunum;
because here may I now no one give blame for the-answers
en þess vil ek nú beiða yðr, sem fyrr Hallendínga, at þér
but this will I now ask you as before of-Hallanders that you
látið mik í frelsi ráða fyrir yðr minni eign; ok þessu
let me in freedom rule against you my property and to-this

játuðu þeir allir. Þá mælti konúngr: þat megu nú allir
granted they all Then spoke (the)-king that may now all
menn vita hér í Danmörk, hvat hér er konúngs eign eða
men know here in Denmark what here is (the)-king's property or
bænda eign, at konúngr á hér auðn alla í landi, eða
farmers' property that (the)-king owns here waste all in land or
hvort játit þér því? Allir játuðu því at svá væri. Konúngr
whether grant you that All granted that that so were (The)-king
kallaði auðn sjóinn ok aðrar óbygðir. Þá mælti konúngr:
called waste the-sea and other unsettled-lands Then spoke (the)-king
þá köllumst ek eiga Eyrarsund, vil ek þá banna yðr allt
then call-myself I own Oresund will I then forbid you all
fiskifáng, þat sem þér hafit þar áðr haft, ef þér vilit ekki
fish-catch that which you have there before had if you will not
gjöra fyrir mín orð, ok stoða ekki mína nauðsyn. En er
do for my words and support not my need But when
konúngr hafði þetta mælt, þá sáu allir, at þetta mátti
(the)-king had this spoken then saw all that this could
þeim eigi hlýða, at bændr misti síldfiskis í Eyrarsundi.
to-them not do that farmers lost herring-fishing in Oresund
Var þat þá til ráðs tekit, at láta konúng einn fyrir ráða,
Was that then to counsel taken to let (the)-king alone over rule
ok játuðu því allir, er hann beiddist; lauk svá því þíngi.
and granted that all which he asked ended so that assembly

Frá Knúti konúngi

XXIX · OF KING KNÚTR

Knútr cleared Denmark of the Kurlanders and other raiders, executed thieves, robbers, and manslayers, foreign or native, and judged rich and poor alike, which the great men resented when their kinsmen were sentenced.

Knútr konúngr var mjök ríkr maðr ok refsíngasamr, ok
Knut king was much powerful a-man and punishing and
hegndi mjök ósiðu. En meðan Haraldr hein hafði verit
punished much misdeeds But while Harald Whetstone had been
konúngr yfir Danmörk, þá höfðu lítt verit hegndir ósiðir,
king over Denmark then had little been punished misdeeds
bæði með innanlands mönnum ok víkíngum, er þá herjuðu
both among inland men and vikings who then harried
í Danmörk, bæði Kúrir ok aðrir Austrvegsmenn; en er
in Denmark both Kurlanders and other East-Way-men but when
Knútr var konúngr orðinn, þá varði hann landit harðfengiliga,
Knut was king become then defended he the-land hardily
ok rak alla heiðíngja burt af Danaveldi, ok jafnvel af
and drove all heathens away from (the)-Danes'-realm and even from
sjónum, svá at engi þorði úti at liggja fyrir Danmörk,
the-sea so that none dared out to lie off Denmark
fyrir sakir ríkis Knúts konúngs ok herskapar; hann lét
for sake of-power of-Knut king and of-warfare he let
drepa hvern þann mann, er sannr varð at þjófnaði, svá ok
kill each that man who proven became of theft so also
manndrápsmenn ok hernaðarmenn alla, hvort sem þeir voru
manslayers and harriers all whether as they were
útlenzkir eða innlenzkir; sá er manni hamlaði á hendi eðr á
foreign or native he who to-a-man maimed on hand or on

fæti, eðr veitti önnur meiðsl, hina sömu refsíng tók hann á
foot or gave other injuries the same punishment took he on
sjálfum sér. Svá mikil ógn stóð af honum ok ríki hans ok
self himself So great terror stood from him and power his and
refsíngum, at engi þorði at stela í ríki hans. Svá mælti Knútr
punishments that none dared to steal in realm his So spoke Knut
konúngr um þann mann, er gekk frá herbergi sínu láslausu
king about that man who went from lodging his lockless
eða sá er hest átti fjötrlausan, ok væri stolit, ok hvers sem
or he who a-horse owned unfettered and were stolen and whatever as
hann misti, svá at stolit væri frá honum, sá skyldi til hans
he lost so that stolen were from him he should to him
gánga, ok taka þar fé sitt, en konúngr vill láta refsa, þeim
go and take there wealth his but (the)-king will let punish them
er stolit hafði; jafnan dóm lét hann hafa ríkan sem óríkan,
who stolen had equal judgment let he have mighty as unmighty
en þat varð mjök öfundsamt af þeim mönnum, er létu göfga
but that became much envied by those men who lost noble
frændr sína at dómi konúngs, þó at sakir væri sannar.
kinsmen their at judgment of-(the)-king though that charges were true

Kvánfáng Knúts

XXX · KNÚTR'S MARRIAGE

Knútr made his brother Eiríkr jarl over Sjáland; his brother Benedikt stayed at his court, and Óláfr, small and ugly but eloquent, was his age. Knútr married Eðla, daughter of Duke Baldvini of Flanders, and their son was Karl.

Knútr konúngr setti Eiríkbróður sinn jarl yfir Sjálöndum,
Knut king set Eirik brother his earl over Zealand
ok gaf honum þat ríki, sem hann hafði áðr haft; var þeirra
and gave him that realm which he had before had was their
frændsemi góð, meðan þeir lifðu. Benedikt bróðir hans var
kinship good while they lived Benedikt brother his was
jafnan innan hirðar með honum, hann var mikill maðr vexti,
always within (the)-court with him he was a-great man in-growth
ok hverjum manni sterkari, Ólafr Sveinsson var jafnaldri Knúts
and than-each man stronger Olaf Svein's-son was of-like-age of-Knut
konúngs; hann var lítill maðr ok allófríðr sýnum, orðsnjallr,
king he was a-little man and very-ugly in-looks word-eloquent
hermaðr mikill. Knútr konúngr átti Eðlu, dóttur Baldvina
warrior great Knut king had Edla daughter of-Baldwin
hertuga úr Flæmingjalandi; Karl hét son þeirra.
duke out-of Flanders Karl was-called (the)-son their

Frá Knúti konúngi ok presti

XXXI · OF KING KNÚTR AND THE PRIEST

At a feast Knútr desired a priest's beautiful wife and had her brought to his bed; she begged him to spare her as he would be spared before the Almighty, and he rose and slept elsewhere. In the morning he gave the priest a gold ring from his hand and his friendship and asked his forgiveness.

Þat var eitt sinn at Knútr konúngr fór at veizlum með
That was one time that Knut king went to feasts with
hirð sinni, at hann kom til einnar virðuligrar veizlu, ok hit
court his that he came to one worthy feast and the
fyrsta kveld veizlunnar sá konúngr þar eina fagra konu, svá
first evening of-the-feast saw (the)-king there one fair woman so
at hann þóttist varla séð hafa fríðari konu; hana átti
that he thought-himself scarcely seen have a-handsomer woman her had
einn ríkr prestr. Konúngr leit ástaraugum til hennar; hann
one powerful priest (The)-king looked with-love-eyes to her he
kallaði til sín ræðismann sinn, ok sagði at hann skal svá
called to himself steward his and said that he shall so
um búa, at þessi kona sé í hvílu hjá konúnginum um
about arrange that this woman be in bed beside the-king through
nóttina; engi maðr þorði at mæla í móti konúngs vilja,
the-night no man dared to speak in against (the)-king's will
en hálfu síðr gera; ok var svá gjört, sem konúngrinn mælti
but by-half less do and was so done as the-king spoke
fyrir. Um kveldit, er konúngr kom til hvílunnar, var þessi
for In the-evening when (the)-king came to the-bed was this
kona þar fyrir, ok er konúngr var afklæddr, sté hann upp
woman there before and when (the)-king was undressed stepped he up
í sængina, ok er menn höfðu þjónat honum eptir vanda,
into the-bed and when men had served him after custom

þá gengu þeir í burt, en konúngr legst niðr, ok snýst at
then went they off away but (the)-king lies down and turns to
henni blíðliga. Hún mælti til hans: guð gæti yðvar nú ok
her blithely She spoke to him God guard you now and
jafnan; gjörit nú svá vel, sem yðvarri tign byrjar, vinn mér
always do now so well as your dignity befits work to-me
eigi grand en sjálfum yðr mein; svá vel ok fagrliga sem
not harm but to-self yourself hurt so well and fairly as
þér siðit yðra menn í þessu landi, þá samir yðr þó at
you train your men in this land then befits you yet to
hafa fegrsta siðu, þvíat þér eruð fyrir öllum mönnum hér
have fairest customs because you are before all men here
í landi. Nú vil ek þess biðja, þá er þér komit fyrir þann
in land Now will I that ask then when you come before that
konúng, sem allsvaldandi er, at hann sé yðr svá bæna,
king who all-ruling is that he be to-you so prayers
sem nú erut þér mér. Konúngr svarar: veita vil ek þér bæn
as now are you to-me (The)-king answers grant will I you prayer
þína, ok ek sé at þeim mun er betr, ok þú biðr þessa af
your and I see that by-that much is better and you ask this from
svá miklum góðvilja, ok svá samir betr, sem þú vilt vera
so great goodwill and so befits better as you will be
láta; en þó er nú at sinni nokkuð athald í at gjöra eigi
let but yet is now for once some restraint in to do not
sinn vilja, er þó þetta lítit hjá stórum hlutum, er vor
one's will is yet this little beside great things which our
herra Jesús kristr hefir þolat fyrir vorar sakir. Síðan stóð
lord Jesus Christ has suffered for our sakes Afterward stood
konúngr upp, ok gekk í burt, ok fékk sér aðra hvílu
(the)-king up and went off away and got for-himself another bed
um nóttina. Um morguninn kallar konúngr til sín prest,
for the-night In the-morning calls (the)-king to himself priest

þann er þessa konu átti, ok mælti til hans: þú átt góða
that who this woman had and spoke to him you have a-good
konu, prestr! ok gjör vel til hennar, þvíat ek hygg at fáar
wife priest and do well to her because I think that few
munu finnast jafn röskvar. Konúngr tók þá fíngrgull af
will be-found equally doughty (The)-king took then a-finger-gold from
hendi sér, þat var bæði mikit ok gott; konúngr mælti þá:
hand his that was both great and good (the)-king spoke then
gull þetta skaltu þiggja í vinagjöf af mér, prestr! ok þar
gold this shall-you accept in friend-gift from me priest and there
með vináttu mína, ok ef nokkurir menn gjöra þér rángt,
with friendship my and if any men do you wrong
kom þá til mín, ok skal ek þat rétta. Prestr þakkaði
come then to me and shall I that right (The)-priest thanked
konúngi með mörgum fögrum orðum gjöfina ok vináttumál.
(the)-king with many fair words the-gift and friendship-talk
Konúngr bað hann eigi þakka svá mjök, þvíat ek vilda
(The)-king bade him not thank so much because I would-wish
í fyrstu óvingast við þik, en nú bið ek þik, at þú
at first to-become-unfriendly with you but now ask I you that you
fyrirgefir mér þat. Prestr lézt þat gjarna vilja gjöra.
forgive me that (The)-priest professed that gladly to-wish to-do
Síðan fór konúngr þaðan til annarrar veizlu.
Afterward went (the)-king thence to another feast

Frá Landsskipan í Danmörk

XXXII · OF THE DIVISION OF DENMARK

A survey of the realm: Jutland's bishoprics at Heiðabær, Ribe, Áróss, Viborg, and Vendilskagi, Fjón's at Óðinsey, Sjáland's at Hróiskelda, and the archbishopric at Lund in Scania, with each see's churches and ships owed to the king; the Limfjord and Haraldseið, the islands, Mön, Falster, and Borghundarhólmr.

Danmörk er mikit ríki, ok liggr mjök sundrlaust; hinn
Denmark is a-great realm and lies much scattered the
mesti hlutr Danmerkr heitir Jótland, þat liggr hit syðra
greatest part of-Denmark is-called Jutland that lies the southern
með hafinu; þar er hinn synzti biskupsstóll í Danmörk í
along the-sea there is the southernmost bishop's-see in Denmark at
Heiðabæ, ok er í þeim biskupsdóm hálft fjórða hundrat
Hedeby and are in that bishopric half (the)-fourth hundred
kirkna, en 100 ok 30 skipa konúngi. Annarr biskupsstóll
of-churches but hundred and thirty of-ships to-(the)-king (The)-second bishop's-see
er á Jótlandi, þar er heitir í Ripum; í því biskupsríki
is in Jutland there where is-called at Ribe in that bishop's-realm
eru 4 kirkjur ok 20 ok 300, en 11 tigir skipa
are four churches and twenty and three-hundred but eleven tens of-ships
konúngi til útboðs. Þriði biskupsstóll er á Jótlandi, er
to-(the)-king to levy (The)-third bishop's-see is in Jutland which
heitir í Árósi, í því biskupsríki eru 200 kirkna ok
is-called at Aros in that bishop's-realm are two-hundred of-churches and
10, en konúngi 9 tigir skipa. Fjórði biskupsstóll er
ten but to-(the)-king nine tens of-ships (The)-fourth bishop's-see is
á Jótlandi, er heitir á Vebjörgum, í því biskupsríki eru
in Jutland which is-called at Viborg in that bishop's-realm are
200 kirkna ok 50, en konúngi 100 skipa. Limafjörðr
two-hundred of-churches and fifty but to-(the)-king hundred of-ships Limfjord

heitir á Jótlandi, þat er mikill fjörðr, hann gengr af
is-called in Jutland that is a-great fjord it goes from
útnorðri til suðrs; úr norðanverðum Limafirði er mjótt
(the)-northwest to (the)-south out-of northern Limfjord is a-narrow
eið vestr til hafs, er heitir Haraldseið, þar lét Haraldr
isthmus west to (the)-sea which is-called Harald's-isthmus there let Harald
konúngr Sigurðarson draga yfir skip sín, þá er hann
king Sigurd's-son drag over ships his then when he
komst undan Sveini konúngi. Fyrir vestan Limafjörð er þat
got away-from Svein king On west-of Limfjord is that
ríki, er heitir Vendelsskagi, ok víkr til norðrættar, þar
realm which is-called Vendilskagi and turns to (the)-north-quarter there
er hinn fimti biskupsstóll i Danmörk í þeim stað er
is the fifth bishop's-see in Denmark in that place which
heitir í Jörúngi; í því biskupsríki eru 100 kirkna ok
is-called at Hjorring in that bishop's-realm are hundred of-churches and
60 kirkna, en fimm tigir skipa konúngi. Jótlandssíða heitir
sixty of-churches but five tens of-ships to-(the)-king Jutland-side is-called
allt vestan frá Vendilskaga ok suðr til Rípa. Millum
all from-the-west from Vendilskagi and south to Ribe Between
Jótlands ok Fjóns gengr Meðalfararsund. Á Fjóni er hinn
Jutland and Fyn goes Medalfarar-sound On Fyn is the
sétti biskupsstóll i Danmörk í Óðinsey; í því biskupsríki
sixth bishop's-see in Denmark at Odinsey in that bishop's-realm
eru 300 kirkna, en 10 tigir skipa konúngi. Milli
are three-hundred of-churches but ten tens of-ships to-(the)-king Between
Fjóns ok Sjólands gengr Beltissund. Í Sjólandi er hinn
Fyn and Zealand goes Belt-sound In Zealand is the
sjaundi biskupsstóll í Danmörk í Róskeldu; í Sjólands
seventh bishop's-see in Denmark at Roskilde in of-Zealand
biskupsdæmi eru 400 ok 11 kirkjur, en 100 ok
bishopric are four-hundred and eleven churches but hundred and

20 skip konúngi. Fyrir norðan Sjóland er Eyrarsund; en
twenty ships to-(the)-king On north-of Zealand is Oresund but
fyrir norðan Eyrarsund liggr Skáney ok Halland. Á Skáney
on north-of Oresund lies Scania and Halland In Scania
er erkibiskupsstóll í Lundi, sá er hinn átti biskupsstóll í
is (the)-archbishop's-see at Lund that is the eighth bishop's-see in
Danmörk; í því biskupsdæmi er hálft fjórða 100 kirkna
Denmark in that bishopric is half (the)-fourth hundred of-churches
ok 3 kirkjur, en hálft annat 100 skipa konúngi; sá
and three churches but half (the)-second hundred of-ships to-(the)-king that
er biskupsstóll ríkastr í Danmörk. Millum þessara landa
is bishop's-see mightiest in Denmark Between these lands
Jótlands ok Skáni liggja mörg stór eylönd, þau er eigi
Jutland and Scania lie many great island-lands those which not
eru áðr nefnd. Sámsey er undir Árós biskup. Hlésey undir
are before named Samsey is under Aros bishop Hlesey under
Vebjarga biskup; Þær liggja vestr frá Fjóni. Alsey er undir
Viborg bishop They lie west from Fyn Als is under
Heiðabæ. Láland, Erri Þjórslundr, Alsey Lángaland: þessar 5
Hedeby Lolland Erri Thjorslund Als Langeland these five
eyjar eru undir biskup á Fjóni. Mön ok Falstr eru undir
islands are under (the)-bishop on Fyn Mon and Falster are under
biskup á Sjólandi. Borghundarhólmr liggr austr í hafit frá
(the)-bishop on Zealand Bornholm lies east in the-sea from
Skáney, þat er mikit ríki ok liggr undir biskup á Skáney;
Scania that is a-great realm and lies under (the)-bishop in Scania
þar eru 12 konúngsbú ok 14 kirkjur. Þessi lönd, er nú
there are twelve king's-farms and fourteen churches These lands which now
voru nefnd, liggja undir Danakonúng, ok eru þau bæði víð
were named lie under (the)-Danes'-king and are they both wide
ok fjölmenn. Voru þessi lönd at fornu margra konúnga ríki.
and populous Were these lands in old of-many kings realm

Upphaf Blóð-Egils

XXXIII · THE BEGINNING OF BLÓÐ-EGILL

Ragnarr of Ragnarsstaðir in the bishopric of Ribe, a dear friend of King Sveinn, had a son Egill, the biggest and strongest of men and a great warrior.

Ragnar hét maðr, hann var danskr, ok ættaðr suðr
Ragnar was-called a-man he was Danish and born-of-a-line south
á Jótlandi, hann var ríkr maðr, ok bjó þar sem heita
in Jutland he was a-powerful man and lived there where are-called
Ragnarsstaðir, þat er í Rípa biskupsríki; þar er ok vatn, þat er
Ragnarsstadir that is in Ribe bishop's-realm there is also lake that which
Ragnarssjór heitir. Ragnar hafði verit kær vin Sveins konúngs,
Ragnar's-lake is-called Ragnar had been a-dear friend of-Svein king
ok honum jafnan þjónat, meðan konúngr var á lífi. Egill hét
and him always served while (the)-king was in life Egil was-called
son Ragnars, hann var mikill atgjörvismaðr, manna mestr
(the)-son of-Ragnar he was great accomplished-man of-men greatest
ok sterkastr, vígr hverjum manni betr, ok allmikill hermaðr.
and strongest fighting than-each man better and a-very-great warrior

Frá Egli

XXXIV · OF EGILL

When the lord of Borghundarhólmr died, Knútr gave Egill the rule there, keeping three of his own estates, warning that he was a great man but not a lucky one. Egill kept a great following, raided every summer to pay for it, and spent beyond his means; Knútr bade him cut his band and stop harrying.

Sá atburðr varð í Danmörk, at þar andaðist einn ríkr
That event happened in Denmark that there died one powerful
maðr í Borghundarhólmi, sá er Áki er nefndr, hann
man in Bornholm he who Aki is named he
hafði þar ráðit fyrir 12 konúngsbúum, er hann á í
had there ruled over twelve king's-farms which he owns in
Borghundarhólmi; nú lá þar ríki autt ok höfðíngjalaust;
Bornholm now lay there (the)-realm empty and chieftainless
voru þá menn sendir á fund Knúts konúngs, at hann
were then men sent to meeting of-Knut king that he
skyldi ráð fyrir gjöra, ok voru honum sögð þessi tíðindi,
should counsel for make and were him told these tidings
báðu þeir hann fá til annann yfir ríkit. Í þenna tíma
bade they him get to another over the-realm In this time
kom til Knúts konúngs Egill Ragnarsson, ok býðr at hann
came to Knut king Egil Ragnar's-son and offers that he
muni gjörast hans maðr, ok þjóna honum með trúnaði: hafa
will become his man and serve him with faithfulness have
ok slíkt starf haft enir fyrri frændr mínir, segir hann, sem
also such work had the former kinsmen my says he as
yðr er kunnigt. Konúngr svarar: mikill maðr ertu, Egill!
to-you is known (The)-king answers a-great man are-you Egil
ok fyrirmannligr, ok eigi mun þik karlmennska skorta, en
and distinguished and not will you manliness lack but

eigi ertu með öllu gæfumannligr; en með því at þú ert
not are-you in all lucky-man-like but with that that you are
mikill framkvæmdarmaðr, sem vér vitum, þá mun ek fá þér
a-great man-of-action as we know then will I give you
ríki til forráða í Borghundarhólmi; skaltu ok skyldr til
a-realm to rule in Bornholm shall-you also bound to
allra útgjörða ok konúngs starfs, ok þó munum vér aftaka
all levies and (the)-king's work and yet will we take-off
3 búin, þau er vér eigum þar, en þá skaltu ráða fyrir
three the-farms those which we own there but then shall-you rule over
öðrum. Egill tekr þenna kost, ok gjörist valdsmaðr yfir þessu
others Egil takes this choice and becomes ruler over this
ríki; gjörist hann brátt ríkr ok fjölmennr, ok hafði með
realm becomes he soon powerful and with-many-men and had with
sér mikla sveit; hann var örr af fé, lifði ríkmannliga,
himself a-great following he was generous of wealth lived lordly
ok var jafnan í hernaði á sumrum, ok aflaði mikils fjár, ok
and was always in raiding in summers and gathered much wealth and
lagði hann þat í kostnat fyrir menn sína á vetrum; hann
laid he that in cost for men his in winters he
var vinsæll af sínum mönnum; hann varði harðfengiliga
was popular by his men he defended hardily
ríkit; mjök gekk upp féit fyrir honum í kostnaði,
the-realm much went up the-wealth for him in cost
þeim er hann hafði, þvíat hann hélt litlar veizlur, hjá því
that which he had because he held little fiefs beside that
er fyrr hafði verit, en hann hafði í kostnaðinum miklu
which before had been but he had in the-cost much
meira. Þetta líkaði Knúti konúngi lítt, ok bað Egil mínka
more This pleased Knut king little and bade Egil lessen
fjölmenni sitt, ok sagðist af hafa tekit hernað innanlands.
following his and said-of-himself off have taken raiding inland

Egill drakk blóð

XXXV · EGILL DRANK BLOOD

Raiding in Wendland, Egill leapt aboard the Wendish leader's ship and killed him, and the Wends fled. Faint after the fight, he found every cask broken and the keel awash with men's blood, and drank three great drinks of it from his helmet; the king grew cool at the news, and Egill was called Blóð-Egill after.

Þat var eitt sumar at Egill fór úr landi, ok hafði
That was one summer that Egil went out-of (the)-land and had
18 skip, ok er hann kom til Vindlands, herjar hann.
eighteen ships and when he came to Wendland harries he
Vindar safnast saman á móti Egli, ok er þeir finnast,
(the)-Wends gather together in against Egil and when they meet
verðr þar bardagi mikill, ok fellr mart af hvorumtveggjum.
becomes there a-fight great and falls many of both-sides
Egill barðist allhermannliga; þeir börðust á skipum, ok var
Egil fought very-warrior-like they fought on ships and was
þat næst Egils skipi, er á var höfðingi Vinda, ok
that next to-Egil's ship which on was (the)-chieftain of-(the)-Wends and
er orrustan var sem áköfust, ok menn þóttust eigi
when the-battle was as fiercest and men thought-themselves not
skilja, hvorir hníga mundu, þá hljóp Egill af skipi sínu
discern which-side sink would then leapt Egil off ship his
ok upp á Vindasnekkjuna, ok hjó til höfðingjans, ok veitti
and up on the-Wends'-cutter and hewed to the-chieftain and gave
honum banasár, ok þegar hljóp Egill öfugr aptr á sitt
him a-death-wound and at-once leapt Egil backward back on his
skip, brestr þá flótti á Vindum, fær Egill þá ágætan sigr
ship bursts then flight on (the)-Wends gets Egil then excellent victory
ok mikit fé; hann var svá móðr, at hann féll nær í
and much wealth he was so weary that he fell nearly into

óvit, ok er hann sat upp í skipi sínu, þá bað hann gefa
swoon and when he sat up in ship his then bade he give
sér drykk. Sveinn svarar: verit hefir þat hark hér í dag
himself drink Svein answers been has that noise here in day
á skipinu, at brotnat hafa verplar vorir allir, ok er niðr
on the-ship that broken have casks our all and is down
hlaupinn drykkr allr í kjöl á skipinu. Egill svarar: eigi
run drink all into (the)-keel on the-ship Egil answers not
mun ek at síðr drekka mega. Sveinn svarar: eigi, herra! segir
will I the less drink may Svein answers not lord says
hann, þvíat þat er meiri hlutr mannadreyri ok blóð. Egill
he because that is (the)-greater part men's-gore and blood Egil
stóð þá upp, ok tók hjálminn af höfði sér, ok sökkr niðr
stood then up and took the-helmet off head his and sinks down
í kjölinn, ok drekkr þrjá drykki mikla; eptir þat ferr Egill
into the-keel and drinks three drinks great after that goes Egil
heim með fögrum sigri til Borghundarhólms; skortir nú eigi
home with fair victory to Bornholm lacks now not
fé um vetrinn til framflutníngar liði sínu. Þetta spyrst
wealth through the-winter for maintenance to-troop his This is-learned
víða, ok þetta kom fyrir Knút konúng, ok margir lofuðu
widely and this came before Knut king and many praised
mjök afrek Egils, ok sigr þann sem hann vann. Konúngr
much (the)-exploits of-Egil and victory that which he won (The)-king
varð fár við þat, er honum var sagt frá drykk Egils,
became cool at that which to-him was told of drink of-Egil
ok af þessum atburð var Egill kallaðr Blóð-Egill síðan.
and from this event was Egil called Blood-Egil afterward

Frá Egli

XXXVI · OF EGILL

Knútr questioned Egill privately about the blood he drank; Egill pleaded thirst, and the king, who valued his service, bade him confess and do penance, saying it was no better than eating boiled human flesh. Egill promised, and invited the king to a feast.

En er Egill hafði litla stund heima verit, þá fór hann á
But when Egil had a-little while at-home been then went he to
fund Knúts konungs, ok fékk Egill þar sæmiligar viðtökur.
meeting of-Knut king and got Egil there seemly reception
Konungr spurði at um ferðir Egils, en hann sagði frá,
(The)-king asked after about journeys of-Egil but he told of
þvíat honum var allt létt hjalat um hernað þann, er
because to-him was all lightly chatted about raiding that which
hann hafði haft um sumarit. Síðan kallar konungr hann
he had had through the-summer Afterward calls (the)-king him
á eintal, ok spyr ef þat væri satt, at hann hefði drukkit
to private-talk and asks if that were true that he had drunk
mannablóð. Egill segir at mikit væri til þess haft, en
men's-blood Egil says that much were to that made but
kveðst þó lítt hafa hugsað þetta fyrri. Því varð svá illa?
says-of-himself yet little have thought this before Why became so ill
segir konungr. Egill svarar: þosti svá mikill kom at mér ok
says (the)-king Egil answers thirst so great came at me and
mæði, at ek þóttumst varla þola mega, en drykkr var engi
weariness that I thought-myself scarcely bear may but drink was none
annar. Konungr svarar: þessi hlutr er harðla þúngligr vorðinn,
other (The)-king answers this thing is very grievous become
ok mikit kristnispell í, ok þat er kallat at vér séum
and much Christianity-spoiling in and that is called that we be

refsíngasamr um smærri hluti; en með því at oss líkar vel
punishing about smaller things but with that that to-us pleases well
þín þjónusta svá búit, þá munum vér eigi svá stríðan dóm
your service so settled then will we not so harsh judgment
áfella at sinni, sem mörgum mun von þikja; vil ek þat
lay-on for once as to-many will expected seem will I that
ráð áleggja með þér, at þú bætir við guð ok segir sem
counsel lay-on with you that you atone with God and say as
fyrst kennimönnum, ok tak skriptir fyrir; en þar sem vorr
soonest to-clerics and take penances for but there where our
réttr hefir brotinn verit, þá viljum vér þér þat uppgefa, en
right has broken been then will we you that give-up but
eigi sýnist mér þetta minna vera, enn þó at þú hefðir
not seems to-me this less be than though that you had
etit mannahold soðit, er þú hefir drukkit blóð þeirra. Egill
eaten men's-flesh boiled when you have drunk blood their Egil
heitir konúngi at hann skal svá gjöra, ok áðr þeir skilja
promises (the)-king that he shall so do and before they part
býðr Egill konúngi til veizlu heim til sín: vænti ek, herra!
offers Egil (the)-king to a-feast home to himself expect I lord
segir hann, at mér sé þat heilla vænt, at þér sækit híbýli
says he that to-me be that of-luck hoped that you visit dwellings
mín. Konúngr heitir honum ferðinni, er á líðr vetrinn. Ferr
my (The)-king promises him the-journey when on passes the-winter Goes
Egill heim ok sitr heima í Borghundarhólmi um vetrinn.
Egil home and sits at-home in Bornholm through the-winter

Frá konúngi ok Agli

XXXVII · OF THE KING AND EGILL

Knútr feasted three nights in Egill's hall hung with shields and asked whether he had confessed. Egill said he had forgotten; the king bade him delay no longer, and Egill went raiding again that summer.

Knútr konúngr bjó ferð sína um vorit til
Knut king prepared journey his in the-spring to
Borghundarhólms. Egill hafði þar fyrirbúit vegliga veizlu.
Bornholm Egil had there prepared a-splendid feast
Konúngr kemr við miklu liði. Þar var mikil stofa, sem
(The)-king comes with great troop There was a-great hall as
konúngs höll væri, hún var alskiput skjöldum. Konúngr var
(the)-king's hall were it was all-hung with-shields (The)-king was
þar 3 nætr at veizlunni, ok var harðla glaðr. Egill leiddi
there three nights at the-feast and was very glad Egil led
konúng út með stórmannligum gjöfum. Konúngr mælti þá
(the)-king out with lordly gifts (The)-king spoke then
við Egil: hvat er nú, Egill! segir hann, hefir þú nú gaum
with Egil what is now Egil says he have you now heed
gefit at því, er ek minta þik á næstum, at þú hafir
given to that which I reminded you of most-recently that you have
sagt kennimönnum til misverka þíns, ok sæzt við guð?
told to-clerics of misdeed your and been-reconciled with God
Egill svarar; eigi er þat, herra! segir hann, gleymt hefi ek
Egil answers not is that lord says he forgotten have I
nú þessu. Konúngr bað hann eigi fresta lengr. Egill sagði
now this (The)-king bade him not delay longer Egil said
svá vera skyldu, ok skiljast nú með vináttu. Egill fór í
so be should and part now with friendship Egil went into

hernað um sumarit, ok aflar enn mikils fjár, ok kemr
raiding through the-summer and gathers again much wealth and comes
heim at hausti, ok ferr nú ekki á konúngs fund.
home at autumn and goes now not to (the)-king's meeting

Frá Agli

XXXVIII · OF EGILL

Knútr rebuked Egill for viking ways, a king's following, and wasted wealth, and asked again about his penance. Egill answered angrily that he would look to his own affairs; the king took Borghundarhólmr from him, foreseeing a worse fall, and Egill kept his band and more state than before.

Knútr konúngr spurði þetta, at Egill hafði enn verit í
Knut king learned this that Egil had again been in
hernaði um sumarit, ok líkaði konúngi þat illa, þvíat hann
raiding through the-summer and pleased (the)-king that ill because he
bannaði þat mönnum, at hafa rán ok óspekt. Konúngr
forbade that to-men to have robbery and disorder (The)-king
sendi Egli orð, at hann kæmi á hans fund. Egill fór á
sent Egil word that he should-come to his meeting Egil went to
fund Knúts konúngs, ok fagnar konúngr honum vel; tóku
meeting of-Knut king and welcomes (the)-king him well took
þeir Egill tal sín á millum; spurði konúngr Egil, hvort hann
they Egil talk their in between asked (the)-king Egil whether he
hefði herjat um sumarit. Egill segir at svá væri. Konúngr
had harried through the-summer Egil says that so were (The)-king
svarar: þar tekr þú íllt ráð upp, er þú gjörir þik at
answers there take you ill counsel up when you make yourself into
víkíngi, er þat heiðinna háttr, vil ek þat þér banna; mér er
a-viking is that of-heathens custom will I that you forbid to-me is

ok sagt, at þú hafir með þér fjölmenni mikit sem konúngr,
also said that you have with you following great as a-king
ok haldir þik at öllu, sem þeirra er siðr til, ok eyðir þar
and hold yourself in all as of-them is custom to and waste there
upp nær öllum þínum peníngum, en takir þá til annara
up nearly all your money but take then to others'
er þik skortir; koma þeir margir á vorn fund, er slíkt
which you lack come they many to our meeting who such
kæra; vil ek, segir konúngr, at þú mínkir fjölmenni þitt,
complain wish I says (the)-king that you lessen following your
ok gjör þik eigi stærra, enn þú átt kyn til; vil ek at þú
and make yourself not greater than you have kin to wish I that you
sért hófsmaðr um alla hluti, ef þú vilt oss þjóna; eða
be a-man-of-moderation about all things if you will us serve or
hvat er nú, Egill! segir konúngr, um þann hlut, er ek hefi
what is now Egil says (the)-king about that thing which I have
nokkurum sinnum þik ámintan, ok þú mátt viðkannast, hefir
some times you reminded and you may acknowledge have
þú þat nú til bóta borit? Egill segir þá heldr reiðuliga: þat
you that now to amends brought Egil says then rather angrily that
væntir ek, herra! segir hann, þótt þér minnizt þess hlutar
expect I lord says he though you remind of-that thing
opt við mik, at sjálfum mér mun þó mest hugat um mitt.
often with me that to-self myself will yet most cared about mine
Þá svarar konúngr: nú er mér þess von, at þat komi fram,
Then answers (the)-king now is to-me that expected that that come forth
er ek sagða þér hið fyrsta sinn, er við fundumst, at þú
which I said to-you the first time when we met that you
mundir eigi vera með öllu gæfumaðr, nú ok svá mjök sem
would not be in all a-luck-man now and so much as
þú úrækir nauðsyn sjálfs þíns, þá vil ek fyrir aungvan mun
you neglect (the)-need of-self your then will I for no difference

hafa lengr þína þjónustu, ok eigi skaltu varðveita mína eign
have longer your service and not shall-you keep my property
héðan frá. Egill svarar: þér munuð ráða veizlum yðrum við
hence from Egil answers you will rule fiefs your toward
mik, herra! en þat mun yðr þykja undarligt, segir hann, ef
me lord but that will to-you seem strange says he if
ek held mik eigi óríkmannligar, þó at ek hafi mína kosti
I hold myself not less-lordly though that I have my means
eina, skal ek ekki biðja yðr um þjónustu, meir enn yðr
only shall I not ask you about service more than to-you
líkar. Konúngr svarar: ekki þarftu, Egill! at gjöra þik svo
pleases (The)-king answers not need-you Egil to make yourself so
stóran, segir hann, beygt hefi ek svíra á feitari búkum enn
great says he bent have I neck on fatter bodies than
þú ert; ætla ek þér þat verr munu gegna enn mér, at
you are think I to-you that worse will serve than to-me that
okkra vináttu skili. Nú er þat mitt hugboð, segir konúngr,
our-two friendship part Now is that my foreboding says (the)-king
at nokkut hendi þik þat, er enn er stærra, enn þeir,
that something befall you that which still is greater than those
er áðr eru berir vorðnir um hagi þína. Eptir þat skildu
which before are bare become about affairs your After that parted
þeir konúngr ok Egill með aungri blíðu, fékk konúngr þá
they (the)-king and Egil with no blitheness got (the)-king then
annann mann yfir ríkit í Borghundarhólmi. Egill mínkaði
another man over the-realm in Bornholm Egil lessened
ekki fjölmenni sitt, heldr hafði hann öllu meiri rausn ok
not following his rather had he all greater state and
nokkuru mannfleira; sat hann nú heima í búi sínu.
somewhat more-men sat he now at-home on farm his

Skiptjón

XXXIX · A LOST SHIP

Under Óláfr kyrri, Knútr's brother-in-law, a rich Norwegian merchant ship vanished near Borghundarhólmr, and Óláfr asked Knútr to search for it.

Í þenna tíma réð fyrir Noregi Ólafr kyrri Haraldsson,
In this time ruled over Norway Olaf (the)-Quiet Harald's-son
hann átti Ingiríði, dóttur Sveins konungs, en systur Knúts
he had Ingirid daughter of-Svein king and sister of-Knut
konungs; var þar vinátta kær með þeim mágum. Þat
king was there friendship dear between them kinsmen-by-marriage That
var eitt sumar at skip nokkurt fór af Noregi bæði mikit
was one summer that a-ship some went from Norway both great
ok auðigt; þat skip áttu kaupmenn; þeir sigldu suðr til
and wealthy that ship owned merchants they sailed south to
Danmerkr, ok austr í gegnum Eyrarsund, ok svá austr
Denmark and east in through Oresund and so east
til Borghundarhólms. Síðan hvarf skip þat, svá at ekki
to Bornholm Afterward vanished ship that so that nothing
spurðist til, ok ekki fannst af því skipi, ok voro hér margar
was-learned of-it and nothing was-found of that ship and were here many
getur á, hvat af mundi orðit. Noregs konungr sendi orð
guesses about what of would become Norway king sent word
Danakonungi, mági sínum, at hann skyldi láta leita
to-(the)-Danes'-king kinsman-by-marriage his that he should let search
eptir skipi þessu, hvat af mundi orðit; ok hann hét því.
after ship this what of would become and he promised that

Dauði Egils

XL · THE DEATH OF EGILL

Knútr found reddened stones on an island near Borghundarhólmr and sent Benedikt and Þórgunna's sons to seize Egill at night. Pressed by the king, Egill confessed that his men had bound the merchants, robbed the ship, and burned crew and ship together on the rocks. Knútr refused his kinsmen's money, had him hanged in the forest, punished his band, and the great men began to turn against him.

Knútr konúngr fór einu sinni til Borghundarhólms með
Knut king went one time to Bornholm with
nokkurum skipum, þar var í ferð með honum Benedikt
some ships there was on journey with him Benedikt
bróðir hans ok bræðr 2, hét annar Sveinn, en annar
brother his and brothers two was-called one Svein but (the)-other
Ástráðr, þeir voru danskir menn, ríkir ok stórættaðir, ok
Astrad they were Danish men powerful and great-born and
voro kendir við móður sína, þeir voru kallaðir Þórgunnu
were known by mother their they were called of-Thorgunna
synir. Þórgunna móðir þeirra var dóttir Vagns Ákasonar;
sons Thorgunna mother their was daughter of-Vagn Aki's-son
þeir bræðr voro kærir Knúti konúngi. Knútr konúngr siglir
those brothers were dear to-Knut king Knut king sails
nú til Borghundarhólms með lið sitt; var þat mest erindi
now to Bornholm with troop his was that most errand
konúngs, at vita ef hann mætti verða vís um skip, þat
of-(the)-king to know if he might become aware about ship that
er týnzt hafði af Noregi, þvíat Knútr konúngr bar hér
which lost-been had from Norway because Knut king bore here
mikla hugan fyrir, ok vildi gjarna vita, hvat af væri orðit;
much mind for and wished gladly to-know what of were become

ok er þeir áttu skamt til Borghundarhólms, þá sigldu þeir
and when they had short to Bornholm then sailed they
hjá eyjum nokkurum, ok bað konúngr þar at leggja, ok
beside islands some and bade (the)-king there to lay-to and
svá gjörðu þeir. Síðan gengu þeir á land. Knútr konúngr
so did they Afterward went they on land Knut king
gengr eptir fjörunni, ok var þar stórgrýtt mjök. Konúngr
walks along the-shore and was there great-stoned much (The)-king
hugði at grjótinu, ok sá þar rautt allt. Konúngr spurði
looked at the-stones and saw there red all (The)-king asked
menn sína, því svá mundi vera? Þeir svara: þér munuð
men his why so would be They answer you will
þat bezt skynja, herra! Konúngr svarar: þat mundi ek ætla,
that best discern lord (The)-king answers that would I think
at hér mundi um hríð hafa verit eldsneyti yfrit; mun
that here would for a-while have been fuel too-much will
vera at þat komi fram, er mér sagði laungu hugr um,
be that that come forth which to-me said long-ago mind about
er tekr til okkar Egils; er nú ekki því at leyna, segir
which takes to us-two of-Egil is now not that to hide says
konúngr, at ek hygg at þat sé af manna völdum, en brátt
(the)-king that I think that that be of men's doing but soon
mun þat reynast; munu vér nú ekki hér lengr dveljast at
will that be-proven will we now not here longer stay for
sinni; ferr nú konúngr ok tekr veizlu skamt frá bæ
once goes now (the)-king and takes a-feast short from (the)-farm
Blóð-Egils. Egill hafði með sér mikit fjölmenni, ok mjök
of-Blood-Egil Egil had with himself great following and much
undruðust menn þat, er hann hélt svá mikit lið, þar
wondered men at-that that he held so great troop there
sem þá lágu engi brýn féfaung fyrir, þvíat Egill hætti
where then lay no pressing money-gains for because Egil stopped

þá hernaði. Mart ræddu menn fyrir konúngi um siðu
then raiding Much discussed men before (the)-king about (the)-customs
Egils ok manna hans, ok fanst þat á konúngi, at honum
of-Egil and of-men his and was-found that on (the)-king that to-him
var lítt at skapi. Þetta hið sama kveld lét Knútr konúngr
was little to liking This the same evening let Knut king
veita heimferð at Egli, var þar höfðíngi fyrir Benedikt, ok
make a-home-raid at Egil was there chieftain before Benedikt and
þeir bræðr Sveinn ok Ástráðr, þeir voro saman hundrat
those brothers Svein and Astrad they were together hundred
manna. Þeir fóru þar til, er þeir komu til bæjar Egils
men They went there till when they came to (the)-farm of-Egil
um nóttina. Þeir Egill voro vanir at drekka til miðrar nætr;
in the-night They Egil were wont to drink till middle night
en er þeir Benedikt komu at bænum, þá gengu þeir at
but when they Benedikt came to the-farm then went they to
drykkjustofunni; þeir Egill sátu þá enn ok drukku. Þeir
the-drinking-hall they Egil sat then still and drank They
Benedikt slógu þá mannhríng um stofuna; en er þeir
Benedikt struck then a-ring-of-men about the-hall but when they
Egill urðu varir við ófrið; þá hlupu þeir til vopna sinna,
Egil became aware of unpeace then ran they to weapons their
ok ætluðu at verjast. Benedikt sagði at sá mundi
and intended to defend-themselves Benedikt said that that would
þeirra kostr beztr, at gefast upp, ok er Egill vissi þat,
their choice best to give-themselves up and when Egil knew that
at þeir höfðu her manns, þá gekk Egill út í hendr
that they had a-host of-men then went Egil out into hands
þeim. Síðan var hann handtekinn, ok fór Benedikt með
their Afterward was he seized and went Benedikt with
hann á konúngsfund, en þeir bræðr Sveinn ok Ástráðr voro
him to (the)-king's-meeting but those brothers Svein and Astrad were

eptir með sína menn, ok skyldu geyma, at öngvir kæmist
behind with their men and should guard that none came
í burt af sveitúngum Egils. En er Egill kom á konúngs
off away of comrades of-Egil But when Egil came to (the)-king's
fund, þá mælti konúngr: lángt hefir nú verit á millum
meeting then spoke (the)-king long has now been in between
funda vorra, Egill! vilda ek nú at sjá væri hinn síðasti.
meetings our Egil would-wish I now that this were the last
Egill svarar: þér munit nú hafa vald á því at sinni,
Egil answers you will now have power over that for once
herra! vænti ek þess, segir hann, at engi kalli þik at betra
lord expect I that says he that none call you the better
höfðingja né at meira konúng, þótt þú látir drepa saklausa
chieftain nor the greater king though you let kill guiltless
menn. Þá svarar Knútr konúngr allhógliga: ek mun nú
men Then answers Knut king very-mildly I will now
verða, Egill! at bera ábyrgð fyrir hlut mínum; ef ek drep
must Egil to bear responsibility for part my if I kill
saklausa menn, þá verð ek því at svara við guð; en þó
guiltless men then must I for-that to answer to God but yet
er nu, Egill! svá komit þínum hag, at ekki mun þér nú
is now Egil so come your case that not will to-you now
stoða, at fara með drambi né stríðlæti, tekit höfum vér þik
avail to go with pride nor stubbornness taken have we you
nú svá í fángelsi, ok muntu nú segja verða slíkt sem yfir
now so into prison and will-you now say must such as over
hefir gengit, þó at eigi sé fagrt, sem mik varir; munu
has gone though that not be fair as I expect will
við nú nær gángast um eptirleitina; skaltu segja um
we-two now near go about the-inquiry shall-you tell about
skipssögn, þá er vér hyggjum at þú ok menn þínir
(the)-ship's-company them whom we think that you and men your

hafir myrða, en tekit féit til þín, hefir þetta helzt til
have murdered and taken the-wealth to you has this rather too
lengi leynt verit; höfum vér ok þar komit, segir konúngr,
long hidden been have we also there come says (the)-king
ok í þann stað, at vér hyggjum þat unnit hafa verit. Egill
and to that place that we think that done have been Egil
sá þá, at sá einn var kostr til, at segja eptir því sem var,
saw then that that one was choice to to tell after that which was
ok farit hafði; þvíat hann vissi, at svá margir voru hans
and gone had because he knew that so many were his
menn samvitandi þetta með honum, at til mundu verða
men knowing this with him that to would be
nokkurir af þeim, ef fast væri eptir sótt. Egill svarar þá:
some of them if hard were after sought Egil answers then
þá er þetta skip, er nú spyrit þér eptir, lá undir þeirri
then when this ship which now ask you after lay under that
sömu ey, er þér komut við, þá héldum vér njósnum
same island which you came by then held we spies
til um ferðir þeirra, þar er útgrunnt, en þat vissu þeir
to about journeys their there is shallow-outward but that knew they
eigi, Norðmenn, þvíat þeim var ókunnigt, ok fjaraði um
not (the)-Norwegians because to-them was unknown and ebbed in
nótt út undan skipinu, þá fórum vér til, segir Egill,
night out from-under the-ship then went we to says Egil
í nætreldíng, ok var þar skammt viðrtal vort, vér tókum
at night-dawn and was there short parley our we took
menn alla, er á voru skipinu ok bundum, en ræntum
men all who on were the-ship and bound but robbed
fé öllu; leiddum síðan skipit uppá hellurnar, ok lögðum
wealth all led afterward the-ship up-onto the-flat-rocks and laid
í eld, ok brendum upp alltsaman skip ok menn, svá at
into fire and burned up all-together ship and men so that

þess mætti eigi sjá merki, nema þetta eina, er grjótit var
of-that might not see a-mark except this one that the-stones were
rautt eptir. En er Egill hafði þetta sagt, þá mælti Knútr
red after But when Egil had this said then spoke Knut
konúngr: nú er sem mik varði, at þú ert ólífismaðr,
king now is as I expected that you are a-man-deserving-death
lítið nú á, góðir höfðíngjar! segir konúngr, hversu vér
look now on good chieftains says (the)-king how we
skulum refsa slík níðingsverk. Þar voro margir frændr Egils
shall punish such dastard's-deeds There were many kinsmen of-Egil
viðstaddir, þeir er mikils voro virðir, ok buðu fé fyrir
present they who much were esteemed and offered wealth for
Egil. Konúngr svarar: eigi skal þat spyrjast, at ek níðumst
Egil (The)-king answers not shall that be-learned that I act-basely
svá á guði mínum, at ek taka fé til nokkurra manna
so toward God my that I take wealth for some men's
vináttu, at dæma svá rángt; eru eigi slíkt ólífissakir, er þó
friendship to judge so wrongly are not such death-charges when yet
væri svá at einn maðr væri myrðr, þar sem nú eru margir,
were so that one man were murdered there where now are many
en fæðst síðan á því einu, er stolit er til? Nú var bæði
but fed afterward on that alone which stolen is to Now was both
at íllt þótti til mót at mæla, enda þorði ok engi at mæla
that ill seemed to against to speak and dared also none to speak
móti konúngi. Eptir þetta var farit með Egil til skógar, var
against (the)-king After this was gone with Egil to (the)-wood was
þar reistr gálgi, ok var Egill uppfestr. Síðan fór konúngr
there raised a-gallows and was Egil hanged-up Afterward went (the)-king
til bæjar Egils, er hann hafði átt, ok lét þá sæta
to (the)-farm of-Egil which he had owned and let then suffer
refsíngum menn Egils, suma lét hann drepa, en suma lét
punishments men of-Egil some let he kill but some let

hann meiða, suma rak hann or landi burtu, en öngvan
he maim some drove he out-of (the)-land away but none
lét hann óhegndan, þann er nokkurn hlut hafði í átt í
let he unpunished that-one who any part had in owned in
þessari ráðagjörð, ok eyddi hann svá þessum óaldarflokki.
this plotting and wiped-out he so this lawless-band
Þetta verk varð honum mjök öfundsamt, þvíat Egill var
This deed became for-him much resented because Egil was
bæði frændmargr ok frændstór. Eptir þetta viku höfðíngjar
both rich-in-kinsmen and great-in-kin After this turned chieftains
til sundrþykkis við konúnginn, ok tóku mjök at stirðna
to discord with the-king and took much to stiffen
við hann, ok þar eptir gjörði alþýðan; þótti mönnum
toward him and there after did the-common-people seemed to-men
hann ríkr ok refsíngasamr, en þeir áðr vanir sjálfræði.
he powerful and punishing but they before wont to-self-rule

Frá Ólafi konúngi ok Knúti konúngi

XLI · OF KING ÓLÁFR AND KING KNÚTR

Knútr proposed to Óláfr kyrri a joint expedition to reclaim England, which their kinsmen had held. Óláfr, recalling his father's fall there, would not lead it, but promised sixty great ships and picked men, and they parted friends.

Þat var eitt sumar, at þeir mæltu stefnu í millum sín,
That was one summer that they appointed a-meeting in between themselves
Knútr konúngr af Danmörk ok Ólafr konúngr af Noregi.
Knut king of Denmark and Olaf king of Norway
Þeir fundust í Elfinni, ok fagnar hvorr þeirra öðrum vel;
They met at the-Elf and welcomes each of-them (the)-other well

áttu þeir tal með sér. Þat var á einni stefnu at Knútr
had they talk with themselves That was at one meeting that Knut
konúngr mælti svá til Ólafs Noregs konúngs: Þat hefir ek
king spoke so to Olaf Norway king That have I
hugsat, Ólafr mágr! segir hann, ef yðr sýnist þat
thought Olaf kinsman-by-marriage says he if to-you seems that
eigi óvænt stefnt vera, at gjöra leiðángr úr landi, ok
not unpromisingly aimed be to make a-levy out-of land and
minnast þess ríkis, er vér frændr þikjumst mikla tiltölu
remember that realm which we kinsmen think-ourselves great claim
eiga, en þat er ríki í Englandi; hafa vorir frændr þar
have but that is (the)-realm in England have our kinsmen there
haft mikit vald, sem yðr er kunnigt, þar sem Knútr hinn
had great power as to-you is known there where Knut the
ríki eignaðist allt England, frændi vorr, ok réð því ríki allt
Mighty owned all England kinsman our and ruled that realm all
til dauðadags, ok synir hans eptir hann; nú vildum vér, Ólafr
till death-day and sons his after him now wished we Olaf
mágr! hafa þartil yðvarn styrk; munum vér þar gjöra
kinsman-by-marriage to-have thereto your strength will we there make
yðr kost á, at þér gjörizt höfuðsmaðr yfir þessari ferð, þvíat
you choice of that you become head-man over this journey because
þér eiguð mikla harma at reka við Englands menn; viljum
you have great griefs to avenge with of-England men will
vér þá veita yðr lið af voru ríki, ella mun ek gjörast
we then grant you troop from our realm else will I become
formaðr ferðarinnar fyrir beggja okkra hönd, þó at þat sé
leader of-the-journey for both our-two's hand though that it be
miðr tilfengit, en taka þá þar til traust af yðr ok styrk
less provided but take then there to support from you and strength
fjölmennis. Þá svarar Ólafr konúngr: Þetta mál, er nú
of-multitude Then answers Olaf king This matter which now

hafið þér talat um hríð, Knútr konúngr! sýnist oss vænliga
have you talked for a-while Knut king seems to-us promisingly
sett; er at því raun mikil, at þér frændr hafit gæfu tilborit,
set is in that proof great that you kinsmen have luck brought
at vinna þar mikinn sóma, er þat mjök sundrleitt eða um
to win there great honor is that much differently or about
vora frændr, þvíat vér höfum fengit þar þann mannskaða, er
our kinsmen because we have got there that man-loss which
vér bíðum aldri bætr. Nú megum vér þat sjá, ok kunnum
we abide never amends Now may we that see and can
skilja, at þá er Haraldr konúngr faðir minn fór úr landi,
discern that then when Harald king father my went out-of land
þá mælti þat alþýða, at aldrei hefði fræknara lið
then spoke that (the)-common-people that never had a-bolder troop
búizt af Noregi til einnar ferðar, voro þar allir hlutir betr
been-readied from Norway for one journey were there all things better
tilfengnir enn nú sé kostr í landinu; nú fær eigi mennina
provided than now be choice in the-land now gets not the-men
þvílíka, sem hann hafði með sér, en hitt skilr þó miklu
such as he had with himself but the-other differs yet much
meira um höfðíngjann, þann sem þá var fyrir ferðinni, er
more about the-chieftain that who then was before the-journey when
Haraldr konúngr var, eða þar sem ek em. Nú svá þúng sem
Harald king was or there where I am Now so heavy as
þá var ferðin, þá munum vér ekki ætla oss svá mikla
then was the-journey then will we not think for-ourselves so great
hamíngju raun, at brjótast til ríkis í Englandi. En með
luck's proof to break-through to realm in England But with
því, Knútr konúngr! at þér leitið eigi minnr eptir nauðsyn
that Knut king that you seek not less after need
minni í slíku enn yðvarri fýst, þá viljum vér fá yðr til
my in such than your desire then will we give you to

þessar ferðar 60 stór skip, ok velja menn til af hirðsveitum
this journey sixty great ships and choose men to from court-troops
mínum, alla þá er fræknastir eru, ok skal at aungu nú
my all those who boldest are and shall in nothing now
minnr vanda hvorki skip né menn, enn þó at ek væri
less take-care neither ships nor men than though that I were
sjálfr fyrir. Knútr konúngr svarar: þetta er stórmannliga mælt
myself before Knut king answers this is lordly spoken
ok boðit, sem von var at, ok þenna kost munum vér
and offered as expected was to and this choice will we
upptaka, en guð ráði hversu gefst. Marga hluti töluðu þeir
take-up but God rule how turns-out Many things talked they
um ríkin milli Noregs ok Danmerkr, ok fóru allar ræður
about the-realms between Norway and Denmark and went all speeches
vingjarnliga með þeim. Var nú þetta ráðit, at Knútr konúngr
friendly with them Was now this decided that Knut king
ætlaði að fara herferð til Englands, ok voro margar getur
intended to go a-war-journey to England and were many guesses
á um, hversu sú ferð mundi takast. Eptir þetta skildust
on about how that journey would turn-out After this parted
konúngarnir með vináttu, ok skiptust gjöfum við, fór Ólafr
the-kings with friendship and exchanged gifts with went Olaf
norðr í Noreg, en Knútr konúngr suðr til Danmerkr.
north into Norway but Knut king south to Denmark

Frá Knúti konúngi

XLII · OF KING KNÚTR

The levy gathered at the Limfjord with the Norwegian ships, but Knútr stayed away while he made peace with the Wends. After seven nights the Danes sent his brother Óláfr to fetch him; Knútr had him put in fetters and sent to Duke Baldvini in Flanders, to be held until the king himself sent word.

Knútr konúngr lét gánga herboð um allt sitt ríki, ok
Knut king let go war-summons through all his realm and
kvað á, hversu mikit lið fara skyldi úr hverju héraði,
declared on how great troop go should out-of each district
ok segir almenníngr skuli úti vera at liði ok skipum;
and says (the)-general-levy shall out be with troop and ships
var um vetrinn mikill viðrbúnaðr í Danmörk. Eirekr jarl
was through the-winter great preparation in Denmark Eirik earl
bjóst til ferðar þessarar með Knúti konúngi, ok þarmeð
readied-himself for journey this with Knut king and therewith
aðrir ríkismenn. Snemma um vorit lét Knútr konúngr
other men-of-rank Early in the-spring let Knut king
safna saman hernum, ok stefna öllu liðinu til Limafjarðar. Í
gather together the-host and summon all the-troop to Limfjord In
þenna tíma kom Norðmanna lið, sem Ólafr konúngr hafði
this time came (the)-Norwegians' troop which Olaf king had
heitit Knúti konúngi, ok var þat fólk hið hermannligasta ok
promised Knut king and was that folk the most-warlike and
at öllu vel búit. Nú dregst saman Danaher, ok var þat
in all well equipped Now draws together (the)-Danes'-host and was that
múgr manns. Knútr konúngr var þá enn eigi kominn, en
a-multitude of-men Knut king was then still not come but
þó sendi hann boð til þeirra, ok lét leiðángrs fólkit bíða
yet sent he word to them and let (the)-levy folk wait

sín, ok segir at eigi mán þurfa lengi at bíða. Liðu svá
for-him and says that not will need long to wait Passed so
nú 7 nætr, at konúngr kom eigi, ok líkar Dönum nú
now seven nights that (the)-king came not and pleases (the)-Danes now
illa, er hann kom eigi; en þat olli því, er konúngr kom
ill that he came not but that caused that that (the)-king came
eigi, at þeir menn komu á konúngs fund, er sögðu honum
not that those men came to (the)-king's meeting who told him
at Vindar höfðu her úti, ok þeir ætluðu um sumarit
that (the)-Wends had a-host out and they intended in the-summer
at herja til Danmerkr, at hefna þess ófriðar, er Blóð-Egill
to harry to Denmark to avenge that unpeace which Blood-Egil
hafði veitt þeim. Knútr konúngr sendi menn til þeirra Vinda
had given them Knut king sent men to those Wends
með sættarboðum, ok biðr þí eigi at herja í Danmörk;
with settlement-offers and asks them not to harry in Denmark
sagði þat ekki vera þeirra færi, at berjast við sik: en þó
said that not be their match to fight with himself but yet
mun í því verða gjört margra manna mein ok ónáðir; vil
will in that be done of-many men harm and troubles wish
ek at vér setim grið ok frið millum landa, svá at hvorugir
I that we set truce and peace between lands so that neither
herji á aðra. Fóru nú sendimenn á fund Vinda, en
harry on (the)-other Went now messengers to meeting of-(the)-Wends but
konúngr sagðist mundu bíða þeirra um 7 nætr, því at
(the)-king said-of-himself would wait for-them for seven nights because
hann vildi eigi fara úr landi, nema þessi ófriðr stöðvaðist.
he wished not to-go out-of (the)-land unless this unpeace were-stopped
Líðr nú vika þessi, ok koma eigi sendimenn aptr. Nú þikir
Passes now week this and come not messengers back Now seems
Dönum lángt at bíða konúngs, þar er þeir liggja í
to-(the)-Danes long to wait for-(the)-king there where they lie in

safnaðinum, ok þikkir mönnum sér mikill vanhagr
the-gathering and seems to-men for-themselves great loss
í, at liggja í sama stað sér at aungu nýtu; tala
in to lie in same place for-themselves to no use talk
höfðíngjar hér um lángar tölur, kom þetta samt með þeim,
chieftains here about long talks came this together with them
at senda menn á konúngs fund, ok báðu þeir til þeirrar
to send men to (the)-king's meeting and asked they for that
ferðar Ólaf konúngs bróður; hann var ófús á at fara,
journey Olaf (the)-king's brother he was unwilling on to go
kveðst þat hyggja, at konúngr mundi sjálfr vilja ráða
says-of-himself that think that (the)-king would himself wish to-rule
ferðum sínum: hvat sem þér Danir kurrit; get ek hann lítit
journeys his what as you Danes grumble guess I he little
gjöra fyrir mín orð, er konúngr óáhlýðinn, hvat sem mælt
do for my words is (the)-king unheeding what as said
er fyrir honum, en mjök einráðr, en þér Danir opt ekki
is before him but much self-willed but you Danes often not
fastir á velli ok meðallagi trúlyndir. En þótt Ólafr talaði
firm on field and middling faithful But though Olaf talked
slíkt, þá lét hann þó at bæn vina sinna, ok hét
such then let he yet at (the)-prayer of-friends his and promised
ferðinni, ok fór með nokkura menn á konúngs fund. En
the-journey and went with some men to (the)-king's meeting But
þegar Knútr konúngr sá Ólaf bróður sinn, þá mælti hann
as-soon-as Knut king saw Olaf brother his then spoke he
til sinna manna: takið þér Ólaf, segir hann, ok setið fjötr
to his men take you Olaf says he and set fetters
á fætr honum, ok gætið hans svá, at hann komist eigi á
on feet his and guard him so that he come not off
burt; þvíat ek vil ekki orð heyra, þat er hann talar: Þetta
away because I will not word hear that which he says This

þótti mörgum undarligt, því konúngr lét þetta gjöra; en
seemed to-many strange why (the)-king let this do but
svá stóð mikil ógn af orðum konúngs, at engi þorði at
so stood great terror from words of-(the)-king that none dared to
brjóta boð hans: Annann dag eptir fær Knútr konúngr
break command his (The)-second day after gets Knut king
menn til, at flytja Ólaf vestr í Flæmíngjaland til Baldvina
men to to bring Olaf west into Flanders to Baldwin
hertuga mágs síns; bað Knútr konúngr svá segja
duke kinsman-by-marriage his bade Knut king so tell
Baldvina, at hann hefði Ólaf í varðhaldi ok gæzlu, ok léti
Baldwin that he had Olaf in custody and keeping and let
hann aldri komast út af því járni, er hann var í settr:
him never come out of that iron which he was in set
nema ek sendi orð til. Margir menn svöruðu: þat lízt oss,
unless I send word to Many men answered that seems to-us
herra konúngr! sem þessi dómr sé stríðr, er þér dæmit
lord king as this judgment be harsh which you judge
þessum manni, þvíat vér sjáum eigi at hann hafi svá brýnar
this man because we see not that he have so pressing
sakir til, at koma í slíka prísund. Konúngr segir: ekki ber
charges to to come into such prison (The)-king says not bear
ek sakir á hendr Ólafi fyrir alþýðu manns, en vita mun
I charges on hands Olaf before (the)-commons of-men but know will
allsvaldandi guð, ef þær eru nokkurar; má ok vera, segir
all-ruling God if they are any may also be says
hann, at þér vitið gjörr enn ek, hverr maðr hann er, en
he that you know better than I what man he is but
þat er ætlan mín, segir konúngr, at eigi mun lángt líða,
that is expectation my says (the)-king that not will long pass
áðr at Ólafr sjálfr mun bera sér vitni, hverr maðr hann
before that Olaf himself will bear himself witness what man he

er. Þessir menn fóru með Ólaf vestr í Flæmingjaland, sem
is These men went with Olaf west into Flanders as
konúngr sagði fyrir, ok komu á fund Baldvina hertoga, ok
(the)-king said before and came to meeting of-Baldwin duke and
sögðu honum orðsending Knúts konúngs ok jartegnir, þær
told him (the)-message of-Knut king and tokens those
er fylgðu viðrtöku Ólafs. Hertoginn gjörði sem konúngr
which followed (the)-receiving of-Olaf The-duke did as (the)-king
bauð, at hann setti Ólaf í einn turn háfan ok þar menn
bade that he set Olaf in one tower high and there men
til geymslu, var þar ríkt varðhald; sitr Ólafr þar um hríð.
to keeping was there strict custody sits Olaf there for a-while

Frá liði Knúts

XLIII · OF KNÚTR'S TROOP

Óláfr's men spread word of his arrest, and the levy, weary and hungry, broke up despite the Norwegians' pleas. Knútr arrived to find only the Norwegians, thanked them and sent them home, and the Wends sent him gifts and their friendship.

Nú er at segja frá þeim mönnum, er Ólafi Sveinssyni
Now is to tell of those men who Olaf Svein's-son
höfðu fylgt á fund Knúts konúngs, þeir urðu hræddir mjök
had followed to meeting of-Knut king they became afraid much
við ófarir þær, er þeir sáu at Ólafr hafði; þeir komust
at misfortunes those which they saw that Olaf had they got
í burt með hlaupi, ok komu á fund leiðángrsliðsins, ok
off away with running and came to meeting of-the-levy-troop and
sögðu mönnum þau tíðindi, er orðin voru; sögðu ok þat
told men those tidings which become were told also that

með, at Knútr konúngr mundi þar aldrei koma: hefir hann
with that Knut king would there never come has he
nú þat sýnt, segja þeir, hverr maðr hann er, hefir hann nú
now that shown say they what man he is has he now
þat gjört ódæmaverk, at því er betr at fáheyrt er, hann
that done unheard-of-deed that that is better that rarely-heard is he
tók nú bróður sinn saklausan ok vel til höfðíngja fallinn,
took now brother his guiltless and well to chieftain fitted
ok setti í járn; hyggjum vér at honum gángi þat til, at
and set into iron think we that to-him go that to that
hann hræðist þat, at höfðíngjar mundu heldr vilja hafa Ólaf
he fears that that chieftains would rather wish to-have Olaf
fyrir konúng enn hann, ok þá mundi betr standa ríki
for king than him and then would better stand (the)-realm
í Danmörk, ok mundu menn eigi eiga undir slíkum ofsa
in Denmark and would men not have under such arrogance
at búa. Við þessa sögu brá mörgum mönnum mjök, ok
to dwell At this story were-shaken many men much and
áttu höfðíngjar þíng, ok töluðu um þessa tiltöku, er
had chieftains an-assembly and talked about this undertaking which
konúngr hafði haft, ok lagði þá hverr orð til sem sýndist.
(the)-king had had and laid then each word to as seemed
Voru þeir sumir höfðíngjar, er þat mæltu berum orðum, at
Were they some chieftains who that spoke with-bare words that
aldri mundi þrífast Danaríki, meðan Knútr væri konúngr,
never would thrive (the)-Danes'-realm while Knut were king
en hinir voru miklu fleiri, er eigi gengu á berhögg
but the-others were much more who not went to bare-fight
um fjandskap við konúng, svá at alþýðan mætti þat
about enmity with (the)-king so that the-common-people might that
reifa, þótt þeir væri í jöfnum hug sem hinir. Var nú
air though they were in even mind as the-others Was now

ráðagjörð mikil með hernum, hvat þeir skyldu upptaka; voru
plotting great in the-host what they should take-up were
þeir sumir höfðíngjar, er þat mæltu, at þeir mundu rjúfa
they some chieftains who that spoke that they would break
leiðángrinn, ok gefa mönnum heimleyfi. Bændamúgrinn hljóp
the-levy and give men home-leave The-farmer-crowd leapt
upp með einu samþykki, ok báðu þann aldrei þrífast, er
up with one consent and bade that-one never thrive who
þar lægi lengr, sögðust þá ok margir hafa nauðugir
there lay longer said-of-themselves then also many have unwilling
komit í þenna leiðángr. Norðmenn báðu þá bíða, ok
come into this levy (The)-Norwegians bade then wait and
þola vel, ok gjöra eigi at hégómamáli orðsendíng konúngs,
bear well and make not into a-vanity-matter (the)-message of-(the)-king
ok sögðu hann brátt koma mundu. Danir æptu á móti
and said him soon come would (The)-Danes shouted in against
því, ok báðu Norðmenn liggja í sultar kví þeirri, svo lengi
that and bade (the)-Norwegians lie in of-hunger fold that so long
sem þeir vildi. Eptir þat raufst leiðángrinn, ok sigla allir
as they wished After that was-broken the-levy and sail all
Danir í burt ok heim, hverr til sinna híbýla; þikist
(the)-Danes off away and home each to his dwellings thinks-himself
sá bezt hafa, er fyrst kemr heim, ok þegar at rofinn var
he best have who first comes home and as-soon as broken was
leiðángrinn, kom Knútr konúngr til Limafjarðar, ok þar
the-levy came Knut king to Limfjord and there
lá fyrir Norðmannaher; fóru þeir þegar á konúngs fund,
lay before (the)-Norwegians'-host went they at-once to (the)-king's meeting
ok fagna honum æfar vel. Konúngr var þá mjök reiðr
and welcome him exceedingly well (The)-king was then much angry
Dönum, er þeir höfðu rofit leiðángrinn, ok sagði svá: nú
with-(the)-Danes that they had broken the-levy and said so now

hafa Danir enn sýnt trúleik sinn, nær sem vér fáum þeim
have (the)-Danes still shown faithfulness their near as we get them
goldit þetta. Konúngr var allmjök reiðr, en stilti vel orðum
repaid this (The)-king was very-much angry but restrained well words
sínum, sem hann var jafnan vanr, þótt þeir hlutir bærist
his as he was always wont though those things bore
at, er honum mislíkaði allmjök. Norðmenn buðu konúngi
to which him displeased very-much (The)-Norwegians offered (the)-king
fylgð sína at fara þángat, sem honum líkaði. Konúngr
following their to go thither as him pleased (The)-king
sagði þeim vel fara ok drengiliga, ok þeir höfðu vel haldit
said them well fare and manfully and they had well kept
boð síns herra ok höfðingja. Bað konúngr þá fara heim
command of-their lord and chieftain Bade (the)-king then go home
til Noregs, ok hafa mikla þökk fyrir sína þarkomu: en vér
to Norway and have great thanks for their coming-there but we
Danir munum enn verða við at leikast. Síðan sigldu
Danes will still become with to play-each-other Afterward sailed
Norðmenn heim til Noregs. Knútr konúngr ferr þá til
(the)-Norwegians home to Norway Knut king goes then to
Sjólands, hann hafði þá fjölmenni mikit, þá komu til hans
Zealand he had then following great then came to him
þeir menn, er hann hafði sent til Vindlands, ok sögðu
those men whom he had sent to Wendland and told
honum þau tíðindi, at Vindar tóku þat með þökkum, at
him those tidings that (the)-Wends took that with thanks to
halda sátt ok frið við Knút konúng, ok þeir höfðu því
hold settlement and peace with Knut king and they had for-that
haft her fyrir landi sínu, at heim þótti hann vera ótrúligr,
had a-host before land their that to-them seemed he be untrustworthy
er þeir spurðu at leiðángr væri úti hafðr í Danmörk.
when they learned that a-levy were out held in Denmark

Sendu þeir nú vináttumál til konúngs ok þar með gjafir
Sent they now friendship-words to (the)-king and there with gifts
sæmiligar, ok þótti Knúti konúngi þetta allgóð tíðindi.
seemly and seemed to-Knut king this very-good tidings

Frá Knúti konúngi

XLIV · OF KING KNÚTR

On Fjón Knútr reproached the farmers for the broken levy; Eiríkr jarl pleaded for them, and they granted the king self-judgment, whereupon he laid heavy fines on the chief offenders, which the great men resented.

Eptir þetta ferr Knútr konúngr suðr til Fjóns, ok átti þar
After this goes Knut king south to Fyn and had there
þíng við bændr, ok veitti þeim stórar átölur fyrir þá
an-assembly with farmers and gave them great reproaches for that
svívirðíng, er hann kallar at þeir hefðu gjört honum;
disgrace which he calls that they had done him
segir hann at þar fyrir skuli þeir sæta afarkostum af sér.
says he that there for shall they suffer hard-terms from himself
Eirekr jarl flutti mál bænda við konúng; sagði þeim eigi
Eirik earl pleaded (the)-case of-farmers with (the)-king said them not
svá mikinn illvila til hafa gengit við konúng: er þat, sem
so great ill-will to have gone toward (the)-king is that as
yðr er kunnigt, herra! segir hann, at alþýðan hlýdir
to-you is known lord says he that the-common-people heeds
því, er þá er talat, ok þikir þat vænast ráð, er þá er
that which then is talked and seems that likeliest counsel which then is
nýgjört; nú var þat flutt til þeirra, at þér mundit hvergi
newly-made now was that brought to them that you would nowhere

nær koma þeim her, er þar var samankominn. Talar jarl
near come to-that host which there was gathered Talks (the)-earl
hér um lángt, ok flutti vel ok drengiliga fyrir bænda
here about long and pleaded well and manfully for (the)-farmers'
hönd. Konúngr var heldr styggr, ok var ekki hægt orðum
hand (The)-king was rather stiff and was not easy with-words
við hann at koma; sagði at bændr skyldi ná sættum við
with him to come said that farmers should get settlements with
sik, en hann vildi þó einn ráða þeirra á millum. Síðan
himself but he wished yet alone to-rule them in between Afterward
festu bændr konúngi sjálfdæmi, lagði konúngr stór gjöld á
pledged farmers to-(the)-king self-judgment laid (the)-king great payments on
þá, er hann hafði mest sakir á hendi; létu margir hér stór
them whom he had most charges on hand lost many here great
fé fyrir, ok þótti mönnum þetta mikill afarkostr, en þó
wealth for and seemed to-men this great hard-terms but yet
þótti sá nú hinn bezti til, at láta konúng einn ráða þeirra
seemed that now the best to to let (the)-king alone rule them
á millum, sem þá var komit, en Knútr konúngr vægði þeim
in between as then was come but Knut king spared them
ekki, þvíat þann dóm lét hann hvern hafa, sem honum þótti
not because that judgment let he each have as to-him seemed
þeir sakir til hafa, hvört sem hann var ríkr eðr óríkr; en
they charges to have whether as he was powerful or unpowerful but
þat þótti höfðingjum ofrausn, ok settu mjök hug sinn við,
that seemed to-chieftains overweening and set much mind their against
en þó bar engi traust til at mæla á móti Knúti konúngi.
but yet bore none confidence to to speak in against Knut king

Frá Knúti konúngi

XLV · OF KING KNÚTR

In Jutland Knútr feasted at the farmers' cost and pressed the same charge at every assembly. With him rode Eiríkr jarl, Benedikt, Þórgunna's sons Sveinn and Ástráðr, and Pálmar and Blakkmar, foster-brothers of Queen Eðla.

Knútr konúngr fór þá suðr til Jótlands, ok kom þar mart
Knut king went then south to Jutland and came there much
lið til hans. Konúngr hefir þá miklu meira lið enn hann var
troop to him (The)-king has then much more troop than he was
vanr, ok lét bjóða upp fyrir sér veizlur, þar sem hann vildi
wont and let offer up for himself feasts there where he wished
dveljast, ok lét bændr hafa þar allan kostnað fyrir. Í hverju
to-stay and let farmers have there all cost for In each
héraði þíngar hann við bændr, ok hefir þetta eð sama mál
district holds-assembly he with farmers and has this the same case
upp, ok berr þat á hendr bændum; kallar at þeir hafi gjört
up and bears that on hands farmers calls that they have done
honum svívirðíng, er þeir vildu eigi veita honum hlýðni:
him disgrace when they wished not to-grant him obedience
eptir því sem þér voruð skyldir til. Konúngr talar lángt ok
after that which you were bound to (The)-king talks long and
snjalt ok stirt á hendr bændum, ok fanst þar mart í
eloquently and stiffly on hands farmers and was-found there much in
orðum hans, er til sakargipta var við þá. Bændr svöruðu
words his which to accusations was against them Farmers answered
fyrir sik, ok færðust undan öllum sökum, en þó í
for themselves and excused-themselves from all charges but yet in
annann stað sáu þeir, at þeir máttu eigi deila kappi við Knút
other place saw they that they could not contend with-zeal with Knut

konúng, þvíat hann hafði mikinn styrk fjölmennis, þvíat hann
king because he had great strength of-multitude because he
hafði til sín boðit mörgum ríkismönnum. Þar var þá með
had to himself summoned many men-of-rank There was then with
Knúti konúngi Eiríkr jarl, bróðir hans, ok Benedikt, Sveinn ok
Knut king Eirik earl brother his and Benedikt Svein and
Ástráðr Þórgunnu synir; þar voru ok með konúngi bræðr 2,
Astrad of-Thorgunna sons there were also with (the)-king brothers two
hét annar Pálmar, en annar Blakkmar, þeir voru fóstbræðr
was-called one Palmar but (the)-other Blakkmar they were foster-brothers
Eðlu drotníngar, er Knútr konúngr átti; þeir voru miklir
of-Edla queen whom Knut king had they were great
menn ok sterkir, ok höfðu gott yfirlát af konúngi. Margir
men and strong and had good favor from (the)-king Many
menn voru þeir með konúnginum, er mikils voru verðir.
men were they with the-king who much were worthy

Frá Þorði skora

XLVI · OF ÞÓRÐR SKORI

Þórðr skori and Tólar verpill, bailiffs in Vendilskagi, raised the farmers against Knútr as a robber king. Þórðr asked each man to hand him his movable wealth as a pledge of faith, and the assembly made him leader; they marched to guard the ford on the king's road and sent out spies, learning the king feasted at Sævarendi.

Þórðr skori hét maðr, en annarr Tólar verpill, þeir voru
Thord Skori was-called a-man but (the)-other Tolar Verpil they were
sýslumenn Knúts konúngs vestr á Vendilskaga, þar sem
bailiffs of-Knut king west in Vendilskagi there where
heitir Hjarranda sýsla; þat er einn útskagi vestr af Jótlandi.
is-called Hjarrandi district that is one out-cape west from Jutland

Þetta ríki er fátækt hjá því sem annat ríki í Danmörk.
This realm is poor beside that which other realm in Denmark
Þaðan voru þeir ættaðir Ásbjörn jarl ok Eyvindr bifra;
Thence were they born-of-a-line Asbjorn earl and Eyvind Bifra
þar heita síðan Ásbjarnarbúðir ok Eyvindarbúðir, er þeir
there are-called afterward Asbjarnarbudir and Eyvindarbudir where they
voru fæddir. Þeir Þórðr ok Tólar spurðu, at Knútr konúngr
were born They Thord and Tolar learned that Knut king
var á Jótlandi, ok þat með, hvar sem konúngr fór; átti
was in Jutland and that with wherever as (the)-king went had
hann þíng við bændr ok stefnur, ok lagði á þá stór
he assemblies with farmers and meetings and laid on them great
gjöld. Þeir spurðu ok at konúngr ætlaði þeim slíkan kost
payments They learned also that (the)-king intended them such choice
Vandilsbyggjum sem öðrum mönnum, ok við þessa frétt
Vendil-dwellers as other men and at this news
stefndi þíng Þórðr við bændr, ok boðar þar til öllum
summoned an-assembly Thord with farmers and bids there to all
sínum mönnum, sem helzt voru þar ráðsmenn ok nökkurs
his men who most were there counsel-men and of-anything
virðir, ok er þing var sett, var þángat komit mikit
esteemed and when (the)-assembly was set was thither come great
fjölmenni. Þá stóð Þórðr skori upp ok mælti svá: spurt
multitude Then stood Thord Skori up and spoke so learned
munut þér hafa til konúngs þessa, er hann ferr yfir landit
will you have of king this how he goes over the-land
með rán ok hrips; hefir hann ok safnat at sér miklu
with robbery and plunder has he also gathered to himself great
Vendil fólki mörgum til óþurftar; er þó þess at vænta, at
Vendil folk to-many for harm is yet that to expect that
sjálfum honum gegni þó verst; þvíat hann hefir nær öngva
himself to-him serve yet worst because he has nearly no

dugandi menn með sér, ok er þess von at fáir munu til
doughty men with himself and is that expected that few will to
verða at þjóna honum, þeir er manndómsmenn vilja vera;
become to serve him those who men-of-worth will be
þvíat hann er ótrúr maðr ok ágjarn, svá at hann kann
because he is an-unfaithful man and greedy so that he knows
ekki hóf, því má hann heldr kalla at réttu víkíng enn
no measure therefore may he rather call by right viking than
konúng, hefir hann nú suma höfðingja drepna, ok gjört
king has he now some chieftains killed and made
at óbótamönnum, svá at frændrnir skulu önga sæmd fyrir
into outlaws so that the-kinsmen shall no honor for
taka, suma hefir hann af landi rekit fyrir öngvar tilgjörðir,
take some has he from land driven for no doings
en alla lagit í þján ok í þrælkan; mán þetta ófrelsi
but all laid in thralldom and in bondage will this unfreedom
ok ánauð aldri afgánga, meðan hann lifir, ok er þat furða,
and oppression never pass-off while he lives and is that wonder
er menn þola honum hverja óhæfu, er hann tekr til; nú
that men bear him each outrage which he takes to now
mun ek birta minn vilja hérum, at ek vil eigi hafa hans
will I show my will hereabout that I will not have his
ofsa yfir mér; sé ek eigi mun duga svá fátæku fólki, sem
arrogance over me see I not will avail so poor folk as
hér er með oss, at hafa slíkar pyndíngar af honum, sem
here is with us to have such oppressions from him as
annarstaðar hefir nú viðgengizt; nú er híngat torfæra mikil,
elsewhere has now gone-on now is hither a-bad-passage great
sem þér vitið, fyrir sakir fena ok vatna, ok ef yðr lízt sem
as you know for sake of-fens and lakes and if to-you seems as
mér, þá munum vér eigi bíða heima þessa vanréttar. Nú vil
to-me then will we not wait at-home this wrong Now wish

ek at þér segið yðvarn vilja hérum, eða hvört þér vilit því
I that you say your will hereabout or whether you will that
játa, sem ek vil, upp taka, eða vilið þér taka yðr annat
grant which I wish up take or will you take for-yourselves other
ráð. Þeir kvoðust hans forsjá hlíta mundu um þetta
counsel They said-of-themselves his foresight trust would about this
vandkvæði, höfum vér þat reynt lengi, at þín forsjá hefir oss
difficulty have we that proven long that your foresight has us
vel í hald komit. Þórðr svarar: eigi vil ek til þessa ens mikla
well in stead come Thord answers not will I to this the great
vandamáls, sem mér lízt þetta, einsaman vera, heldr allir
difficult-matter as to-me seems this alone be rather all
í einu jáyrði vera, þvíat mér kemr þat í hug, ef Knútr
in one yes-word be because to-me comes that into mind if Knut
konúngr kemr hér at vitja vor, ok eigi hann tal við yðr,
king comes here to visit us and have he talk with you
at hann flyti svá sitt mál, at yðr þiki þat sannast, sem
that he plead so his case that to-you seem that truest which
þá talar hann, þvíat hann er maðr orðsnjallr ok brögdóttr
then talks he because he is a-man word-eloquent and tricky
ok undirhyggjumaðr mikill; mun yðr hann vera slægvitr, ok
and a-deep-schemer great will to-you he be sly-witted and
vandséð er við honum, ef þér hlýðit nokkut því, er hann
hard-to-guard is against him if you heed anything that which he
mælir. Nú vil ek at þér festið með því trúnað yðvarn við
says Now wish I that you pledge with that faithfulness your toward
mik, at hverr sá maðr, er nokkut er eigandi, fái mér í
me that each that man who anything is owning give me into
hendr lausafé sín öll, ok vil ek þat varðveita, þar til er
hands movable-wealth his all and will I that keep there till when
nokkur úrskurðr verðr þessa máls; en ef þér erut truir við
some ruling becomes of-this case but if you are true toward

mik, at halda þetta, sem nú höfum vér mælt, þá skulu þér
me to hold this as now have we spoken then shall you
taka við fé yðru, en ef þér bregðizt mér í trúnaðinum,
take with wealth your but if you fail me in the-faithfulness
þá mun auðsærr minn kostr, ok verði konúngr vís þessarar
then will easy-seen my choice and becomes (the)-king aware of-this
ráðagjörðar, at þér munut fá af honum stórar refsíngar,
plotting that you will get from him great punishments
þótt þér haldit lífinu, ok mun þó kallaðar nógar sakir til.
though you keep the-life and will yet called enough charges to
Tólar verpill svarar: vitum vér um þetta alþýðu vilja,
Tolar Verpil answers know we about this (the)-common-people's will
at engi vill hér leggja sitt mál á konúngs vald, þótt hann
that none will here lay his case on (the)-king's power though he
gjöri sik svá stóran, at hann hyggist muni gánga með
make himself so great that he thinks-himself will go with
ófriði um allt þetta land; er þat vor vill, at nú taki menn
unpeace over all this land is that our will that now take men
nokkut skjótt ráð; viljum vér, Þórðr! at þú sér fyrir þessu
some quick counsel wish we Thord that you be before this
liði öllu, þvíat þú ert vor vitrastr. Þá mælti Þórðr: hvört
troop all because you are our wisest Then spoke Thord whether
er þetta vill allra ok samþykki, þeirra sem nú eru hér
is this will of-all and consent of-them who now are here
samankomnir. Því játuðu þeir allir, er þar voru. Þat ráð
gathered That granted they all who there were That counsel
vil ek furst gjöra, sagði Þórðr, at vér haldim safnaðinum,
will I first make said Thord that we hold the-gathering
svá at vér látim öngvan í braut, er nú er hér kominn,
so that we let none off away who now is here come
heldr söfnum vér við, förum síðan til ár þeirrar, er á
rather gather we to go-we afterward to river that which on

veg Knúts konúngs er, ef hann vill híngat fara til vor; ok
way of-Knut king is if he will hither go to us and
ef þeir vilja híngat leita til vor, þá skulum vér verja þeim
if they will hither seek to us then shall we defend them
vaðit. Eptir þetta var slitit þínginu, ok fóru þeir með allan
the-ford After this was broken the-assembly and went they with all
þenna her, þar til er þeir koma til árinnar. Þar spurðu þeir
this host there till when they come to the-river There learned they
þau tíðindi at Knútr konúngr var eigi þaðan lángt i burt
those tidings that Knut king was not thence far off away
at veizlu, þar sem heitir at Sævarenda, þat er í innanverðum
at a-feast there where is-called at Saevarendi that is in inner
Limafirði; gjörðu þeir þá frá sér njósnarmenn, ok létu
Limfjord made they then from themselves spies and let
vita um Knút konúng eða fjölmenni hans.
know about Knut king or following his

Frá Knúti konúngi

XLVII · OF KING KNÚTR

Knútr sent Sveinn and Ástráðr with sixty men to levy payment in Vendilskagi; at the ford the farmers met them with stones and shot, and Ástráðr turned his brother's horse back by force. Knútr, refusing to fight his own people, sent the courteous Tóli to bid them disperse, and went on to Fjón.

Knútr konúngr var á veizlu á Sævarenda, sem fyrr var sagt.
Knut king was at a-feast at Saevarendi as before was said
Konúngr ætlaði at senda menn vestr til þeirra Vendilskaganna
(The)-king intended to send men west to those the-Vendil-cape-men
ok leggja gjald á þá. Knútr konúngr nefnir til þessarar
and lay payment on them Knut king names to this

ferðar Svein ok Ástráð Þórgunnu syni, þeir höfðu með
journey Svein and Astrad of-Thorgunna sons they had with
sér 60 manna; ekki höfðu þeir spurt liðsafnaðinn þeirra
themselves sixty men not had they learned the-troop-gathering of-them
Þórðar. Þeir bræðr fóru til þess, er þeir komu að einni
of-Thord Those brothers went till that when they came to one
mikilli á, öðrumegin árinnar var her mikill með alvæpni,
great river (the)-other-side of-the-river was a-host great with full-arms
ok fylktu þegar á árbakkanum við vaðit, er þeir bræðr riðu
and drew-up at-once on the-river-bank by the-ford when those brothers rode
at ánni. Þá mælti Sveinn Þórgunnuson: þessir gánga vel í
to the-river Then spoke Svein Thorgunna's-son these go well in
móti at færa oss skattinn ok gjaldit, munu þeir ok vita at
against to bring us the-tax and the-payment will they also know that
oss er ókunnigt, hafa þeir miklu betr gjört enn margir hafa
to-us is unknown have they much better done than many have
til getið, skulum vér þá vel flytja þeirra mál. Ástráðr svarar:
to guessed shall we then well plead their case Astrad answers
ekki veit ek þat, mér þikkja þeir ekki vera svá trúligir. Þeir
not know I that to-me seem they not be so trustworthy They
Þórðr heyrðu hvat þeir töluðu, ok þá svarar Tólar verpill:
Thord heard what they talked and then answers Tolar Verpil
þér skulið eigi svá verða bráðfegnir, þvíat ek vænti þess
you shall not so become quick-glad because I expect that
at sama gjald hafit þér héðan, sem yðr er makligt; er
that same payment have you hence as to-you is fitting is
þat hin mestu firn, at þér ætlit fyrir at leggja á allt fólk
that the greatest outrage that you intend for to lay on all folk
ánauðarok, er ok þess von at þér finnit sjálfa yðr fyrir;
a-yoke-of-bondage is also that expected that you find selves yourselves before
eru menn þess latari þó, en líkindi stæði til, munut þér
are men of-that lazier yet than likelihood stood to will you

ok yðrum ójafnaði annarsstaðar meirr framkoma enn hér, ok
also your injustice elsewhere more bring-forth than here and
sækit at, ef þér þorit. Þá svarar Sveinn Þórgunnuson: þessir
seek at-us if you dare Then answers Svein Thorgunna's-son these
eru orðstórir, eða hvað lízt yðr ráð? skulu vér ekki ráða
are big-worded or what seems to-you counsel shall we not ride
til árinnar? Ástráðr svarar: nú fór sem mik grunaði, að þeir
to the-river Astrad answers now went as me suspected that they
mundu eigi færa oss neitt gjald, þat er konúngi sé gagn í,
would not bring us any payment that which to-(the)-king be gain in
ok ekki sýnist oss þat ráð at ríða á ána, þvíat þeir hafa
and not seems to-us that counsel to ride on the-river because they have
her manns; en nú þarf ekki at dyljast við, hvat þeir vilja.
a-host of-men but now needs not to hide-oneself about what they wish
Sveinn svarar: ekki mun konúngi þikja rekit erindi sitt, er
Svein answers not will to-(the)-king seem done errand his is
þat ok svá, ef vér eigumst ekki fleira við, ok ekki er þat mitt
that also so if we have not more with and not is that my
ráð at vér flýjum fyrir stóryrði ein saman; skulum vér víst
counsel that we flee before big-words alone together shall we surely
herða áfram, ok svá gjöra þeir. Hinir skjóta þegar á þá ok
press onward and so do they The-others shoot at-once at them and
grýta; geingr þeim seint framreiðin, hlífar þeirra lömdust af
stone goes to-them slowly the-riding-forth shields their were-battered by
grjóti, en urðu sjálfir sárir af skotum. Þá mælti Ástráðr:
stones but became themselves wounded by shots Then spoke Astrad
snúum aptr, segir hann, ok hefði betra fyrr verit. Sveinn
turn-we back says he and had better before been Svein
kvað þat aldrei vera skyldu, ok keyrði hestinn með sporum.
said that never be should and drove the-horse with spurs
Þá tók Ástráðr í beizlis taumana, ok snéri aptr hestinum
Then took Astrad in (the)-bridle's reins and turned back the-horse

undir honum, ok lét hann þessu eigi ráða, þvíat hann sá at
under him and let him this not rule because he saw that
þat var hin mesta ófæra. Hann var manna sterkastr, ok
that was the greatest impassable-way He was of-men strongest and
mátti Sveinn öngu um ráða; snúa þá ok aptr allir förunautar
could Svein nothing about rule turn then also back all companions
þeirra. Sveinn var nú hinn reiðasti, ok fór aptr til þess,
their Svein was now the angriest and went back till that
er hann fann Knút konúng, ok sögðu honum sín erindi.
when he found Knut king and told him their errand
Konúngr var þá búinn af veizlunni á Sævarenda. Konúngr
(The)-king was then ready from the-feast at Saevarendi (The)-king
varð styggr við þessa ræðu. Sveinn var hinn óðasti, ok
became stiff at this speech Svein was the most-furious and
bað konúng senda eptir mönnum allavega, ok fara síðan
bade (the)-king send for men all-ways and go afterward
til móts við þessa menn, ok berjast við þá, ok reka slíkar
to meeting with these men and fight with them and drive such
vanmennur af sér: eru þetta hin mestu firn, segir hann,
wretches from himself are these the greatest outrages says he
er þeir hafa upphlaupit til ófriðar, ok gjört styrjöld á móti
that they have risen to unpeace and made strife in against
yðr, sem enskis eru verðir; skyldum vér þeim þann ófagnað
you who of-nothing are worthy should we to-them that ill-welcome
gjöra, er þeir mætti lengi muna. Konúngr svarar: óðr er
do which they might long remember (The)-king answers furious is
Sveinn nú, ok ekki væri þeir þess ómakligir, en þó munum
Svein now and not were they of-that undeserving but yet will
vér annat ráð hér fyrr gjöra, enn berjast við menn mína;
we other counsel here first make than fight with men my
munum vér enn senda menn vora til þeirra, mun þá þessi
will we still send men our to them will then this

ófriðr stöðvast, en ek mun fara norðr til Fjóns, sem ek hefi
unpeace be-stopped but I will go north to Fyn as I have
ætlat. Konúngr kallar þá til sín höfðíngja, þann er Tóli
intended (The)-king calls then to himself a-chieftain that-one who Toli
hét, hann var kynstórr ok hinn kurteisasti maðr. Konúngr
was-called he was great-in-kin and the most-courteous man (The)-king
mælti til hans: þú skalt fara til móts við Vendilskagana, ok
spoke to him you shall go to meeting with the-Vendil-cape-men and
seg þeim at þeir fari heim til hýbýla sinna, ok eyði flokki
tell them that they go home to dwellings their and disband band
sínum, fari síðan á minn fund, ok semjum þá sættir vorar.
their go afterward to my meeting and make-we then settlements our
Eptir þat ferr Knútr konúngr norðr til Fjóns, ok fór þar
After that goes Knut king north to Fyn and went there
at veizlum. Tóli fór ok sinnar ferðar, ok hafði 60 manna.
to feasts Toli went also his journey and had sixty men

Fall Tóla

XLVIII · THE FALL OF TÓLI

The rising swelled as it went. From a tower in a village Tóli urged them to seek the king's mercy, and many were swayed; Þórðr called him a liar, seized a spear, and shot him dead.

Þat er að segja frá ferðum þeirra Þórðar skora, at þeir
That is to tell of journeys of-them Thord Skori that they
stefna þá ena sömu leið, sem þeir Þórgunnu synir höfðu
head then the same way as they of-Thorgunna sons had
undanfarit; gjöra þeir þat nú öllum mönnum kunnigt, at
gone-before make they that now to-all men known that

þeir ætli með her þenna á móti Knúti konúngi, ok fór
they intend with host this in against Knut king and went
þetta lið æst mjök; ok svá sem menn spurðu þessa
this troop stirred-up much and so as men learned this
nýjúng, þá hljóp þar hverr til, sem kominn var, ok áðr
news then ran there each to who come was and before
var staddr, ok sögðust æ vilja í flokkinn; varð þetta
was placed and said-of-themselves ever to-wish into the-band became this
brátt múgr manns, ok hvar sem þeir komu, höfðu þeir
soon a-multitude of-men and wherever as they came had they
þat sem þeir vildu. Þetta spurði Tóli ok hans menn, voru
that which they wished This learned Toli and his men were
þeir þá komnir hjá þorpi einu, er þeir sáu herinn. Þeir
they then come beside village one when they saw the-host They
Tóli gengu upp í staðinn, þvíat menn eggjuðu þá þess,
Toli went up into the-town because men urged them that
sögðust þat ætla at þeir mundu fáss letjast at gera,
said-of-themselves that think that they would of-little be-dissuaded to do
er höfðíngjar voru fyrir liðinu. Tóli gengr upp í einn
since chieftains were before the-troop Toli goes up into one
turn, ok nokkurir menn með honum, ok vildi sjá herinn,
tower and some men with him and wished to-see the-host
er þar færi hjá, vildi hann skynja sem gerst, hve mikit
which there went by wished he to-discern as closest how great
lið þetta væri; hann ætlaði ok at tala þaðan konúngs erindi.
troop this were he intended also to talk thence (the)-king's errand
Þeir Þórðr höfðu spurt áðr, at konúngr hafði sent menn til
They Thord had learned before that (the)-king had sent men to
móts við þá, ok svá hvar þeir væri nú komnir. Þeir fara nú
meeting with them and so where they were now come They go now
fram hjá staðnum, ok stöðva þá herinn. Þórðr spurði hvört
forth beside the-town and stop then the-host Thord asked whether

nokkurir konúngsmenn væri þar í staðnum. Honum var sagt
any king's-men were there in the-town To-him was said
at þeir væri þar, ok vildu hann finna. Þórðr gekk þá upp
that they were there and wished him to-find Thord went then up
í staðinn með mikla sveit manna, ok þángat til er Tóli
into the-town with great following of-men and thither till when Toli
stóð í turninum, ok spurði hvört erindi hann vildi flytja.
stood in the-tower and asked what errand he wished to-bring
Tóli mælti svá: hvert ætlið þér her þessum, er mörgum
Toli spoke so whither intend you host this is to-many
mönnum þar forvitni á, hví þér hafit þetta á hendr tekizt,
men there curiosity about why you have this on hands taken
at efna til ófriðar hér innanlands, ok muntu ok hafa einurð
to stir to unpeace here inland and will-you also have frankness
til at segja, hvat þér berizt fyrir. Þórðr svarar: rétt gaztu
to to say what you bear for Thord answers right guessed-you
þar, Tóli! at ek skal hafa dreingskap til ok framkvæmd
there Toli that I shall have manliness to and enterprise
til þess, at segja þér þetta, þó at þú sért allmikill vin
to that to tell you this though that you be very-great friend
konúngsins: vér ætlum þessi ferð eigi fyrr at létta, enn
of-the-king we intend this journey not before to cease than
vér finnum konúnginn, ef hann þorir at bíða vor, ok ef svá
we find the-king if he dares to wait for-us and if so
ferr sem vér vildum, þá mun Knútr konúngr eigi kunna at
goes as we wished then will Knut king not be-able to
segja frá tíðindum. Þá svarar Tóli: þessi ætlan er stórum
tell of tidings Then answers Toli this intention is greatly
óheppilig, ok mun yðr at illu verða, sem makligt er, ef
unlucky and will to-you to ill become as fitting is if
þér haldið þessu fram; gjörið heldr, sem yðr samir, snúið
you hold this forth do rather as to-you befits turn

sem skjótast frá þessu óráði, er þat með öllu ógjöranda, at
as quickest from this folly is that in all not-to-be-done to
hatast við svá dýran herra, sem vér eigum. Þjónum heldr
be-at-enmity with so dear lord as we have Serve-we rather
honum, sem vér kunnum bezt, þat er vor skylda, þvíat vér
him as we can best that is our duty because we
eigum konúng ríkan ok stjórnsaman, trúan ok siðgóðan,
have a-king powerful and masterful true and good-mannered
vitran ok örlátan, ok at öllu betr mentan enn allir aðrir í
wise and open-handed and in all better educated than all others in
þessu landi; mun þá raun ágefa um konúnginn, at munu
this land will then proof give about the-king that will
sannorðari menn hans, er til hans mæla vel, enn hinir,
truer-spoken men his who to him speak well than the-others
er honum hallmæla. Nú er þat boð konúngs til allra
who him blame Now is that (the)-command of-(the)-king to all
þeirra manna, er undir hans ríki búa, ok hafa nokkut
those men who under his realm dwell and have something
gjört aflaga við hann, at hann vill unna þeim sætta
done amiss toward him that he will grant them settlements
við sik; vill hann at menn leggi sitt mál á hans vald
with himself wishes he that men lay their case on his power
ok miskunn, sem vera á; vill hann ok halda við yðr Dani
and mercy as be on will he also hold with you Danes
lög ok fornan landsrétt, en hafa þar á móti hlýðni ok
laws and old land-right but have there in against obedience and
trúliga fylgð. Lítið nú á, hvat yðr samir, en þótt þér hafit
faithful following Look now on what to-you befits but though you have
mikit fjölmenni nú, þá mun þó vera mikill hamingjuskortr
great multitude now then will yet be great luck-lack
við Knút konúng, þvíat svá hefir þeim verit, er meiri
against Knut king because so has to-them been who greater

stórbokkar ok ríkari hafa verit enn þér. Gjörið nú fyrir guðs
big-men and mightier have been than you Do now for God's
sakir, góðir drengir! segir hann, ok yðra nauðsyn, setið niðr
sake good fellows says he and your need set down
þenna storm, ok víkizt til sætta við konúng yðvarn,
this storm and turn-yourselves to settlements with king your
mun yðr þat enn auðvelt vera, þegar hann sér, at þér
will to-you that still easy be as-soon-as he sees that you
þikizt ofgjört hafa, þvíat hann líknar hvers manns
think-yourselves too-much-done have because he shows-mercy to-each man's
máli, því meir sem stærra hefir afgjört verit við hann;
case the more as greater has done been against him
skulum vér ok flytja yðvart mál, sem vér kunnum, ef þér
shall we also plead your case as we can if you
villt þetta gjöra nú fyrir mín orð. En er Tóli lauk máli
will this do now for my words But when Toli ended speech
sínu, þá svarar Þórðr skori: þessi maðr hefir mart mælt um
his then answers Thord Skori this man has much spoken for
hríð ok flest ósatt; er hann raunar einn falsari, skuluð þér
a-while and most untrue is he really one deceiver shall you
ekki hans orðum trúa; hefir konúngr sett hann til at tala
not his words trust has (the)-king set him to to speak
mál sitt, ok ætlar at menn skuli trúnað á leggja á slíkt;
case his and intends that men shall trust on lay on such
nú gefum vér öngvan gaum at því, er hann flytr! Margir
now give we no heed to that which he pleads Many
menn mæltu, at Tóli hefði vel mælt ok sannliga, ok væri
men spoke that Toli had well spoken and truly and were
þat nú ráð at víkjast eptir hans orðum, ok sættast við
that now counsel to turn after his words and be-reconciled with
konúng. Þórðr tók þá spjót úr hendi manni, er stóð
(the)-king Thord took then a-spear out-of hand of-a-man who stood

hjá honum, hann skaut spjótinu upp í turninn, þar er
beside him he shot the-spear up into the-tower there where
Tóli stóð, ok kom á hann miðjan, ok fékk hann þegar
Toli stood and came on him middle and got he at-once
bana; þótti þetta mörgum manni mikill skaði.
death seemed this to-many a-man great loss

Frá Þórði skora

XLIX · OF ÞÓRÐR SKORI

The rebels killed the king's steward at Sævarendi and plundered the estate, and the great men who hated Knútr joined them, Ásbjörn jarl and Eyvindr bifra among them. Ásbjörn took command, and the host moved to Randárós.

Eptir þetta héldu þeir Þórðr fram ferð sinni, þartil er
After this held they Thord forth journey their there-till when
þeir komu til Sævarenda á veizlu, þar sem Knútr konúngr
they came to Saevarendi to (the)-feast there where Knut king
hafði verit; þat var eitt ríkt konúngsbú, ok réð þar fyrir
had been that was one powerful king's-farm and ruled there over
ármaðr konúngs; þeir drápu ármanninn, en ræntu fé öllu;
(the)-steward of-(the)-king they killed the-steward but robbed wealth all
þeir spurðu at Knútr konúngr var farinn norðr til Fjóns,
they learned that Knut king was gone north to Fyn
ok hafði lítit lið. Þeir sendu nú orð höfðíngjum þeim, er
and had little troop They sent now word to-chieftains those who
þar voru næstir ok ríkum bændum, ok létu segja þeim,
there were nearest and to-powerful farmers and let tell them
í hvert efni komit var um þessa ráðagjörð; báðu þá nú
into what state come was about this plotting bade them now

minniga vera þeirra mótgjörða, er Knútr konúngr hafði
mindful be of-those offenses which Knut king had
veitt þeim. Þetta þikir öllum mönnum mikil undr, at þessir
given them This seems to-all men great wonder that these
menn hafa gjörzt til svá mikils stórræðis, er náliga voru
men have become to so great undertaking who nearly were
með öngum merkjum. Nú kom þat fram, er fyrr var ritat,
with no marks Now came that forth which before was written
at margir höfðíngjar voru mjök fjandskapaðir við Knút
that many chieftains were much hostile toward Knut
konúng, þvíat þeir þoldu honum eigi réttindi, voru því
king because they bore him not justice were therefore
flestir fljótir til uppreistar í móti honum, ok þurftu litla
most quick to uprising in against him and needed little
frameggjan aðra. Bjóst nú svá hverr, sem spurði þessi
urging-on other Readied-himself now so each as learned these
tíðendi, var þar á fáum dögum svá mikill her saman kominn
tidings was there in few days so great host together come
at varla fékst talit; voro þá ok í því liði margir stórir
that scarcely was-got counted were then also in that troop many great
höfðíngjar. Þar var kominn Ásbjörn Eydana jarl ok Eyvindr
chieftains There was come Asbjorn of-Isle-Danes earl and Eyvind
bifra, þvíat þar voru áðr í liði með Þórði margir frændr
Bifra because there were before in troop with Thord many kinsmen
þeirra ok vinir ok kunníngíar, er komnir voro vestan
their and friends and acquaintances who come were from-the-west
af Vendilskaga. Tók þá Ásbjörn jarl alla stjórn á þessu
from Vendilskagi Took then Asbjorn earl all command over this
liði. Fóru þeir þá með her þenna norðr í Randárós, ok
troop Went they then with host this north into Randaros and
dvöldust þar nokkrar nætr; kom þar enn mart lið til þeirra.
stayed there some nights came there still much troop to them

On Fjón Knútr heard of Tóli's death and the rising and found the districts would stand by neither side. He sent Queen Eðla, his son Karl, and his treasure to her father in Flanders.

Knútr konúngr var norðr á Fjóni, þá er hann spurði
Knut king was north on Fyn then when he learned
dráp Tóla ok liðsdrátt bænda, ok þann er höfðíngjar
(the)-killing of-Toli and (the)-troop-drawing of-farmers and that which chieftains
höfðu samandregit á móti honum, ok þat með at þeir höfðu
had drawn-together in against him and that with that they had
óflýanda her, ok þat eina at þeir ætluðu at honum at stefna.
an-unfleeable host and that one that they intended to him to head
Hann stefndi til sín liði þar af héruðum, ok lagði ríkt
He summoned to himself troop there from districts and laid strictly
við, en þar höfðu allir ein svör fyrir sér, at hvorigum
with but there had all one answer for themselves that to-neither
mundu þeir veita, konúngi né bændum. Knútr konúngr sendi
would they grant to-(the)-king nor to-farmers Knut king sent
ok menn á fund Eðlu drotníngar, konu sinnar, ok bað hana
also men to meeting of-Edla queen wife his and bade her
fara af landi í brott sem fyrst, á fund Baldvina hertuga
go from land off away as soonest to meeting of-Baldwin duke
föður síns í Flæmíngjaland, ok hafa með sér Karl, son
father her into Flanders and have with herself Karl son
þeirra Knúts konúngs, ok allt lausafé, þat er hún mætti
their of-Knut king and all movable-wealth that which she might
með komast, ok dýrgripi, þá er hún mætti vel með fara.
with get and treasures those which she might well with go

Frá bóndum

LI · OF THE FARMERS

At Randárós Ásbjörn jarl offered to go to the king himself under color of peace and spy out his strength, while Eyvindr bifra drove the host on. Þórðr skori and Tólar verpill went home, content that the king's death was now in others' hands.

Nú er at segja frá bændum ok her þeirra, at þeir voru
Now is to tell of farmers and host their that they were
í Randárósi, ok afla sér þar skipa, ok ætla at flytja
in Randaros and get for-themselves there ships and intend to carry
herinn norðr yfir sundit. Þá kvaddi Ásbjörn jarl þings, ok
the-host north over the-sound Then summoned Asbjorn earl an-assembly and
talar fyrir liðinu ok mælti svá: hverja ætlan hafi þér á um
talks before the-troop and spoke so what intention have you on about
fund þenna, er þér skulið eiga við Knút konúng; nú þó
meeting this which you shall have with Knut king now though
at hann hafi lítit lið hjá her þeim enum mikla, er þér
that he have little troop beside host that the great which you
hafið, þá mun þó þurfa nokkut ráð annat fyrir at gjöra, ef
have then will yet need some counsel other for to make if
hlýða skal, þvíat hann hefir einvala lið, ok kænt í orrostu;
heed shall because he has a-picked troop and skilled in battle
mun yðr Knútr konúngr verða brögðóttr ok slægvitr, hefir
will to-you Knut king become tricky and sly-witted has
hann fengit njósn af ferð vorri; þætti mér ráðligt at
he got word of journey our would-seem to-me advisable that
nokkur vitr maðr færi á konúngs fund af liði voru
some wise man went to (the)-king's meeting from troop our
með sættarboðum, ok mætti þá skynja fjölmenni hans eðr
with settlement-offers and might then discern multitude his or

ráðagjörð hans, hvat hann ætlast fyrir. Þetta þótti mönnum
plotting his what he intends for-himself This seemed to-men
þjóðráð, en þó voru menn til þessar ferðar ófúsir. Þá
a-capital-counsel but yet were men to this journey unwilling Then
mælti jarl: mun eigi þat ráð, at ek fara þessa ferð á
spoke (the)-earl will not that counsel that I go this journey to
fund konúngs, við höfum opt brögðum beizt. Síðan fór
meeting of-(the)-king we-two have often with-tricks contended Afterward went
jarl á skip yfir sundit með nokkura menn, en annat liðit
(the)-earl on ship over the-sound with some men but (the)-other troop
fluttist síðar yfir sundit. Eyvindr bifra var þá fyrir liðinu,
was-carried later over the-sound Eyvind Bifra was then before the-troop
ok var engi grimmari konúngi né verri í sínum tillögum, ok
and was none grimmer to-(the)-king nor worse in his counsels and
meiri hvatamaðr, at þetta skyldi sem fyrst framgengt verða.
greater urger that this should as soonest carried-out become
Var svá tilætlat at jarl skyldi koma aptr til liðsins, er
Was so intended that (the)-earl should come back to the-troop when
hann hefði áðr fundit Knút konúng, ok skynjat liðsfjölda
he had before found Knut king and discerned troop-number
hans ok ráðagerðir. Ok er liðit bjóst til skipferðar
his and plans And when the-troop readied-itself for ship-journey
or Randárósi, þá mælti Þórðr skori við Tólar verpil félaga
out-of Randaros then spoke Thord Skori to Tolar Verpil comrade
sinn: nú munum vér snúa aptr með vort lið, þvíat nú eru
his now will we turn back with our troop because now are
hér komnir svá margir ríkir menn ok stórir höfðíngjar, at
here come so many powerful men and great chieftains that
til vor mun nú þikja lítit ráðaskot, en þó höfum vér mikit
to us will now seem little counsel-share but yet have we much
áunnit í vorri ferð; þvíat þess er nú mest von, at þessi
won in our journey because that is now most expected that this

herr stöðvist eigi fyrr, enn þat er ígert, er öllum er mest
host stop not before than that is done which to-all is most
nauðsyn í ok happ, at Knútr konúngr sé drepinn. Síðan
need in and luck that Knut king be killed Afterward
skildust þeir úr hernum með sína menn, ok gaf engi maðr
parted they from the-host with their men and gave no man
at því gaum, miklu var meiri þys ok kall um herinn allan.
to that heed much was greater din and shouting through the-host all

Frá Ásbirni jarli

LII · OF ÁSBJÖRN JARL

Ásbjörn came to Knútr at Óðinsey professing loyalty and urged him to flee. Benedikt called him a traitor and would have seized him, but Knútr would not flee his enemies and sent him back to offer the farmers the old law.

Ábjörn jarl fór nú á fund Knúts konúngs með sínum
Asbjorn earl went now to meeting of-Knut king with his
mönnum; en er hann kemr á fund Knúts konúngs, gekk
men but when he comes to meeting of-Knut king went
hann fyrir hann, ok heilsar uppá konúnginn. Konúngr tók
he before him and greets upon the-king (The)-king took
ekki kveðju hans. Jarl mælti svá: spurt munuð þér
not greeting his (The)-earl spoke so learned will you
hafa þau tíðindi, herra! at ófriðr er hafðr í móti yðr;
have those tidings lord that unpeace is had in against you
er at þessu orðinn svá mikill máttr, at hér eru við vafðir
is to this become so great might that here are with wrapped
margir ríkismenn, sýnist oss þetta hið mesta vandræði ok
many men-of-rank seems to-us this the greatest trouble and

níðingsskapr, er þessir menn ætlast fyrir; ok eigi mun
villainy which these men intend for-themselves and not will
ek af mér bera, herra! at eigi hafi ek í liði verit með
I off me bear lord that not have I in troop been with
þeim; er þetta fólk svá íllt ok ært, at þeir vilja öngvan
them is this folk so ill and maddened that they will no
gaum at gefa, því er nýtt er; en fyrir þá sök fór ek í
heed to give to-that which useful is but for that reason went I into
flokkinn, at ek vildi forvitnast, ok svá helzt vís verða, hvat
the-band that I wished to-find-out and so best aware become what
þeir berast fyrir; en ek hugsaða þat með sjálfum mér, sem
they bear for but I thought that with self myself as
mér samir, ok ek veit at mín skylda er, at bregðast yðr
to-me befits and I know that my duty is to fail you
aldri, ok fara þegar á yðvarn fund, ok gjöra yðr kunnigt,
never and go at-once to your meeting and make to-you known
hversu háttat er, veita yðr ok slíkt lið ok allt, sem ek em
how disposed is grant you also such troop and all as I am
í færum um, ef þér þurfit manna við; sjáið þér nú fyrir, ok
in power about if you need men with see you now before and
takit nokkuð gott ráð ok skjótt. Konúngr þakkaði honum,
take some good counsel and quick (The)-king thanked him
ok kvað hann betr hafa farit í þessu máli, enn aðrir gátu
and said him better have gone in this matter than others guessed
til, eða hvað sýnist yðr ráðligast, jarl? legg nú til nokkut,
to or what seems to-you most-advisable earl lay now to something
þvíat þú ert vitr maðr, ef þú ert oss svá hollr, sem þú
because you are a-wise man if you are to-us so loyal as you
segir. Jarl svarar: eigi kann ek yðr ráð at kenna, en
say (The)-earl answers not can I you counsel to teach but
skyldr em ek at tala þat hér um, sem mér sýnist ráðligast;
bound am I to speak that here about as to-me seems most-advisable

þér hafit lítit lið ok vandat mjök, sýnist mér þat ráð at
you have little troop and picked much seems to-me that counsel that
þér leitið undan við svá búit, þángat sem landsmegin er
you seek away with so settled thither where (the)-land's-strength is
meira, ok munuð þér þá brátt fá meira lið; leitið síðan
greater and will you then soon get more troop seek afterward
til fundar við bændr, væri þá níðíngar barðir til batnaðar.
to meeting with farmers were then villains beaten to betterment
Þessu ráði samþykti Eiríkr jarl ok margir aðrir höfðíngjar.
To-this counsel agreed Eirik earl and many other chieftains
Þá svarar Benedikt konúngs bróðir: aldri viljum vér á flótta
Then answers Benedikt (the)-king's brother never will we on flight
leggja fyrir Dönum; væri þat fyrst mitt ráð, at jarl þessi
lay before Danes were that first my counsel that earl this
væri höndum tekinn, svá at hann kæmist eigi með lífi á
were with-hands taken so that he came not with life off
burt, ok víst er þat undarligt, herra! er þér trúið orðum
away and surely is that strange lord that you trust words
Ásbjarnar jarls, ok sé ek glöggt at hann er einn falsari ok
of-Asbjorn earl and see I clearly that he is one deceiver and
drottins svikari. Konúngr svarar: þetta ráð skulum vér hafa,
lord's betrayer (The)-king answers this counsel shall we have
Benedikt! at flýja eigi fund óvina vorra, ráði guð fyrir,
Benedikt to flee not (the)-meeting of-enemies our rule God for
hverr hann verðr; en þú, Ásbjörn jarl! far aptr sömu leið til
which it becomes but you Asbjorn earl go back same way to
bænda, ok seg þeim svá, at vér viljum sættast; vil ek þat
farmers and tell them so that we will be-reconciled will I that
bjóða af minni hendi, at þeir hafi í hvern stað fullan rétt
offer from my hand that they have in each place full right
sinn, sem fórn lög standa til hér í Danmörk, hafa svá gjört
their as old laws stand to here in Denmark have so done

fyrri landshöfðíngjar; en er ek þikjumst eiga saknæmt við
former land-chieftains but where I think-myself have blameworthy with
þá, þá vil ek eiga þar dóm á, ok eigi vil ek at bændr
them then will I have there judgment on and not wish I that farmers
dæmi mitt mál; skaltu nú þetta flytja við bændr, kom aptr
judge my case shall-you now this plead with farmers come back
snart, ef þeir vilja neita friðinum, ok ver oss nú trúr, þvíat
quickly if they will refuse the-peace and be to-us now true because
þat er þín skylda, þvíat þú ert minn undirmaðr, ok heldr
that is your duty because you are my underling and hold
ríki af mér; en ef þú gjörir öðruvís, þá mun guð hefna
realm from me but if you do otherwise then will God avenge
þér, ok margir trúa þér illa; kom nú snart aptr á minn
on-you and many trust you ill come now quickly back to my
fund, þvíat vér munum hér bíða þín. Já, herra! segir hann,
meeting because we will here wait for-you Yes lord says he
ek skal skjótt aptrkoma, ef þér villð ekki mínum orðum
I shall quickly come-back if you will not my words
hlýða, ok allir mínir menn, þvíat nú þurfit þér liðs við.
heed and all my men because now need you troop with
Síðan laut hann konúnginum, ok gekk á burt til sinna
Afterward bowed he to-the-king and went off away to his
manna. Þat var síð dags, er þeir skildu við konúnginn;
men That was late in-day when they parted with the-king
þat var á Fjóni í þeim stað, er heitir í Óðinsve, þar
that was on Fyn in that place which is-called at Odinsey there
var Knútr konúngr á veizlu með öllu liði sínu um nóttina.
was Knut king at a-feast with all troop his for the-night

Frá svikum

LIII · OF TREACHERY

At the Kálfá by Óðinsey Ásbjörn told the farmers the king was doomed and without counsel and urged an attack before he escaped; Eyvindr bifra said he meant to bear weapons on the king himself, and the host pressed forward.

Ásbjörn jarl fór nú til þess, er hann kom á fund bænda,
Asbjorn earl went now till that when he came to meeting of-farmers
var þá liðit komit yfir Meðalfararsund, ok komit af
was then the-troop come over Medalfarar-sound and come off
skipum sínum; spurðu menn þá at fjölmenni konúngs
ships their asked men then after (the)-multitude of-(the)-king
eða um ráðagjörðir. Jarl sagði þá, hvers hann var vís
or about plans (The)-earl said then of-what he was aware
orðinn, sagði at hann þóttist eigi vita, hversu at hans
become said that he thought-himself not know how that his
mál mundi snúast. Jarl segir, hvar konúngr er, eða hvar
case would turn (The)-earl says where (the)-king is or where
hann mundi vera um nóttina; kvað þat nú vera ráð at
he would be for the-night said that now be counsel to
vitja hans, ok bað þá nú eigi dvelja; kveðst nú vænta,
visit him and bade them now not delay says-of-himself now to-expect
at nú mundi yfirtaka, ef auðna vildi til falla með þeim.
that now would over-take if fortune wished to to-fall with them
Voru þá ok bændr svá óðir, at þeir vildu þegar fara
Were then also farmers so furious that they wished at-once to-go
að konúnginum; þeir komu nú at á þeirri, er næst
at the-king they came now to river that which next
er staðnum í Óðinsve, þar sem Knútr konúngr var á
is the-town at Odinsey there where Knut king was at

veizlu; þessi á heitir Kálfá; bændr komu þar snemma um
a-feast this river is-called Kalfa farmers came there early in
morgunin, svá at sól var skamt farin. Ásbjörn jarl skaut
the-morning so that sun was short gone Asbjorn earl called
þá á húsþingi, ok talaði fyrir fólkinu ok mælti svá: ek
then on a-house-assembly and talked before the-folk and spoke so I
fór á fund Knúts konúngs, sem menn vissu, forvitnaðumst
went to meeting of-Knut king as men knew inquired
ek um ráðagjörðir hans ok um fjölmenni hans, er þat
I about plans his and about multitude his is that
þar frá at segja, at ek talaða við konúng, ok fanst mér
there from to tell that I talked with (the)-king and was-found to-me
þá í orðum hans, at hann mundi aungum manni rétts
then in words his that he would to-no man right
vilja unna, hét hann ok yðr bændum hinum mestum
wish grant promised he also you farmers the greatest
afarkostum, þegar hann mætti viðkomast, hefir hann aldri
hard-terms as-soon-as he might get-at has he never
verit orðstærri til yðar Dana, enn svá sem nú var hann.
been bigger-worded toward you Danes than so as now was he
Nú er yðr þat at segja í annann stað, at ek hygg þat
Now is to-you that to tell in other place that I think that
at konúngrinn sé feigr, svá lízt mér nú á hann, var hann
that the-king be doomed so seems to-me now on him was he
nú með öllu ráðlaus, en þat hefir honum ekki orðit fyrr,
now in all counsel-less but that has to-him not happened before
þvíat hann er vitr maðr, hann hefir ok lítit lið, en þó
because he is a-wise man he has also little troop but yet
hyggst hann einn munu öllu orka; nú mætti svá vel verða,
thinks he alone will all achieve now might so well become
at á þessu yrði skjótt endir, ok mætti þá vita, hvort
that on this became quickly an-end and might then know whether

hann væri sér þá einn ærinn, er hann vill einskis
he were for-himself then alone enough when he will of-no
manns mál meta; kalla ek nú yðr einsætt, at fresta eigi
man's case value call I now to-you clear to delay not
at veita konúnginum atgaungu, skal ek ok mínir menn fyrst
to give the-king an-attack shall I and my men first
atgánga, þvíat þat kalla ek hið mesta nauðsynjaverk; er sá
attack because that call I the greatest needful-deed is he
nú ok ekki at manni, er nökkut óttast í þessu verki, at
now and not for a-man who anything fears in this work to
drepa Knút konúng, eða hversu margir höfðingjar eru hér
kill Knut king or how many chieftains are here
nú samankomnir, at hann hefir eigi stórar sakir viðgjört,
now gathered that he has not great charges done-against
drepit frændr þeirra eða mága, féit tekit upp fyrir
killed kinsmen their or kinsmen-by-marriage the-wealth taken up from
sumum, eðr gjört aðra skömm; nú mun yðr lítit stoða
some or done other shame now will to-you little avail
frameggjan orða, ef þér villð eigi slíkt minnast; munum
(the)-urging of-words if you will not such remember will
vér hér í landi aldri fá frelsi vort, meðan Knútr konúngr
we here in land never get freedom our while Knut king
er á lífi; hugsit nú ok, ef konúngr kemst undan, hverr
is in life consider now and if (the)-king gets away what
kostr yðr er þá hugaðr, ef yðr þótti hann þá grimmr,
choice to-you is then in-mind if to-you seemed he then grim
er þér höfðut minna til gjört; segi ek yðr þat með sönnu,
when you had less to done tell I you that with truth
ef Knútr konúngr fær enn vald yfir Danmörk, at hann
if Knut king gets still power over Denmark that he
geldr grimmu nokkurum þeim, er nú efla þenna ófrið.
repays grimly some those who now strengthen this unpeace

Nú vildum vér gjarna eigi til þess hætta, viljum vér hafa
Now wished we gladly not to that to-risk will we have
þann konúng, at hann sé hófsmaðr um alla hluti,
that king that he be a-man-of-moderation about all things
ok sé oss eigi of stór, eða fari eigi með svá mikilli frekju,
and be to-us not too great or go not with so great greed
sem konúngr þessi. En er jarl lauk tali sínu, þá mælti
as king this But when (the)-earl ended talk his then spoke
Eyvindr bifra: þessa manns máli höfum vér nú hlýtt um
Eyvind Bifra this man's speech have we now heeded for
hríð, er bæði er vitr ok góðgjarn, ok er fyrirmaðr þessa
a-while who both is wise and well-meaning and is (the)-leader of-this
hers, er mönnum nú ok einsætt at hafa hans heilræði,
host is to-men now also clear to have his sound-counsel
svá vel sem nú er til efnat, at þetta ráð mætti
so well as now is to brought-about that this counsel might
framkvæmt verða; hafa menn nú ok gjört sik svá bera í
accomplished be have men now also made themselves so bare in
fjandskapnum við konúnginn, at íllt er nú at hætta á hans
the-enmity with the-king that ill is now to risk on his
miskunn; er ok ekki at leyna yðr því, at ek ætla mér
mercy is also not to hide from-you that that I intend for-myself
at bera vopn á konúnginn, ok meta þat ekki við aðra
to bear weapons on the-king and value that not with other
menn, ok er þat hugboð mitt, at mér verði þat auðit. Ok
men and is that foreboding my that to-me become that granted And
er Eyvindr hætti sinni ræðu, stóð upp annarr af öðrum,
when Eyvind stopped his speech stood up one after another
ok töluðu lángt erindi, en þó kom allt í einum stað niðr,
and talked long errand but yet came all in one place down
þar sem jarl hafði fyrst talað, ok skorti Dani þá eigi
there where (the)-earl had first talked and lacked (the)-Danes then not

stór orð, ok fýstu allir mjök at taka Knút konúng af lífi,
great words and urged all much to take Knut king from life
ok með þessari ætlan knúðist fram alþýðan.
and with this intention pressed forth the-common-people

Frá Knúti konúngi

LIV · OF KING KNÚTR

At mass Knútr heard that the farmers were holding an assembly across the river, and after mass that they had crossed it. Eiríkr jarl urged flight, but Knútr would rather give himself up for his men; Benedikt refused to let him be hewn down before their eyes, and his men made ready to hold the doors of the wooden church.

Nú líðr svá fram deginum, at komit var at messumáli;
Now passes so forth the-day that come was to mass-time
gekk þá Knútr konúngr til kirkju, at hlýða messu; hann
went then Knut king to church to hear mass he
spurði þá, hvat menn sæi til bænda. Hans menn sögðu,
asked then what men saw of farmers His men said
at þeir þínguðu öðrum megin árinnar. Konúngr mælti: ok
that they held-assembly (on)-other side of-the-river (The)-king spoke and
eigi kemr Ásbjörn jarl, vinr vorr; segja mun hann oss, ef
not comes Asbjorn earl friend our tell will he us if
eigi er friðvænligt. Þá svarar Benedikt: hann mun aldri
not is peace-likely Then answers Benedikt he will never
segja oss neina góða hluti, var þat hið ósnjallasta ráð, sem
tell us any good things was that the most-foolish counsel as
ek sagða yðr þá þegar, at láta hann lausan fara. Konúngr
I said to-you then at-once to let him loose go (The)-king
sagði at því mundi eigi vera misráðit, ok hann mun oss
said that that would not be ill-advised and he will to-us

vel gefast. Síðan fór konúngr til messu; ok er súngin
well turn-out Afterward went (the)-king to mass and when sung
var messan, þá var konúngi sagt, at bænda herinn var
was the-mass then was to-(the)-king told that (the)-farmers' host was
kominn yfir um ána, ok geystist upp at bænum. Þá
come over across the-river and rushed up to the-town Then
mælti konúngr: hvert ráð skulum vér, taka? nú mun eigi
spoke (the)-king what counsel shall we take now will not
þurfa at dyljast við, at bændr munu vilja vitja vor með
need to hide-oneself about that farmers will wish to-visit us with
ófriði, ok er þat ok vel, er vér höfum verit of ófriðsamir,
unpeace and is that also well when we have been too unpeaceful
er nú auðséð, hvat þessir menn vilja. Eirekr jarl svarar:
is now easy-seen what these men wish Eirik earl answers
þat er mitt ráð, herra! at þér stígit á hest ok ríðit
that is my counsel lord that you mount on horse and ride
í burt, þvíat þat má enn vel takast, ef guð vill, er ok
off away because that may still well succeed if God wills is also
þá alls gætt, þegar yðar er. Konúngr svarar: nú þó
then all guarded as-soon-as yours is (The)-king answers now though
at ek frelsa svá líf mitt, þa munu þeir gjöra hér svá
that I save so life my then will they make here so
mikinn mannskaða, at seint mun ek bætr bíða, ok vil
great loss-of-men that late will I amends abide and wish
ek eigi þenna kost, ok miklu heldr vil ek einn gefast
I not this choice and much rather will I alone give-myself
upp fyrir oss alla, þvíat ek veit þat, ef þeir ná lífi mínu
up for us all because I know that if they get life my
auðvelliga, at þá munu grið hafa flestir menn mínir. Þá
easily that then will truce have most men my Then
svarar Benedikt: sú skömm skal oss aldri henda, at vér
answers Benedikt that shame shall us never befall that we

seljum yðr undir vopn óvina yðvarra, þó at vér vissum
sell you under weapons of-enemies your though that we knew
oss vísan frið; hitt skulu heldr allar Danameyjar eiga
for-ourselves sure peace the-other shall rather all Danish-maids have
til at spyrja at vér kunnum at beita sverðunum í dag,
to to ask that we know to wield the-swords in day
ok vorn konúng at verja, þvíat víst eigi vil ek þat sjá,
and our king to defend because surely not will I that see
at þér séuð höggnir fyrir augum mér, en ek standi hjá;
that you be hewn before eyes my but I stand beside
hefi ek ok aldrei þat heyrt, at guði líki betr huglausir
have I also never that heard that to-God pleases better heartless
klækismenn enn hugfullir drengir ok hvatir; viljum vér miklu
wretches than bold fellows and brisk will we much
heldr deyja með drengskap með yðr, enn lifa eptir yðr
rather die with manliness with you than live after you
með klækisskap: ok bað þann aldrei með dugandi mönnum
with knavery and bade that-one never among doughty men
teljast, er nú óttaðist nokkut, eða hræddist, ok bað nú
be-counted who now feared anything or was-afraid and bade now
hvern sýna sik með hreysti ok drengskap: þvíat vér eigum
each show himself with prowess and manliness because we have
góðum höfðíngja at fylgja. Allir menn rómuðu vel at máli
a-good chieftain to follow All men acclaimed well at speech
hans, ok eggjaði hverr annann. Með Knúti konúngi voro
his and urged each another With Knut king were
margir þeir menn, er mikils voro verðir: þar voro þeir
many those men who much were worthy there were they
fyrst Eirekr jarl ok Benedikt, Sveinn ok Ástráðr Þórgunnu
first Eirik earl and Benedikt Svein and Astrad of-Thorgunna
synir; þeir voro ok þar Pálmar ok Blakkmar, ok margir
sons they were also there Palmar and Blakkmar and many

aðrir góðir drengir; þeir bjuggust nú um í kirkjunni, ok
other good fellows they made-ready now about in the-church and
ætluðu at verja dyrnar; þar var trékirkja mikil, ok á
intended to defend the-doors there was a-wooden-church great and in-it
margir stórir glergluggar.
many great glass-windows

Frá Knúti konúngi

LV · OF KING KNÚTR

Knútr prayed with tears at the altar, gave his scarlet tunic to the priest to pray for the fallen on both sides, confessed and forgave his enemies, and gave his belt to Sveinn Þórgunnuson, foretelling he would survive.

Knútr konúngr var innar í saunghúsinu, ok lagðist til bænar
Knut king was inner in the-choir and lay-down to prayer
fyrir altarinu, ok bað til guðs fyrir sér með tárum, at þat
before the-altar and prayed to God for himself with tears that that
kæmi upp, sem honum gegndi bezt; en er hann reis upp
came up which to-him served best but when he rose up
af bæn sinni, þá fór hann af skarlats kyrtli, er hann hafði
from prayer his then went he off (the)-scarlet tunic which he had
í verit, hann var búinn mjök; síðan kallar konúngr til sín
in been he was dressed much afterward calls (the)-king to himself
prest þann, er þar saung, ok mælti: þú skalt eiga, prestr!
priest that who there sang and spoke you shall own priest
kyrtil þenna, segir konúngr, vil ek at þú haldir upp bænum
tunic this says (the)-king wish I that you hold up prayers
fyrir mönnum þeim, sem hér falla í dag, bæði fyrir mínum
for men those who here fall in day both for my

mönnum, ok svá eigi síðr fyrir þeim, er látast af bændum.
men and so not less for those who lose-their-lives of farmers
Síðan gekk konúngr til skriptar, ok játaði fyrir presti
Afterward went (the)-king to confession and confessed before (the)-priest
allar syndir sinar, ok fyrirgaf sínum óvinum þann mótgáng,
all sins his and forgave his enemies that opposition
er þeir veittu honum. Hann settist þá niðr hjá altarinu,
which they gave him He sat-himself then down beside the-altar
ok lagði yfir herðar sér skallatsmöttul, hann var undir í
and laid over shoulders his a-scarlet-cloak he was under in
silkitreyju. Konúngr kallar þá til Svein Þórgunnuson, þá tók
a-silk-jacket (The)-king calls then to Svein Thorgunna's-son then took
hann belti búit, er hann hafði um sik, var þat hinn bezti
he a-belt adorned which he had about himself was that the best
gripr, þar fylgði ok með búinn knífr, þá mælti konúngr
treasure there followed also with an-adorned knife then spoke (the)-king
við Svein: belti þetta skaltu eiga, Sveinn! segir konúngr, ok
with Svein belt this shall-you own Svein says (the)-king and
lóga eigi, nema þú komir vel niðr; þvíat vant er nú at sjá,
part-with not unless you come well down because hard is now to see
hvort þú þiggr fleiri gjafir af mér. Sveinn þakkaði konúngi
whether you receive more gifts from me Svein thanked (the)-king
gjöfina, ok spenti þegar um sik beltinu, ok kvað hann
the-gift and buckled at-once about himself the-belt and said he
þat skyldu gæta lífs síns í dag. Konúngr bað guð gæta lífs
that should guard life his in day (The)-king bade God guard life
hans: en líkara þikir mér þat, Sveinn! at þú látist eigi
his but likelier seems to-me that Svein that you lose-your-life not
á þessum fundi. Síðan tók konúngr saltara ok saung á.
at this meeting Afterward took (the)-king (the)-psalter and sang in

Mannaskipan Knúts konúngs

LVI · KING KNÚTR'S MEN

The farmers came shouting for the king; Benedikt, in scarlet and mail with a knight drawn in gold on his red shield, stood in the doorway and bade them come in if they wanted him, with Eiríkr jarl and the brothers on either side.

Í þenna tíma kom bóndaliðit at kirkjunni, ok gengu
In this time came the-farmer-troop to the-church and went
þegar at með ópi ok kalli, ok spurðu, hvar hann væri
at-once at with whoop and shout and asked where he were
guðs-reiðis-maðrinn, Knútr; báðu hann nú láta sjá sik ok
the-God's-wrath-man Knut bade him now let see himself and
felast eigi; mætti nú ok endir á verða. Þá svarar Benedikt:
hide not might now also end on become Then answers Benedikt
eigi þurfit þér bændr at vera svá orðstórir, þótt þér hafit nú
not need you farmers to be so big-worded though you have now
lið mikit, eigi er yðr sigrinn vís, þvíat betra skal þeim þikja
troop great not is to-you the-victory sure because better shall to-those seem
þorpurunum, er heiman hafa hlaupit frá kirnu-askinum, at
the-churls who from-home have run from the-churn-tub to
vera þenna dag heima að beyrsta korn, enn skipta höggum
be this day at-home to thresh corn than exchange blows
við oss konúngsmennina. Benedikt var svo búinn, at hann var
with us the-king's-men Benedikt was so dressed that he was
í rauðum skallatskyrtli, ok í brynju um utan, yzta hafði
in a-red scarlet-tunic and in mail about outside outermost had
hann silki-treyju ermalausa, gullroðinn hjálm, skjöld rauðan
he a-silk-jacket sleeveless a-gold-reddened helmet a-shield red
ok dreginn á riddari með gulli, sverð búit í hendi, ok var
and drawn on-it a-knight with gold a-sword adorned in hand and was

hann allra manna röskligastr; hann stóð í miðjum kirkjudyrum,
he of-all men most-valiant he stood in middle church-door
ok bað bændr gánga inn í kirkjuna, ef þeir vildu konúnginn
and bade farmers go in into the-church if they wished the-king
finna. Öðrum megin dyranna stóð Eirekr jarl, bróðir hans, ok
to-find (On)-other side of-the-door stood Eirik earl brother his and
þeir Þórgunnusynir, en öðrum megin Pálmar ok Blakkmar.
those Thorgunna's-sons but (on)-other side Palmar and Blakkmar

Hér hefir orrostu

LVII · HERE THE BATTLE BEGINS

The king's men held the doors a long while, the farmers shouting that they repaid him the cow, the ox, and the horse. Ásbjörn had the windows broken and stones thrown in; the defenders fell back into the choir. A stone struck Knútr on the brow, and he sang the psalter with a basin in his lap.

Eptir þetta sóttu bændr at kirkjunni, en konúngsmenn
After this attacked farmers at the-church but (the)-king's-men
vörðust svá drengiliga, at þat var lánga hríð dags, at
defended-themselves so manfully that that was a-long while of-day that
öngvir féllu af konúngs mönnum, en fjöldi manns af bændum,
none fell of (the)-king's men but a-host of-men of farmers
en ýmsir gengu til ómóðir til atsóknar, þvíat þeir voro yfrið
but by-turns went to unweary to attack because they were exceedingly
margir til. Þat var orðtæki þeirra bænda í bardaganum, er
many to That was (the)-saying of-those farmers in the-fight when
þeir sóttu at: nú launa ek þér kú, Knútr konúngr! nú
they attacked at now repay I you (the)-cow Knut king now
launa ek þér uxa, nú launa ek þér hest; ok er þeim
repay I you (the)-ox now repay I you (the)-horse and when to-them

sóttist seint kirkjan, þá mælti Ásbjörn jarl: þetta er hin
was-won slowly the-church then spoke Asbjorn earl this is the
mesta skömm, hversu mönnum sækist hér í dag, þar sem fáir
greatest shame how to-men goes here in day there where few
menn eru fyrir til varnar, en vér höfum látit menn marga,
men are before for defense but we have lost men many
en þeir öngvan, er þetta fólk heimskt ok ráðlaust; gángit
but they none is this folk foolish and counsel-less go
þér nú at umhverfis kirkjuna, ok brjótit frá glergluggana ok
you now at around the-church and break off the-glass-windows and
skjótit þar inn á þá ok grýtit. Síðan var svá gjört, ok var
shoot there in on them and stone Afterward was so done and was
þá borit inn á þá skot ok grjót, urðu þá margir sárir,
then borne in on them shot and stone became then many wounded
en sumir lömdust af grjóti, en sumir fengu bana með öllu.
but some were-battered by stone but some got death with all
Þá mælti Benedikt, at þeir skyldu leita innar í kórinn,
Then spoke Benedikt that they should seek inner into the-choir
ok verjast þaðan, meðan auðit yrði, ok svá gjörðu þeir.
and defend-themselves thence while granted were and so did they
Síðan sóttu bændr inn í kirkjuna eptir þeim, en þeir
Afterward attacked farmers in into the-church after them but they
Benedikt vörðu kórdyrnar með prýði; sumir af bændum sóttu
Benedikt defended the-choir-doors with splendor some of farmers attacked
utan at kirkjunni, tókst nú orrostan í annat sinn, ok
from-outside at the-church began now the-battle for (the)-second time and
var hún nú miklu strángari enn hin fyrri hríðin; tekst nú
was it now much harder than the former bout begins now
mannfallið af konúngsmönnum, en þó féll enn miklu fleira
the-slaughter of (the)-king's-men but yet fell still much more
af bændum, ok svá segja menn at blóðit tæki í ökla í
of farmers and so say men that the-blood reached to ankle in

kirkjunni. Ásbjörn jarl gekk nú umhverfis kirkjuna ok mikil
the-church Asbjorn earl went now around the-church and great
sveit manna með honum, ok eggjaði nú liðit til atsóknar,
following of-men with him and urged now the-troop to attack
ok sagði fyrir, hvar at skyldi sækja. Benedikt stóð í miðjum
and said before where at should attack Benedikt stood in middle
kórdyrum, ok varðist alldjarfliga, varð hann margs manns
choir-doors and defended-himself very-boldly became he of-many a-man
bani, ok bað hann þá at sækja fast guðníðingana, ok
(the)-slayer and bade he then to attack hard the-God's-dastards and
þareptir gjörðu allir hans menn, báðu þann aldrei þrífast, er
thereafter did all his men bade that-one never thrive who
nokkut hlífði bændum; ok er bardaginn var sem óðastr, þá
anything spared farmers and when the-fight was as fiercest then
fékk Knútr konúngr steinshögg inn í gegnum glugg einn,
got Knut king a-stone-blow in in through window one
þat högg kom uppá brúnina, ok blæddi mjök, hann tók þá
that blow came on the-brow and bled much he took then
munnlaug, ok setti í kné sér, at eigi blæddi á klæðin, ok
a-wash-basin and set on knee his that not bled on the-clothes and
saung saltarann sem áðr; var nú bardaginn allmannskæðr, ok
sang the-psalter as before was now the-fight very-man-costly and
féllu mjök margir af konúngsmönnum, ok leifðu þeir gott
fell much many of (the)-king's-men and left they good
orð eptir sik; en heilir (voru) þá enn allir höfðíngjar.
word after themselves but whole were then still all chieftains

Fall Knúts konúngs

LVIII · THE FALL OF KING KNÚTR

In a lull Eyvindr bifra came in unarmed to offer terms; Benedikt refused him, but the king let him pass. Eyvindr ran Knútr through with a hidden sword at the altar, and Pálmar cut him in two as he climbed out of the window. Eiríkr jarl escaped through the south chapel, and Benedikt bade him farewell until heaven.

Nú varð á hvíld nokkur á bardaganum, ok léttu þá bændr
Now became on rest some in the-fight and eased then farmers
atsókninni; konúngsmenn tóku þá ok hvíld. Benedikt stóð
the-attack (the)-king's-men took then also rest Benedikt stood
í miðjum kórdyrum, ok studdist á skjöld sinn, hann var
in middle choir-doors and leaned on shield his he was
þá enn ekki sár, en ákafliga vígmóðr, þvíat þat segja allir
then still not wounded but exceedingly battle-weary because that say all
einn veg frá, at engi vörn hafi röskligri verit af jafnfáum
one way of that no defense have more-valiant been by equally-few
mönnum enn þessi, slíkt ofrefli sem tilkom, ok er þó
men than this such overwhelming-force as came and is yet
engi meirr ágætr enn hann. Nú sjá þeir Benedikt, at maðr
none more famous than he Now see they Benedikt that a-man
gengr inn í kirkjuna, ok hafði vafit at sér guðvefjar
walks in into the-church and had wrapped about himself of-costly-cloth
skikkju, hann var vopnlaus, þenna mann kendu þeir, ok var
cloak he was weaponless this man knew they and was
þat Eyvindr bifra, hann mælti svá: hvat munum vér nú þess
that Eyvind Bifra he spoke so what will we now of-that
mæla, er öllum mætti bezt gegna, þvíat nú væri til þess
speak which to-all might best serve because now were to that
ærin nauðsyn, í svá mikit óefni sem komit er, ef nokkut
ample need in so great ill-plight as come is if anything

mætti umbætast, hefir fólk þetta farit æst ok rasanda,
might be-mended has folk this gone stirred-up and raging
en nú eru þeir nokkut orðnir tannsárir af vopnum yðrum,
but now are they somewhat become tooth-sore from weapons your
konúngsmanna. Heyrit mér nú! bændr eru búnir nú til
of-king's-men Hear me now farmers are ready now to
sætta at gánga við konúnginn; fór ek nú því þegar á
settlements to go with the-king went I now therefore at-once to
yðvarn fund, Benedikt! segir hann, at mér er á þessu mikill
your meeting Benedikt says he that to-me is in this great
fagnaðr, megu ok allir sjá, at þat er mest nauðsyn, at
joy may also all see that that is most need that
sættin mætti verða; er þat sem von er, at þeim muni
the-settlement might come-about is that as expected is that to-them will
mikill hamíngjuskortr verða við Knút konúng; nú þó at
great luck-lack become with Knut king now though that
mikit sé atorðit, góðir menn! segir hann, þá stendr þó til
much be happened good men says he then stands yet to
miklu meira geigs, ef konúnginum verðr nokkut, þvíat eigi
much more dread if to-the-king happens anything because not
má þat vita, þar sem margir koma saman, þeir sem lítt eru
may that know there where many come together they who little are
vandaðir, nema nokkurir ynni sér glæps; hyggjum nú at
well-bred unless some work for-themselves crime think-we now at
allir saman, hvat bezt er af at gjöra, ok gefum á meðan ró
all together what best is of to do and give-we in while rest
reiðinni, þvíat engi sér hið sanna, meðan hún fylgir. Nú bið
to-the-anger because none sees the true while it follows Now ask
ek yðr í guðs nafni, segir Eyvindr, at þér gefit mér gáng á
I you in God's name says Eyvind that you give me going to
konúngs fund, þvíat ek trúi því, at hann er fúss til friðarins.
(the)-king's meeting because I believe that that he is eager for the-peace

Benedikt svarar: þú skalt aldrei gánga á konúngs fund, þvíat
Benedikt answers you shall never go to (the)-king's meeting because
þat vita allir, at þú ert hverjum manni ótrúari, ok ef þú
that know all that you are than-each man more-untrue and if you
hefðir nú eigi svá gengit á vort vald, þá skyldir þú fá fet
had now not so gone into our power then should you get a-foot
héðan gánga, en nú þikkir mér skömm í at drepa þik, at þú
hence to-go but now seems to-me shame in to kill you that you
ert vopnlaus, en eigi ætla (ek) þat íllt verk. Konúngr heyrði
are weaponless but not think I that ill deed (The)-king heard
tal þeirra, ok mælti: látið hann gánga, sem honum líkar, opt
talk their and spoke let him go as him pleases often
hefir Eyvindr mér vel gefizt; hefi ek ok mínir frændr hafit
has Eyvind to-me well turned-out have I and my kinsmen had
hann til ríkis, mun hann oss þat vel launa, mun hann því
him to power will he us that well repay will he therefore
þat erindi sækja á vorn fund, er gott er, ok þarft oss.
that errand seek to our meeting which good is and needful to-us
Benedikt svarar: þér skulið þessu ráða, herra! en ekki kemr
Benedikt answers you shall this rule lord but not comes
mér þat á óvart, at þessa iðrumst ek brátt. Gekk Eyvindr
to-me that on unawares that this repent I soon Went Eyvind
innar í saunghúsit hjá Benedikt, ok er Eyvindr kom fyrir
inner into the-choir beside Benedikt and when Eyvind came before
konúnginn, þá mælti hann, ok hneigði honum: heill, herra!
the-king then spoke he and bowed to-him hail lord
segir hann. Konúngr leit við honum, ok svarar aungu. Þá
says he (The)-king looked at him and answers nothing Then
lét Eyvindr síga möttulinn aptr af herðum sér, hann hafði
let Eyvind sink the-cloak back off shoulders his he had
sverð brugðit undir klæðunum, þá lagði hann konúnginn
a-sword drawn under the-clothes then thrust he the-king

í gegnum með sverðinu. Síðan hné konúngrinn upp at
in through with the-sword Afterward sank the-king up against
þilinu, ok bað guð gæta sín, fékk konúngrinn þegar bana.
the-panel and bade God guard him got the-king at-once death
Eyvindr hljóp þegar upp á altarit, þvíat uppi yfir altarinu
Eyvind leapt at-once up on the-altar because up over the-altar
var gluggr mikill, er frá var brotit glerit, ætlaði Eyvindr
was a-window great which from was broken the-glass intended Eyvind
sér þar út at hlaupa. En er Benedikt sér þessi tíðindi,
for-himself there out to leap But when Benedikt sees these tidings
er orðin voru, þá hlupu þeir allir senn innar í kórinn,
which become were then ran they all at-once inner into the-choir
ok var Pálmar skjótastr, hann hjó til Eyvindar, er hann
and was Palmar swiftest he hewed to Eyvind when he
kom at altarinu, ok kom höggit á hrygginn, er hann ætlaði
came to the-altar and came the-blow on the-back when he intended
at smjúga út um glugginn. Eyvindr var í brynju, en svá
to slip out through the-window Eyvind was in mail but so
var þó óslægliga til höggvit, at Eyvind tók sundr í miðju,
was yet unsparingly to hewn that Eyvind took asunder in middle
féll höfuðhlutrinn út úr glugginum en fótahlutrinn ínn í
fell (the)-head-part out from the-window but (the)-foot-part in into
kirkjuna. Eptir þetta var kurr mikill í liðinu, ok mæltu þat
the-church After this was murmur great in the-troop and spoke that
sumir, at menn skyldu leita undan, ok forða sér þannig
some that men should seek away and save themselves thus
sem helzt mætti, ok því samþykti Eirekr jarl, ok leitaði hann
as best might and that agreed Eirik earl and sought he
út suðr-stúkuna, hann kallaði á Benedikt bróður sinn, ok bað
out the-south-chapel he called on Benedikt brother his and bade
hann fylgja sér, er aungum harmr sinn at bættari, segir
him follow himself is to-none grief his the more-amended says

hann, at hér sé niðrdrepnir allir dugandi menn. Benedikt
he that here be struck-down all doughty men Benedikt
svarar: þat skulu nú gjöra hvorir sem betra þikkir; þeir megu
answers that shall now do each as better seems they may
leita undan, er betra þikkir enn at berjast, en þeir berjast,
seek away to-whom better seems than to fight but they fight
er þat er ljúfara; far nú heill ok vel, bróðir! ok hittumst
to-whom that is dearer fare now well and well brother and meet-we
í himnaríki. Eiríkr jarl komst nú undan, ok nokkurir menn
in heaven's-realm Eirik earl got now away and some men
með honum, var þat bæði at lítill gaumr var gefinn at fáum
with him was that both that little heed was given to few
mönnum, en þó at menn kendu Eiríki jarl, þá var hann svá
men but yet though men knew Eirik earl then was he so
vingaðr af mörgum manni, at engi vildi honum grand gjöra.
befriended by many a-man that none wished him harm to-do

Fall Benedikts

LIX · THE FALL OF BENEDIKT

Benedikt cast away his shield and hewed his way to the church door with both hands, Pálmar and Blakkmar beside him, but the crowd blocked it and they fell with great renown. Sveinn and Ástráðr were given quarter.

Benedikt varð nú svá óðr, at hann hljóp út úr kórnum,
Benedikt became now so furious that he leapt out from the-choir
ok kastaði skildinum, ok tók þá sverðit tveim höndum,
and cast-away the-shield and took then the-sword with-two hands
ok hjó til beggja handa hvat sem fyrir varð, ok stökk
and hewed to both hands whatever as before came and sprang

allt undan, þat er því kom við, en eigi at síðr hlutu þar
all away that which to-it came with but not the less had there
margir eptir at liggja í kirkjunni; hann ruddi sér veg
many after to lie in the-church he cleared for-himself way
utar at kirkju-hurðinni ok dyrunum, svá at ekki hélt við;
outward to the-church-door and the-doorway so that nothing held against
þeir fylgðu honum bræðr Pálmar ok Blakkmar, ok fóru ekki
they followed him brothers Palmar and Blakkmar and went not
á hæl; en er þeir komu at kirkjudyrunum, þá nam þar
on heel but when they came to the-church-doors then stopped there
við, gekk þá eigi lengra, þvíat þar var fyrir bóndamúgrinn,
with went then not further because there was before the-farmer-crowd
svá at hinir komust þá eigi út; var þá sótt at þeim
so that they got then not out was then attacked at them
Benedikt öllum megin. Nú þó at þeir væri kappar miklir,
Benedikt (on)-all sides Now though that they were champions great
þá urðu þeir þó ofrliði bornir, ok kom þá at því,
then became they yet by-overwhelming-force borne and came then to that
sem mælt er, at ekki má við margnum; féll þar nú
as said is that nothing may against the-many fell there now
Benedikt ok allir þeir með góðan orðstýr, svá at þeirra vörn
Benedikt and all they with good renown so that their defense
ok hreysti er ágætt síðan. Stöðvaðist nú bardaginn, gengu
and prowess is famous afterward Stopped now the-fight went
þeir þá til griða konúngsmennirnir, sem eptir voru; þeir
they then to truce the-king's-men who after were those
bræðr voru eigi fallnir, Sveinn ok Ástráðr Þórgunnusynir.
brothers were not fallen Svein and Astrad Thorgunna's-sons

Frá Ásbirni jarli

LX · OF ÁSBJÖRN JARL

The farmers dispersed. Ásbjörn jarl warned the most guilty to watch what Eiríkr jarl would do, but said he feared nothing himself, owned that no one had a greater part in the deed, and went home unrepentant.

Þegar eptir bardagann bjuggust bændr í burt, þvíat mörgum var
Right after the-fight readied farmers off away because to-many was
ant heim. Ásbjörn jarl bað menn vera vara um sik, þá sem
eager home Asbjorn earl bade men be wary about themselves those who
mest höfðu atgjört, ok vita hvert ráð at Eiríkr jarl tæki eða
most had done and know what counsel that Eirik earl took or
aðrir konúngsmenn: en eigi mæli ek þetta af því, segir hann,
other king's-men but not speak I this from that says he
at ek kvíða mér né mínum mönnum; ætla ek flesta þat munu
that I fear for-myself nor for-my men think I most that will
mæla, at eigi mun annar maðr meira hlut í hafa átt enn ek,
speak that not will another man greater part in have had than I
ok við því mun ek gánga, iðrumst ek eigi þess, þvíat eigi mun
and to that will I go repent I not of-that because not will
þat ofgjört; mun ek nú ok heim fara. Raufst þá ok safnaðrinn,
that overdone will I now also home go Was-broken then also the-gathering
ok skildist liðit, ok fór hverr þann veg, sem heimili átti.
and parted the-troop and went each that way which home had

Dauði Ásbjarnar jarls ógrligr

LXI · THE DREADFUL DEATH OF ÁSBJÖRN JARL

Ásbjörn jarl, lodging by the Eyrarsund, was set upon in the night by many huge foreign mice that sought him alone; he fled to a ship, they swam after him and killed him, and vanished. Men took it for God's vengeance for Knútr.

Ásbjörn jarl fór norðr til Eyrarsunds þegar eptir fundinn,
Asbjorn earl went north to Oresund right after the-meeting
hann tók sér herbergi í þorpi einu, ok svaf í lopti einu
he took for-himself lodging in village one and slept in loft one
um nokkura nótt. Þar varð ógrligr atburðr, at þar komu
in some night There happened a-dreadful event that there came
inn mýs margar valskar, þær voru miklu stærri, enn menn
in mice many foreign they were much bigger than men
höfðu fyrr séð; þær sóttu jarl svá ákafliga, at hann
had before seen they attacked (the)-earl so fiercely that he
varð þegar upp at standa, ok verjast þeim, ok eigi því
must at-once up to stand and defend-himself from-them and not the
síðr sóttu þær hann; þar voru margir menn inni í loptinu,
less attacked they him there were many men inside in the-loft
ok hirtu þær um aungan annann; þá hljóp jarl út úr
and heeded they about no other then ran (the)-earl out from
loptinu, ok þær þegar eptir honum, ok er hann kom út,
the-loft and they at-once after him and when he came out
þá sækja þær hann fastast; þá hljóp hann ofan til sjóvar,
then attack they him hardest then ran he down to (the)-sea
ok komst út á skip, ok lét frá landi; þær hlupu þegar á
and got out on ship and put from land they ran at-once on
sjóinn út ok upp í skipit til hans, ok réðu þegar í andlit
the-sea out and up into the-ship to him and went at-once into face

honum ok nasir, ok svá lauk at þær deyddu hann, ok þegar
his and nostrils and so ended that they killed him and at-once
í stað hurfu þessir óvættir. Þessi undr spurðust víða, dauði
in place vanished these monsters These wonders were-learned widely (the)-death
Ásbjarnar jarls, ok varð mönnum at þessu ótti mikill, þeim
of-Asbjorn earl and became to-men at this fear great to-those
er mestan mótgáng höfðu veitt Knúti konúngi; grunaði þá
who most opposition had given Knut king suspected then
marga menn, at þetta verk mundi svá guðréttligt, sem þeim
many men that this work would so God-righteous as to-them
hafði opt tjáð verit, er þeir höfðu drepit Knút konúng;
had often told been when they had killed Knut king
mæltu menn þá, at þessi hefnd mundi af guði send vera.
spoke men then that this vengeance would from God sent be

Dauði Þórðar

LXII · THE DEATH OF ÞÓRÐR

Taunted for caution at a plank bridge, Þórðr skori spurred his corn-fed horse across; it reared on the drumming boards and threw him into the river, where he died. Tólar verpill rotted alive and seethed with maggots.

Nú skal þar tiltaka, er fyrr var fráhorfit, at þeir Þórðr
Now shall there take-up where before was turned-from that they Thord
skorri ok Tólar verpill hurfu aptr með sínum mönnum; þeir
Skori and Tolar Verpil turned back with their men they
komu at á einni mikilli einn dag snemma, var þar yfir vegr
came to river one great one day early was there over way
þeirra, þar var yfir ein mikil fjalabrú, þá hleypti hverr yfir
their there was over one great plank-bridge then galloped each over

brúna, svá sem atkom; en er flestir voru yfir komnir, mælti
the-bridge so as came but when most were over come spoke
Þórðr skorri: hér fara menn fólsliga, er þeir hleypa hér yfir,
Thord Skori here go men foolishly when they gallop here over
sem á víðum velli. Þeir svöruðu, er yfir voru komnir, ok
as on wide field They answered who over were come and
báðu hann fast atráða: þvíat þú hefir þann hest, er beztr er
bade him hard venture because you have that horse which best is
kallaðr, ok mun þér endast, þar sem allir hafa nú yfir riðit;
called and will for-you last there where all have now over ridden
sýnist oss þetta minni mannraun, enn at berjast við Knút
seems to-us this less man-trial than to fight with Knut
konúng; geta þess ok sumir til, at þú mundir þér þetta
king guess that also some to that you would for-yourself this
eigi nær ætla. Þórðr reiddist nú mjök, ok keyrði hestinn
not near think Thord grew-angry now much and drove the-horse
með sporum, en hestrinn var óðr ok kornfeitr, ok bregðr
with spurs but the-horse was furious and corn-fat and breaks
hann á leik, er hann kemr út á brúna, er hlúnkaði
it into play when it comes out on the-bridge which thundered
mjök undir hófunum, ok rís nú upp örðigr undir honum
much under the-hooves and rears now up upright under him
á brúnni; féll Þórðr þá aptr úr söðlinum ok í ána, ok
on the-bridge fell Thord then back out-of the-saddle and into the-river and
fékk þegar bana. Förunautum Þórðar brá mjök undarliga
got at-once death To-companions of-Thord were-moved much strangely
við þenna atburð, ok fóru heim við svá búit. En þat segja
at this event and went home with so settled But that say
sannfróðir menn, at Tólar verpill fúnaði kvikr í sundr,
truly-informed men that Tolar Verpil rotted alive in sunder

ok vall möðkum. Sýndi guð þat í dauða þessara manna,
and welled with-maggots Showed God that in death of-these men
hversu þetta verk var rækt fyrir guði ok góðum mönnum.
how this work was abhorred before God and good men

Gröptr Knúts konúngs

LXIII · KING KNÚTR'S BURIAL

Knútr's friends found his wounds healed and his body bright. He was buried at Óðinsey with Benedikt, having fallen on Saturday, the sixth ides of July, after seven winters' rule, in the year 1087.

Eptir þat er bændaliðit var á burtu af Fjóni, þá
After that when the-farmer-troop was on away from Fyn then
söfnuðust saman þeir menn, sem verit höfðu vinir Knúts
gathered together those men who been had friends of-Knut
konúngs í Óðinsve, ok gengu þar til, sem var lík
king in Odinsey and went there to where was (the)-body
Knúts konúngs, voru þá sár hans gróin, var líkit bjart
of-Knut king were then wounds his healed was the-body bright
ok þekkiligt, var þar nú sæmiligr umbúnaðr, sem vera átti;
and comely was there now seemly laying-out as be ought
lík Benedikts var þvegit ok umbúit, ok svá annarra
(the)-body of-Benedikt was washed and laid-out and so of-other
manna, þeirra er þar höfðu látizt; síðan var kirkjan
men those who there had lost-their-lives afterward was the-church
rudd, ok bornir út dauðir menn, ok veitt þeim gröptr. At
cleared and borne out dead men and granted them burial At
líki Knúts konúngs var kista mjök vöndut gjör, í aðra
(the)-body of-Knut king was a-coffin much carefully made in another

kistu var lagðr líkami Benedikts konúngs bróðurs; var þessi
coffin was laid (the)-body of-Benedikt (the)-king's brother was this
líkferð gjör hin sæmiligsta; var Knútr konúngr jarðaðr
funeral-journey made the most-seemly was Knut king buried
í Óðinsve á Fjóni ok svá Benedikt bróðir hans. Knútr
in Odinsey on Fyn and so Benedikt brother his Knut
konúngr féll á laugardaginn sétta íðus júlíi, sá dagr er 2
king fell on the-Saturday (the)-sixth ides of-July that day is two
nóttum eptir Seljamannavöku, þá hafði hann konúngr verit
nights after Selja-men's-vigil then had he king been
at Danmörk 7 vetr, hafði hann því ríki stýrt ok stjórnat
over Denmark seven winters had he that realm steered and governed
með mikilli siðsemd ok skörúngskap; þá var liðit frá
with great virtue and nobility then was passed from
holdgan vors herra Jesú krists 1000, 80 ok 7 vetr.
(the)-incarnation of-our lord Jesus Christ thousand eighty and seven winters

Frá Þórgunnusonum

LXIV · OF ÞÓRGUNNA'S SONS

The Danes wanted Óláfr, Knútr's brother, as king and sent Sveinn and Ástráðr to Duke Baldvini, who held him. Baldvini let Óláfr go for thirty marks of gold on condition that the brothers take his place in irons until the ransom was paid; Óláfr swore to pay within three nights of becoming king.

Eptir fall Knúts konúngs þóttust Danir þurfa at taka
After (the)-fall of-Knut king thought (the)-Danes need to take
sér konúng, var þá næstr konúngdóminum Ólafr
for-themselves a-king was then nearest to-the-kingship Olaf
Sveinsson, sem forn lög stóðu til, at elzti son konúngs
Svein's-son as old laws stood to that (the)-eldest son of-(the)-king

skyldi konúngr vera. Danir töluðu jafnan um þetta
should king be (The)-Danes talked always about this
vandmæli, var þat margra manna vili, at kalla Ólaf til
difficult-matter was that of-many men will to call Olaf to
konnúngdómsins, en þó þótti þetta eigi vera auðsóttligt,
the-kingship but yet seemed this not be easily-won
þar sem hann var kominn; væntu þeir lítillar vinganar af
there where he was come expected they little friendliness from
Baldvina hertuga, fyrir sakir þeirra atburða, er þá höfðu
Baldwin duke for sake of-those events which then had
orðit fyrir skömmu. Síðan tóku menn þat til ráðs, at
happened before short Afterward took men that to counsel to
biðja til Þórgunnusyni, at þeir færi vestr í Flæmíngjaland
ask to Thorgunna's-sons that they went west into Flanders
á fund Baldvina hertuga, ok vita ef þeir næði Ólafi með
to meeting of-Baldwin duke and know if they got Olaf with
nokkurri útlausn, ok þóttu þeir líkastir til at ná honum, þar
some ransom and seemed they likeliest to to get him there
sem þeir höfðu verit hinir kærustu vinir Knúts konúngs. En
where they had been the dearest friends of-Knut king But
þeir bræðr svöruðu svá: ekki erut þér Danir þess verðir, at
those brothers answered so not are you Danes of-that worthy that
vér farim sendifarir yðrar, eða flytim yður málskipti, en ekki
we go errands your or bring you negotiation but not
er ferð þessi svá laung, at hún megi eigi vel framkomast,
is journey this so long that it may not well come-about
væntum vér okkr góðar viðtökur af hertoganum. En þó
expect we for-us-two good reception from the-duke But though
at þeir töluðu slíkt, þá játuðu þeir þessu með vina sinna
that they talked such then granted they this with friends their
ráði, ok búast þeir til þessarar ferðar, ok fara þegar
counsel and make-ready they for this journey and go as-soon-as

þeir voru búnir, ok koma fram í Flæmingjalandi á fund
they were ready and come forth in Flanders to meeting
Baldvins hertoga ok Eðlu drottníngar, dóttur hans; var þeim
of-Baldwin duke and of-Edla queen daughter his was them
þar vel fagnat, ok varð drottníng þeim fegin, ok spurði þá
there well welcomed and became (the)-queen at-them glad and asked them
eptir vandliga um þau tíðindi, er þá höfðu fyrir skömmu
after carefully about those tidings which then had before short
orðit í Danmörk. Þeir sögðu henni allt, sem hún spurði.
happened in Denmark They told her all as she asked
Síðan báru þeir fyrir hertogann sín erindi, ok sögðu
Afterward bore they before the-duke their errand and told
honum orðsendíng Danahöfðíngja, ok þarmeð alþýðunnar
him (the)-message of-Danes'-chieftains and therewith of-the-common-people's
bæn: ef þér vildit gefa Ólafi orlof til heimferðar; væntum
prayer if you wished to-give Olaf leave to homeward-journey expect
vér, segir Sveinn, at þér munið, herra! gjöra hér mikit at
we says Svein that you will lord do here much to
fyrir vora skuld ok orð. Hertogi svarar: þess væri Danir
for our sake and word (The)-duke answers of-that were (the)-Danes
frá oss verðir, at þeim væri í bæði skömm ok skaði,
from us worthy that to-them were in both shame and harm
fyrir sakir þess níðíngsskapar, er þeir hafa nú unnit; biðja
for sake of-that villainy which they have now done ask
þeim þar margir ílls fyrir, sem vert er; en þó í annann
to-them there many ill for as worth is but yet in other
stað væri þat eigi ómakligt, at þeir Danir hefði þvílíkan
place were that not undeserved that they Danes had such-like
höfðíngja yfir sér, sem Ólafr er; en þó er hann svá
chieftain over themselves as Olaf is but yet is he so
kominn undir mitt vald, at hann mun seint leysast, þvíat
come under my power that he will late be-loosed because

þat reyndist mér aldri fals, er Knútr konúngr sagði mér,
that proved to-me never false which Knut king told me
en hann sendi mér þau orð síðast, at þenna mann skylda
but he sent me those words last that this man should
ek aldri lausan láta. Þá svara þeir bræðr báðir senn: þat
I never loose let Then answer those brothers both at-once that
mæla menn, herra! at þessi hlutr hafi konúnginum yfirgefizt
speak men lord that this thing have to-the-king gone-too-far
helzt, ok jafnvel mæla þat vinir hans, ok þótti Ólafr honum
most and even speak that friends his and seemed Olaf to-him
með trúnaði þjóna; mundu ok til þess aungvir menn vera
with faithfulness serve would and to that no men be
jafnskyldir sem við bræðr, at bæta um þat, ef konúnginum
equally-bound as we-two brothers to amend about that if to-the-king
hafi yfirgefizt; viljum vér bjóða allt fram fyrir vora hönd,
have gone-too-far will we offer all forth for our hand
sem yðr líkar, ok þér vilit beitt hafa, til þess at vér náum
as to-you pleases and you will used have to that that we get
þessum manni, Ólafi, á brott héðan. Hertoginn svarar: eigi
this man Olaf off away hence The-duke answers not
væntir mik þess, at sú raun verði á, at þessu sé misráðit,
expects me of-that that that proof become on that this be ill-advised
at Ólafr sé í varðhaldi hafðr, eptir því sem Knútr konúngr
that Olaf be in custody held after that which Knut king
sagði fyrir, en skil ek at ykkr gengr gott til ok
said before but understand I that to-you-two goes good to and
ástúð við Knút konúng. Nú með því at ek hefi ykkr
love toward Knut king Now with that that I have you-two
reynt at góðum drengjum jafnan, ok ek (veit) til sanns,
proven to good fellows always and I know for true
at þið hafit vel fylgt Knúti konúngi ok drengiliga, þá
that you-two have well followed Knut king and manfully then

skal ykkr gjöra á þessu kost; Ólafr skal leysa sik út
shall to-you-two make on this choice Olaf shall loose himself out
með 30 marka gulls, ok þó með þeim kosti, at þið
with thirty marks of-gold and yet with that choice that you-two
skuluð hér sitja á meðan í járnum, þar til er Ólafr hefir
shall here sit in meanwhile in irons there till when Olaf has
útgreitt féit, þat sem nú er ákveðit; vil ek at þið
paid-out the-wealth that which now is determined wish I that you-two
reynit (svá), hversu góðr drengr Ólafr er, eða hverir munu
prove so how good fellow Olaf is or who will
næst séð hafa, hverr maðr hann er; megut þið ok þat
nearest seen have what man he is may you-two also that
hugsa, ef Ólafr vill eigi greiða féit, eptir því sem skilið
consider if Olaf will not pay the-wealth after that which agreed
er, at þið komizt aldri úr þessari prísund ok varðhaldi;
is that you-two come never out-of this prison and custody
nú eigit þit mest í hættu, segir hann, en aungvan trúnað
now have you-two most in hazard says he but no trust
vil ek undir Ólafi eiga, ok ekki vil ek þessa fýsa ykkr til,
will I under Olaf have and not will I this urge you-two to
segir hann. Ok er hertoginn hafði þenna kost uppsagðan,
says he And when the-duke had this choice stated
þá sögðust þeir bræðr vildu finna Ólaf. Síðan var þeim
then said-of-themselves those brothers to-wish find Olaf Afterward were they
fylgt til díblissunnar, þar sem hann sat í; þeir sögðu honum
led to the-dungeon there where he sat in they told him
allt saman ok orðsendíng höfðíngja í Danmörk, at þat
all together and (the)-message of-chieftains in Denmark that that
væri vili þeirra, at hann væri þar til konúngs tekinn yfir
were will their that he were there to king taken over
allt Danaveldi; höfum við nú ok þetta uppborit fyrir
all (the)-Danes'-realm have we-two now also this brought-up before

hertoganum, ok setti hann þar þvert nei fyrir í fyrstu, en
the-duke and set he there flat no before at first but
þó við bæn okkra þá vill hann unna þér útlausnar, ok þó
yet at prayer our-two then will he grant you ransom and yet
þat með, at við bræðr setjumst í járnit, þat sama er
that with that we-two brothers set-ourselves into the-iron that same which
nú sitr þú í, þar til er þetta er goldit út; munu þat ok
now sit you in there till when this is paid out will that also
flestir mæla, at við hættum mjök á þitt vald ok miskunn,
most speak that we-two risk much on your power and mercy
ef vér gjörum þetta; væntum við þess at okkr mun þat
if we do this expect we-two that that to-us-two will that
vel gefast, ok þú munir þat okkr góðu launa, svá mikit
well turn-out and you will that us-two with-good repay so much
sem þér liggr hér við, þvíat fáir get ek at þetta geri
as to-you lies here with because few guess I that this do
fyrir þínar sakir. Ólafr segir: þessi kostr þikir mér allgóðr,
for your sakes Olaf says this choice seems to-me very-good
ok eigi beiði ek annars, ægir mér ekki þetta fégjald,
and not ask I other frightens me not this money-payment
ok ef ek fæ ríki í Danmörk, þá skal ek eigi hafa borit
and if I get realm in Denmark then shall I not have borne
konúngsnafn um 3 nætr, áðr ek skal hafa tilgjört ok
king's-name for three nights before I shall have arranged and
greitt féit, ok þetta gjald skuluð þit hafa fyrir þann
paid the-wealth and this payment shall you-two have for that
manndóm, er þit sýnit mér nú, ok slíkt sem mér
manhood which you-two show me now and such as to-me
kaupist í; má enn vera at ykkr verði þetta umbunat, ef
is-bought in may still be that to-you-two become this rewarded if
vort vald verðr nökkurt. Síðan gekk hertoginn til tals við
our power becomes any Afterward went the-duke to talk with

þá, ok var nú þetta ráð algjört; segir Ólafr þat uppá trú
them and was now this counsel fully-made says Olaf that upon faith
sína, at hann skal þessa menn útleysa, svá sem fyrst má
his that he shall these men release so as soonest may
hann viðkomast; hann sver ok þat hertoganum, at greiða
he get-at he swears also that to-the-duke to pay
féit, eptir því sem nú heit hann. Er nú Ólafr úrtekinn
the-wealth after that which now promised he Is now Olaf taken-out-of
díblissunni við þenna kost, en þeir Sveinn ok Ástráðr voro
the-dungeon at this choice but they Svein and Astrad were
þar í settir, ok látin járn á hendr þeirra ok fætr; þeir
there in set and let iron on hands their and feet they
höfðu ok fæðslu, sem þeir máttu lifa við eð minzta.
had also food as they could live on the least

Ólafr tekinn til konúngs

LXV · ÓLÁFR TAKEN AS KING

Óláfr was taken as king at Viborg but never paid the ransom, and when the brothers' kinsmen reminded him he answered that they could enjoy good days with Baldvini and take fitting reward for their long service to those in-laws.

Ólafr ferr nú til Danmerkr, ok þegar hann kemr þar, þá
Olaf goes now to Denmark and as-soon-as he comes there then
safnast þar saman lið til hans. Hann fór til Jótlands, ok var
gathers there together troop to him He went to Jutland and was
þar stefnt Vebjarga þíng, var Ólafr þar til konúngs tekinn yfir
there summoned Viborg assembly was Olaf there to king taken over
alla Danmörk; fékk hann sér þá hirð, ok fór yfir landit,
all Denmark got he for-himself then a-court and went over the-land

ok dæmdi um lög, ok stjórnaði konúngsmálum. Ekki er þess
and judged about laws and governed king's-matters Not is of-that
getit, at hann efnaði til um fégjaldit, er hann
mentioned that he made-provision to about the-money-payment which he
hafði heitit hertoganum til útlausnar sér, en þá liðu eigi
had promised the-duke for ransom of-himself but then passed not
lángar stundir, áðr menn urðu til áminníngar við hann um
long while before men became to reminding with him about
þetta mál, at hann skyldi at þessu gaum gefa, voru þat frændr
this matter that he should to this heed give were those kinsmen
ok vinir þeirra Þórgunnusona. Konúngr svarar því styggiliga, ok
and friends of-those Thorgunna's-sons (The)-king answers that stiffly and
bað slíkt ekki tala við sik: munu þeir bræðr hafa góða daga
bade such not talk with himself will those brothers have good days
með Baldvina hertoga, sem vert er, þvíat þeir hafa lengi þjónað
with Baldwin duke as worth is because they have long served
þeim mágum, munu þeir nú ok taka makliga umbun
those kinsmen-by-marriage will they now also take fitting reward
þess. Fékst ekki af Ólafi konúngi meira um þetta mál.
of-that Was-got nothing from Olaf king more about this matter

Hér segir um heilagleik Knúts konúngs

LXVI · OF KING KNÚTR'S HOLINESS

The priest of Knútr's church told Óláfr of lights at the grave and other signs; Óláfr forbade him on pain of death to speak of it, and no one dared while Óláfr lived, though the talk of Knútr's sanctity spread.

Þá er Ólafr konúngr for at veizlum á Fjóni, þá kom
Then when Olaf king went to feasts on Fyn then came
til hans prestr sá, er saung at kirkju þeirri, er Knútr
to him priest that who sang at church that where Knut
konúngr hvíldi at. Prestr heimti hann á einmæli, ok
king rested in (The)-priest called him to private-speech and
sagði honum í hljóði, at hann sæi opt um nætr mikit
said him in silence that he saw often in nights great
ljós til leiðis Knúts konúngs, bróður hans: ok mörg verða
light at (the)-grave of-Knut king brother his and many happen
þar önnur tákn, segir hann, þau er oss þikir mikils um
there other signs says he those which to-us seems much about
vert; hyggjum vér hann sannliga helgan mann vera; nú
worth think we him truly a-holy man be now
viljum vér hafa þartil yðra forsjá, herra! hvort þetta mál
will we have thereto your foresight lord whether this matter
skal meirr uppbera svá búit. Konúngr svarar: vertu eigi svá
shall more bring-up so settled (The)-king answers be-you not so
djarfr, at þú segir slíkt fals, þvíat ek vissa þá marga
bold that you say such falsehood because I knew then many
hluti í fari Knúts konúngs, at enn mundi ærinn til,
things in (the)-conduct of-Knut king that still would enough to
at hann mætti heilagr vera; skaltu þat ok víst vita, at ef
that he might holy be shall-you that also surely know that if

nokkur mælir þetta í heyrn mér héðan í frá, at sá skal
anyone speaks this in hearing my hence in from that that-one shall
engu fyrirtýna nema lífinu; varð prestr því feginn, at
nothing forfeit except the-life was (the)-priest at-that glad that
hann feldi niðr þessa ræðu sem skjótast, svá þúngliga sem
he dropped down this talk as quickest so heavily as
konúngrinn tók á þessu, en þó hófst sú umræða eigi at
the-king took on this but yet began that talk not the
síðr í Danmörk, at Knútr konúngr væri sannheilagr, en þó
less in Denmark that Knut king were truly-holy but yet
varð því ekki á lopt borit, meðan Ólafr konúngr lifði, þvíat
was it not into air borne while Olaf king lived because
engi treystist at mæla slíkt fyrir ofríki Ólafs konúngs.
none trusted-himself to speak such for overbearing of-Olaf king

Frá Þórgunnusonum

LXVII · OF ÞÓRGUNNA'S SONS

Sveinn and Ástráðr lay ill kept in irons in Flanders, since Baldvini resented Óláfr's release, won by their pleading; Queen Eðla pleaded for them, but Baldvini said they should wait there until their friend Óláfr freed them or die.

Í þenna tíma sátu þeir Þórgunnusynir í járnum ok varðhaldi
In this time sat they Thorgunna's-sons in irons and custody
vestr í Flæmíngjalandi, ok voru illa haldnir, þvíat Baldvini
west in Flanders and were ill held because Baldwin
hertogi lét ekki hlífa þeim, þvíat honum var mjök í móti
duke let not spare them because to-him was much in against
skapi, at Óláfr Sveinsson var útleystr, þó at hann gjörði þat
temper that Olaf Svein's-son was released though that he did that

fyrir bæn þeirra bræðra. Þetta líkaði Eðlu drottníngu illa, ok
for prayer of-those brothers This pleased Edla queen ill and
biðr hún jafnan fyrir þeim, ok bað hertogann at þeir skyldu
asks she always for them and bade the-duke that they should
njóta þess, er þeir höfðu verit með Knúti konúngi, heldr enn
enjoy that which they had been with Knut king rather than
gjalda ódrengskapar Ólafs konúngs. Hertogi svarar reiðuliga
pay for-(the)-unmanliness of-Olaf king (The)-duke answers angrily
ok mælti svá: þeir skulu þess dags hér bíða í Flæmíngjalandi,
and spoke so they shall of-that day here wait in Flanders
er Ólafr, vinr þeirra, leysir þá út, eða bíða hér bana ella;
when Olaf friend their looses them out or wait here for-death else
nú þó at hér frestist útlausn hans við þá, þá er makligt
now though that here be-delayed ransom his toward them then is fitting
at þeir gjaldi þess, þvíat þeir báðu þess þakksamliga, ok töldu
that they pay for-that because they asked that thankfully and counted
þar marga hluti, þá er samdi eigi at neita þeim, munu þeir
there many things those which befitted not to refuse them will they
nú ok nokkuru gerr vita, til hvers þeir hafa starfat, er þeir
now also somewhat better know to what they have worked when they
lögðu alla stund á, at Ólafr væri laus látinn; hefir þetta farit
laid all time on that Olaf were loose let has this gone
eptir hugþokka mínum, at íllt mundi at leita trúnaðar undir
after foreboding my that ill would to seek trust under
Ólaf. Leið nú hinn næsti vetr eptir fall Knúts konúngs,
Olaf Passed now the next winter after (the)-fall of-Knut king
at þeir bræðr sátu þar í járnum með Baldvina hertoga.
that those brothers sat there in irons with Baldwin duke

Jarteiknir Knúts konúngs

LXVIII · KING KNÚTR'S MIRACLES

On Easter night Knútr appeared to Sveinn in light and fragrance, twisted the fetters apart like silverweed, and bade him tell the duke. Their broken fetters bore it out, the boy Karl begged their pardon with the belt his father had given Sveinn, and Baldvini freed them. Óláfr still refused the ransom, so the brothers sold and pledged their lands and paid it in gold, and Baldvini remitted it and kept only their gifts.

Sá atburðr varð um vorit páskanóttina, þar sem þeir
That event happened in the-spring on-Easter-night there where they
voru í díblissunni, Sveinn ok Ástráðr, þeir höfðu þá áðr
were in the-dungeon Svein and Astrad they had then before
haft náliga öngva fæðslu, ok höfðu menn þá ekki komit
had nearly no food and had men then not come
(nýliga til þeirra, voru þeir þá) máttlitlir bæði af matleysi
newly to them were they then strengthless both from lack-of-food
ok járnagángi, þvíat járnin skoruðu þá mjök at beini, ok
and iron-wearing because the-irons cut them much to bone and
brann undir þeim; um nóttina eptir í óttu rann höfgi á
burned under them in the-night after at matins ran drowsiness on
Svein, hann þóttist heldr (vaka enn sofa; hann sá) at
Svein he thought-himself rather wake than sleep he saw that
maðr kom inn, hann var virðuliga búinn, ok svá bjartr at
a-man came in he was worthily dressed and so bright that
hann þóttist varla mega í gegn (sjá, hann þóttist)
he thought-himself scarcely may in against look he thought-himself
þar kenna Knút konúng; hann gekk at Sveini ok mælti:
there know Knut king he went to Svein and spoke
hart ertu nú leikinn, Sveinn félagi! ok er þat eigi at
hard are-you now played Svein comrade and is that not by

verðleikum; nú mun ek leysa þik úr þessari prísund, þú
deserts now will I loose you out-of this prison you
skalt ok segja Baldvina hertoga orð mín, til þess at hann
shall also tell Baldwin duke words my to that that he
líkni þínu máli héðan í frá. Hann tók þá til fjötrsins,
show-mercy-to your case hence in from He took then to the-fetter
er á fótum honum var, ok vatt hann í sundr sem
which on feet his was and twisted it in sunder as
muru, ok slíkt hið sama þann er á höndunum var. Þá
silverweed and such the same that-one which on the-hands was Then
mælti konúngr: nú ertu laus orðinn, skaltu nú segja þenna
spoke (the)-king now are-you loose become shall-you now tell this
fyrirburð, er sem flestir eru hjá; vænti ek þess, at guð
portent when as most are by expect I that that God
gefi mér þá miskunn, at hvar sem menn kalla á mitt
give me that mercy that wherever as men call on my
nafn með góðvilja, at menn fái bót meina sinna. Honum
name with goodwill that men get remedy of-hurts their To-him
sýndist ljós mikit í myrkvastofunni, ok þar kendi hann
seemed light great in the-dungeon and there felt he
dýrligan ilm. Eptir þetta leið konúngr í frá honum at
glorious fragrance After this passed (the)-king in from him at
sýn, en Sveinn vaknaði, ef hann hefði sofit, voru þá af
sight but Svein awoke if he had slept were then off
honum járnin. Hann sagði þá Ástráði, hvat fyrir hann hafði
him the-irons He told then Astrad what before him had
borit. Ástráðr svarar, ok kvað slíkt hið sama fyrir sik
borne Astrad answers and said such the same before himself
borit hafa, ok voru nú báðir lausir. Ástráðr bað þá þegar
borne have and were now both loose Astrad bade then at-once
á burtu leita. Sveinn sagði, at þeir skyldu at aungum kosti
off away seek Svein said that they should on no terms

fyrr í burt, enn hertoginn sæti yfir borðum um daginn,
before off away than the-duke sat over tables in the-day
kvað þá mundu flesta viðvera. Þeir gjöra svá, ok þá fóru
said then would most be-present They do so and then went
þeir til hallarinnar, er hertoginn sat yfir borðum; þeir
they to the-hall where the-duke sat over tables they
voru svá máttlitlir, at þeir skriðu heldr enn gengu. En er
were so strengthless that they crawled rather than walked But when
þeir komu inn í höllina, þá sá hertoginn þá, ok bað
they came in into the-hall then saw the-duke them and bade
taka bandíngjana, ok færa þá út þeim mönnum, sem þeir
take the-prisoners and bring them out to-those men whom they
höfðu áðr hjá verit. Sveinn mælti þá: eigi muntu þat gjöra
had before beside been Svein spoke then not will-you that do
vilja, herra! ef þú veizt, hverr okkr hefir leyst. Hertoginn
wish lord if you know who us-two has loosed The-duke
kveðst ætla, at þeir mundu hafa illa geymt, er þat
says-of-himself to-think that they would have ill guarded who that
skyldu gjört hafa. Sveinn kvað eigi þeim at kenna, þvíat
should done have Svein said not them to blame because
Knútr konúngr kom í nótt, ok vatt af okkr fjötrana;
Knut king came in (the)-night and twisted off us-two the-fetters
er þat til marks at vér segjum satt, at í myrkvastofunni
is that to token that we say true that in the-dungeon
liggja fjötrabrotin. Hertoginn lézt eigi vita, hvat þeir
lie the-fetter-pieces The-duke declared-himself not to-know what they
sögðu. Þá mælti Eðla drottníng: hafa munu þeir skulu frið
said Then spoke Edla queen have will they shall peace
um helgina, herra! hversu sem lengr er; vildum vér at
over the-holy-days lord however as longer is wished we that
þér forvitnaðist, hvárt þetta væri með sannleik, er þeir
you inquired whether this were with truth which they

segja, væri oss mikill fögnuðr í at satt væri; kemr mér
say were to-us great joy in that true were comes to-me
þetta eigi fyrir óvart, þvíat marga vissa ek þá siðu Knúts
this not for unexpected because many knew I then customs of-Knut
konúngs, at ólíkir voru flestra manna siðum. Hertogi bað
king that unlike were most men's customs (The)-duke bade
hana ráða. Síðan var þeim búin hæg hvíla, ok hægt
her rule Afterward was for-them made-ready a-soft bed and easy
þeim í öllu sem mátti. Sveinninn Karl, son þeirra Knúts
for-them in all as could The-boy Karl son their of-Knut
konúngs ok Eðlu, kom til hvílunnar, þar sem þeir lágu.
king and of-Edla came to the-bed there where they lay
Sveinn Þórgunnuson hafði spent af sér beltinu, ok lagt
Svein Thorgunna's-son had unbuckled off himself the-belt and laid
upp á hægendit hjá sér. Karl tekr upp beltit, er hann
up on the-pillow beside himself Karl takes up the-belt when he
sér fagrt, ok leikr sér at. Sveinn mælti: hversu lízt þér
sees fair and plays himself with Svein spoke how seems to-you
á þenna grip, Karl! Vel, segir sveinninn. Viltu eiga beltit,
of this treasure Karl Well says the-boy Will-you own the-belt
segir Sveinn, ætla ek þat makligast, þvíat Knútr konúngr,
says Svein think I that most-fitting because Knut king
faðir þinn, gaf mér, gjöri ek þá, sem faðir þinn mælti fyrir,
father your gave me do I then as father your spoke for
at ek þikjumst vel selja mér af hendi. Karl fór þegar á
that I think-myself well give from-me off hand Karl went at-once to
fund hertoga, ok sýndi honum þessa gersemi, er honum
meeting of-(the)-duke and showed him this treasure which him
var gefin, ok sagði at faðir hans hefði átt: vænti ek nú,
was given and said that father his had owned expect I now
frændi! segir Karl, at þér munit þat mér veita, at þessir
kinsman says Karl that you will that me grant that these

menn fái sætt af yðr með nokkuru móti. Drottníng lagði
men get settlement from you by some means (The)-queen laid
mörg orð til friðar þeim. (Hertoginn svarar): ervitt mun
many words to peace for-them The-duke answers hard will
mér veita, at gánga í móti ykkr báðum, munum vér fyrst
to-me grant to go in against you-two both will we first
talast við. Síðan gekk hertogi til máls við þá, ok spurði
talk with Afterward went (the)-duke to speech with them and asked
eptir um burtkvomu þeirra. Þeir sögðu honum allan atburð,
after about going-off their They told him all (the)-event
ok þat með, at Knútr konúngr hafði honum þessi orð sent,
and that with that Knut king had him these words sent
at hann frelsti þá; ok þar með jarteignir þær, er hann
that he freed them and there with tokens those which he
mátti eigi við dyljast, at sannar voru. Hertoginn hét
could not about hide that true were The-duke promised
þá at gjöra svá. Þórgunnusynir styrktust skjótt, var þá eigi
then to do so Thorgunna's-sons grew-strong quickly was then not
minnr frá, at hertoginn gjörði vel til þeirra, ok lét alls
less from that the-duke did well to them and let all
í leita at hjúka þeim; ok er þeir voru herfærir menn, þá
in seek to tend them and when they were war-fit men then
báðu þeir sér orlofs til heimferðar. Hertoginn kvað svá
asked they for-themselves leave to homeward-journey The-duke said so
vera skyldu; mun ek nú (segir hann) segja upp sætt vor
be should will I now says he declare up settlement our
í millum: þit skulið fyrst fara á fund Ólafs konúngs, ok
in between you-two shall first go to meeting of-Olaf king and
biðja hann gjalda af höndum féit, þat sem hann hét
ask him pay off hands the-wealth that which he promised
til útlausnar sér, ok fái ykkr í hendr, skulið þit
for ransom for-himself and give you-two into hands shall you-two

þat færa mér; en ef hann vill eigi greiða féit, sem mik
that bring me but if he will not pay the-wealth as I
varir, þá skulið þið gjalda oss þetta fé, ok þartil skulið
expect then shall you-two pay us this wealth and thereto shall
þit veita oss svardaga, at efna þetta; ok þessu játuðu
you-two give us oaths to fulfill this and to-this agreed
þeir bræðr, búast síðan í burt úr Flæmingjalandi, fékk
those brothers make-ready afterward off away out-of Flanders got
hertoginn þeim föruneyti. En er þeir komu til Danmerkr,
the-duke them company But when they came to Denmark
fóru þeir á fund Ólafs konúngs, ok beiddu hann greiða
went they to meeting of-Olaf king and asked him pay
sér í hendr féit, þat er hann hafði heitið sér
to-them into hands the-wealth that which he had promised for-himself
til útlausnar: hafit þér ekki, herra! gjört eptir því sem þér
for ransom have you not lord done after that which you
hétuð, ok við hugðum til; munut þér nú vilja gjöra því
promised and we-two thought to will you now wish to-do that
betr, segir Sveinn, ok gjöra nú góðan (greiðskap) á ok
better says Svein and make now good readiness on and
fljótan; má okkr þat enn vel í þörf koma, þvíat við
quick may to-us-two that still well in need come because we-two
erum nú í heitum bundnir í því við Baldvin hertoga (at
are now in vows bound in that with Baldwin duke that
hann skal eigi) þessa fjár missa. Konúngr svarar: annars
he shall not this wealth lose (The)-king answers other
væri þeir Flæmingjar verðir frá oss, enn vér gyldum þeim
were they Flemings worthy from us than we paid them
(fé fyrir þá skömm) ok svívirðíng, er þeir gjörðu oss, ok
wealth for that shame and disgrace which they did us and
þat sama skulu þeir hafa, at þegar ek hefi fengit trúnað
that same shall they have that as-soon-as I have got (the)-trust

höfðíngja hér í Danmörk, þá skal ek bjóða út öllum
of-chieftains here in Denmark then shall I call out all
her af ríki mínu, ok herja á hendr (Baldvina hertoga,
(the)-host from realm my and harry on hands Baldwin duke
ok gjöra þeim) öllum svá mikit íllt, at þeir skulu aldrei
and do them all so much ill that they shall never
þrífast. Síðan varð konúngrinn nú svá óðr ok (ýfinn, at
thrive Afterward became the-king now so furious and bristling that
ekki) vetta mátti við hann koma. Varð Sveinn nú því
not a-whit could with him come Became Svein now at-that
fegnastr, er hann komst í burt. Eptir þetta fóru (þeir
gladdest when he got off away After this went those
bræðr) heim til búa sinna, ok heimtu saman lausafé
brothers home to farms their and gathered together movable-wealth
sín öll, sumt var þeim lánat af vinum eða frændum; þeir
their all some was to-them lent by friends or kinsmen they
seldu ok jarðir sínar, en sumar veðsettu þeir; ok er þeir
sold also lands their but some pledged they and when they
höfðu fengit svá mikit fé, sem ákveðit var, þá fóru þeir
had got so much wealth as determined was then went they
vestr í Flæmíngjaland til Baldvina hertoga, ok fagnar hann
west into Flanders to Baldwin duke and welcomes he
þeim vel; ok er þeir hafa þar litla hríð dvalizt, þá greiða
them well and when they have there a-little while stayed then pay
þeir af hendi fégjaldit, var allt í gulli ok í brendu
they off hand the-money-payment was all in gold and in burnt
silfri, ok þar með gáfu þeir hertoga hina beztu gripi, þá
silver and there with gave they (the)-duke the best treasures those
er fágætir voru í þeirra landi. Þá mælti hertoginn: þetta
which rare were in their land Then spoke the-duke this
mál hefir ykkr farit vel ok drengilega, veit ek ok at
matter has for-you-two gone well and manfully know I also that

þit erut ekki svá stórauðgir menn, at eigi muni hér
you-two are not so very-wealthy men that not will here
kominn hinn mesti hluti af eign ykkarri, ok er þó allmikit
come the greatest part of property your-two and is yet very-great
fé; vil ek nú þetta fé uppgefa, ok skulið þó hafa fyrir
wealth will I now this wealth give-up and shall-you yet have for
þökk ok vináttu mína, en gjafir þessar mun ek þiggja. Þeir
thanks and friendship my but gifts these will I accept They
þökkuðu honum margfalliga sína stórmensku. Þeir dvöldust
thanked him manifoldly his magnanimity They stayed
þar nú skamma stund, ok er þeir voru í burt búnir,
there now short while and when they were off away ready
gaf hertoginn þeim góðar gjafir, ok skildust kærir vinir.
gave the-duke them good gifts and parted dear friends
En er þeir bræðr komu heim í Danmörk, settust þeir
But when those brothers came home into Denmark settled they
at búum sínum um kyrt, ok þjonaðu ekki Ólafi konúngi;
at farms their in quiet and served not Olaf king
þóttu þeir Þórgunnusynir jafnan vera hinir röskustu menn.
seemed they Thorgunna's-sons always be the briskest men

Andlát Ólafs konúngs

LXIX · THE DEATH OF KING ÓLÁFR

Óláfr, married to Ingiríðr daughter of Haraldr Sigurðarson, was harsh, greedy, and unloved; his reign brought famine and lawlessness, and he died after eight winters unmourned.

Ólafr Sveinsson átti Íngiríði, dóttur Haralds konúngs
Olaf Svein's-son had Ingirid daughter of-Harald king
Sigurðarsonar, Noregs konúngs, systur Ólafs konúngs kyrra.
Sigurd's-son Norway king sister of-Olaf king (the)-Quiet
Ólafr Sveinsson var ríkr maðr ok grimmr ok óvinsæll,
Olaf Svein's-son was a-powerful man and grim and unpopular
hann var ágjarn ok fégjarn; var um hans daga í Danmörk
he was greedy and money-greedy was in his days in Denmark
hallæri mikit ok lögleysur; mæltu þat þá margir menn,
famine great and lawlessness spoke that then many men
þeir er eigi höfðu verit í mótgángi við Knút konúng,
those who not had been in opposition with Knut king
at því hefði óheppiliga verit umskipt, ok þeim hefði at
that that had unluckily been changed and to-them had to
illu reift: þvíat konúngr þessi lætr öngvan mann frjálsan
ill turned because king this lets no man free
vera. Ólafr var konúngr 8 vetr í Danmörk; hann varð
be Olaf was king eight winters in Denmark he became
sóttdauðr, ok var hann ekki harmdauði Dönum.
sick-dead and was he not lamented by-Danes

Frá Eiríki jarli Sveinssyni

LXX · OF EIRÍKR JARL SVEINSSON

Eiríkr, Knútr's brother, held Sjáland under Óláfr, harried the heathen of the East-Way while sparing Christians and merchants, was honored as far as Garðaríki, and sailed home in early summer, as Markús Skeggjason's Eiríksdrápa tells.

Eirekr jarl hafði haldit ríki sínu í Sjólandi um daga Ólafs
Eirik earl had held realm his in Zealand in (the)-days of-Olaf
konúngs, því er Knútr bróðir hans hafði veitt honum.
king that which Knut brother his had granted him
Eirekr var ríkr maðr ok vinsæll, hann hafði jafnan
Eirik was a-powerful man and popular he had always
fjölmenni um sik, hann herjaði jafnan í Austrveg, ok
following about himself he harried always in (the)-East-Way and
herjaði á heiðíngja, en lét alla kristna menn fara í friði fyrir
harried on heathens but let all Christian men go in peace before
sér ok svá kaupmenn; við þessa hans meðferð varð hann
himself and so merchants at this his conduct became he
frægr ok vinsæll um allan Austrveg; hann fór allt austr í
famous and popular through all (the)-East-Way he went all east into
Garðaríki, ok sótti þar heim marga höfðíngja ágæta, ok tóku
Gardariki and visited there home many chieftains excellent and received
þeir honum allvel ok sæmiliga; þá hann þar gjafir margar
they him very-well and seemly received he there gifts many
af höfðíngjum. Svá segir Markús Skeggjason í Eiríksdrápu:
from chieftains So says Markus Skeggi's-son in Eiriksdrapa

Fæðir sótti fremdar ráða
Feeder sought of-honor counsels
foldar vörðu austr í Görðum
of-land wardens east in Gardar
auði gæddu allvald prúðan
with-wealth endowed mighty-king splendid
ítrir menn er hneyki slíta;
glorious men who disgrace end
stillir varð um Austrveg allan
(the)-ruler became over East-Way all
einkar tíðr hinn mærðar blíði
exceedingly famed the of-praise glad
hinn var engr er hans nafn kunnit
that was none who his name knew-not
heiðar manns í lofi reiða.
of-heath man's in praise bear

Eiríkr jarl fór um öndvert vorit austan úr Görðum,
Eirik earl went in early the-spring from-the-east out-of Gardar
sigldi hann austan um öndvert sumar, ok heim til
sailed he from-the-east in early summer and home to
Danmörk í ríki sitt. Svá segir Markús:
Denmark into realm his So says Markus

Vor öndvert bjó Vinda rírir
Spring early readied of-Wends diminisher
vegligt flaustr úr Görðum austan,
splendid ship out-of Gardar from-the-east

hlýrum skaut á hola báru
with-bows shot on hollow wave
helmíngs oddr í sumars broddi;
of-host point at of-summer prime
hlýðu studdi borðvið breiðan
lee supported plank-wood broad
bróðir Knúts í veðri óðu,
brother of-Knut in weather raging
síðan knáði svik-fólks eyðir
afterward could treachery-folk's destroyer
snilli kendr við Danmörk lenda.
for-eloquence known at Denmark land

Eiríkr enn góði varð konúngr

LXXI · EIRÍKR THE GOOD BECAME KING

Eiríkr succeeded Óláfr as eldest living son of Sveinn, restored the law, gave generously to friends and the poor, and was called the Good, as Markús's verses praise.

Eiríkr tók þá konúngdóm í Danmörk eptir Ólaf bróður sinn,
Eirik took then kingship in Denmark after Olaf brother his
sem lög stóðu til, þvíat hann var elztr sona Sveins konúngs,
as laws stood to because he was eldest of-sons of-Svein king
þeirra er þá voru á lífi. En er Eiríkr var konúngr orðinn
of-those who then were in life But when Eirik was king become
í Danmörk, þá reisti hann upp lög í landinu, ok leiðrétti
in Denmark then raised he up law in the-land and set-right
siðu manna, þvíat margar óvenjur ok siðleysur hafði yfir
customs of-men because many bad-habits and lawlessnesses had over

landit gengit, meðan Ólafr lifði. Eiríkr konúngr siðaði vel
the-land gone while Olaf lived Eirik king civilized well
fólk, ok gjörði sér alla kæra hina beztu menn í ríki
folk and made for-himself all dear the best men in realm
sínu; hann var örr af fé, bæði við höfðíngja ok við vini
his he was generous of wealth both with chieftains and with friends
sína, ok veitti stórfé öllum þeim, er hans fund sóttu,
his and granted great-wealth to-all those who his meeting sought
ok þeim öllum mest, er lengst sóttu til hans, hann gaf ok
and to-them all most who farthest sought to him he gave also
mikit fátækum mönnum; hann varð brátt vinsæll af Dönum;
much to-poor men he became soon popular by Danes
hann var kallaðr Eiríkr hinn góði, ok sögðu þat menn at
he was called Eirik the Good and said that men that
honum væri þetta sannefni, þvíat allir þóttust gott af
to-him were this true-name because all thought-themselves good from
honum hljóta, þeir er til hans komu. Svá segir Markús:
him get they who to him came So says Markus

Drengir þágu auð af Ýngva,
Fellows received wealth from Yngvi
örr fylkir gaf sverð ok knörru,
generous ruler gave swords and ships
Eirekr veitti opt ok stórum
Eirik granted often and greatly
armleggjar röf dýrum seggjum;
of-arm amber to-dear men
hríngum eyddi harra slaungvir,
rings squandered lord's slinger

hildar rammr enn stillir framdi
of-battle strong but (the)-ruler furthered
firða kyn at flestir urðu
of-men kin that most became
Fróða stóls af honum góðir.
of-Frodi seat from him good

Um Eirík

LXXII · OF EIRÍKR

The priest who had told Óláfr of Knútr's holiness came to Eiríkr, who gladly heard of the healings and the vows made to Knútr, and Knútr's sanctity became known through all Denmark.

En er Eiríkr konúngr hafði skamma stund ráðit fyrir
But when Eirik king had short while ruled over
Danmörk, þá kom þar sá hinn sami prestr, er fyrr hafði
Denmark then came there that the same priest who before had
tjáð helgi Knúts konúngs fyrir Ólafi konúngi; ok þegar er
told (the)-holiness of-Knut king before Olaf king and as-soon as
Eiríkr konúngr sá hann, þá heimti konúngr hann á eintal,
Eirik king saw him then called (the)-king him to private-talk
ok spurði hvat hann kynni at segja honum frá táknum
and asked what he could to tell him of signs
þeim, er yrði um helgi Knúts konúngs: var oss þess
those which happened about (the)-holiness of-Knut king was to-us that
fyrir laungu von, segir konúngr, at þar mundi þau efni
for long expected says (the)-king that there would those grounds

í vera, viljum vér vita þat sem gjörst, því öllum oss
in be will we know that as most-exactly because-that to-all us
væri mestr fagnaðr í því, ef þat mætti með sannleik segja.
were greatest joy in that if that might with truth say
Prestr svarar: já, herra! segir hann, fagrt er þar frá at segja
(The)-priest answers yes lord says he fair is there of to tell
ok satt, þvíat þat er með sönnu at segja, ad öngvir kalla þeir
and true because that is with truth to say that none call they
með góðfýsi á hans nafn, at eigi fái þeir skjótt bót allra
with good-will on his name that not get they quickly remedy of-all
meina sinna, hvat sem þeim er at ángri; ok þetta vissu
hurts their whatever as to-them is to grief and this knew
margir með prestinum sannorðir menn; höfðu þá margir áheit
many with the-priest truthful men had then many vows
við Knút konúng, ok urðu margar fagrar jarteignir at hans
to Knut king and happened many fair miracles to his
helgi; gjörðist þá kunnigt um helgi hans um alla Danmörk.
holiness became then known about holiness his through all Denmark

Frá Eiríki konúngi

LXXIII · OF KING EIRÍKR

Eiríkr punished vikings, thieves, and robbers, judged justly, and kept God's law; he was learned, knew many tongues, and was mindful and eloquent, as Markús tells.

Eiríkr konúngr gjörðist nú ríkr höfðíngi ok ágætr,
Eirik king became now a-powerful chieftain and excellent
hann var allra konúnga vinsælastr, hann hegndi mjök ósiðu
he was of-all kings most-popular he punished much misdeeds
manna, hann eyddi víkíngum ok vondum mönnum, hann
of-men he wiped-out vikings and wicked men he

lét drepa þjófa ok ránsmenn, eða hamla á höndum eða
let kill thieves and robbers or maim on hands or
á fótum, eða veita aðrar stórar refsíngar, svá at engi mátti
on feet or give other great punishments so that none could
vondra manna þrífast í Danmörk fyrir honum, hann var
of-wicked men thrive in Denmark for him he was
réttdæmr, ok hélt ríkuliga guðs lög. Svá segir Markús:
just-judging and held richly God's law So says Markus

Vörgum eyddi Vinda fergir,
Wolves wiped-out of-Wends destroyer
víkíngum hepti konúngr fíkjum,
vikings checked (the)-king fierce
þjófa hendr lét þengill stýfa,
of-thieves hands let (the)-prince cut-off
þegnum kunni hann ósið hegna;
in-thanes knew he misdeed to-punish
aldri fráttu at Eiríkr vildi
never heard-you that Eirik wished
allréttligum dómi at halla,
very-righteous judgment to bend
hála kunni sér til sælu
well knew for-himself to bliss
sigrs valdari guðs lög halda.
of-victory wielder God's law hold

Eiríkr konúngr var vitr maðr ok góðr klerkr, ok kunni
Eirik king was a-wise man and good clerk and knew
margar túngur, manna minnigastr ok snjallastr í máli. Svá
many tongues of-men most-mindful and most-eloquent in speech So
segir Markús:
says Markus

Hróðigr átti brynþíngs beiðir
Glorious had of-mail-assembly asker
bjartan auð ok fræklikt hjarta,
bright wealth and bold heart
minni gnógt ok mannvit annat
of-memory plenty and man-wit other
mest, fylgðu því hvergi lestir;
most followed that nowhere faults
alla hafði öðlíngr snilli,
all had (the)-noble eloquence
úngr nam hann margar túngur,
young learned he many tongues
Eiríkr var, sá er mátti meira,
Eirik was he who could more
mestr ofrhugi, jöfri flestum.
greatest over-courage than-princes most

Brottferð Eiríks

LXXIV · EIRÍKR'S JOURNEY

Eiríkr walked to Rome, visited Bari and Venice, and gave generously to holy places. In Rome he won from Pope Paschal an archbishopric for the North and leave to raise Knútr's relics, and he founded a hospice at Piacenza and free wine and lodging for Danish pilgrims at Lucca.

Eiríkr konúngr bjó ferð sína af Danmörk, hann gjörði
Eirik king prepared journey his from Denmark he made
mönnum þat kunnigt, at hann ætlaði suðr til Róms, hann
to-men that known that he intended south to Rome he
hafði virðuligt föruneyti með sér; hann skipaði ríki sínu
had worthy company with himself he arranged realm his
meðan í vald vina sinna til stjórnar; eigi hafði hann
meanwhile into power of-friends his to rule not had he
með sér mikit fjölmenni; hann gekk alla leið suðr til
with himself great following he walked all (the)-way south to
Róms. Svá segir Markús:
Rome So says Markus

Lýst skal hitt er lofðúngr fýstist
Told shall the-other which (the)-king longed
lángan veg til Róms at gánga
long way to Rome to walk
fylkir sá þar friðland bálkat
ruler saw there peace-land fenced
Feneyjar hlið dýrð at nema.
of-Venice gate glory to take

Síðan fór hann út í Fenedí ok í Bár, ok sótti heim
Afterward went he out into Venice and into Bari and visited home
marga helga staði, ok gekk jafnan. Svá segir Markús:
many holy places and walked always So says Markus

Bróðir gekk í Bár út síðan
Brother went into Bari out afterward
bragníngr vildi guddóm magna
(the)-prince wished godhead magnify
hylli guðs mun hlífa stilli
favor of-God will shield (the)-ruler
höfuðskjöldúnga fimm at gjöldum.
of-head-kings five in payments

Eiríkr konúngr varði í þessari ferð stórfé, þar sem
Eirik king spent on this journey great-wealth there where
voru klaustr eða aðrir helgir staðir. Síðan snéri hann aptr
were cloisters or other holy places Afterward turned he back
ferð sinni, ok kom þá enn til Rómaborgar, er hann
journey his and came then again to Rome when he
fór sunnan. Svá segir Markús:
went from-the-south So says Markus

Stóra sótti Haralds hlýri
Great sought of-Harald brother
helga dóma út frá Rómi,
holy relics out from Rome
hríngum varði áttkonr Ýngva
with-rings spent kinsman of-Yngvi
auðig skrín ok gulli rauðu;
rich shrines and with-gold red

mildíngr fór um múnkaveldi
(the)-generous-one went through monks'-realm
móðum fæti sál at bæta,
with-weary foot soul to amend
sveitir kníði allvaldr utan
troops pressed mighty-king from-outside
Eiríkr var til Róms í þeirri.
Eirik was to Rome in that

Eiríkr konúngr dvaldi nokkura stund í Rómaborg, ok gjörði
Eirik king stayed some while in Rome and made
sér at vinum marga höfðíngja þar í borginni ok víða
for-himself into friends many chieftains there in the-city and widely
annarsstaðar, ok kom sér í hina mestu kærleika við þá;
elsewhere and brought himself into the greatest love with them
hann þurfti hvergi túlk fyrir sér, þar sem hann kom. Í
he needed nowhere an-interpreter for himself there where he came In
þenna tíma var Paskalis páfi í Róma, er annar hefir verit
this time was Paschal pope in Rome who (the)-second has been
með því nafni, hann tók sæmiliga við Eiríki konúngi, ok gjörði
with that name he took seemly with Eirik king and made
hann sér kæran í vináttu. Eiríkr þá lof til þess af
him for-himself dear in friendship Eirik received leave to that from

páfanum, at erkistóll skyldi vera í Danmörk, en áðr var
the-pope that an-archbishop's-see should be in Denmark but before was
engi norðar enn í Brimum í Saxlandi. Svá segir Markús:
none farther-north than in Bremen in Saxony So says Markus

Eiríkr náði utan at færa
Eirik obtained from-abroad to bring
erkistól um Saxa merki,
an-archbishop's-see over (the)-Saxons' mark
hljótum vér þat er hag vorn bætir
get we that which state our betters
híngat norðr at skjöldúngs orðum.
hither north at (the)-king's words

Marga hluti aðra þá Eiríkr af páfanum, þá er nytsamligir
Many things other received Eirik from the-pope those which useful
hafa verit á Norðrlöndum. Pávinn leyfði honum at taka upp
have been in (the)-Northlands The-pope allowed him to take up
úr jörðu helgandóm Knúts konúngs. Svá segir Markús:
out-of earth (the)-relics of-Knut king So says Markus

Eyðist hitt at jafn stórt ráði
Is-wasted the-other that equally great rule
annarr gramr til þurftar mönnum;
another prince to need for-men
leyfði allt, sem konúngr krafði,
allowed all as (the)-king demanded
Krists unnandi pávi sunnan.
of-Christ lover pope from-the-south

Síðan skildu þeir pávinn ok Eiríkr með vináttu ok miklum
Afterward parted they the-pope and Eirik with friendship and great
kærleikum. Eiríkr konúngr snéri þá til heimferðar, en er
love Eirik king turned then to homeward-journey but when
hann kom til borgarinnar Placencía, þá setti hann spítala skamt
he came to the-city Piacenza then set he a-hospital short
frá borginni; en er hann kom til borgarinnar, er Lúka
from the-city but when he came to the-city which Lucca
heitir, þá gaf hann þar fé til þess, at allir pílagrímar, þeir
is-called then gave he there wealth to that that all pilgrims those
er á dönsku töluðu, skyldu þar ókeypis nóg vín drekka, ok
who in Danish spoke should there free-of-charge enough wine drink and
heimila gistíng eiga. Eptir þetta fór Eiríkr konúngr heim til
free lodging have After this went Eirik king home to
Danmerkr í ríki sitt, varð hann allfrægr af för þessari.
Denmark into realm his became he very-famous from journey this

Frá Heinreki keisara

LXXV · OF EMPEROR HEINREKR

While Eiríkr was abroad, Emperor Heinrekr conquered the Danish realm in Wendland and set his brother-in-law Björn over it, married to his half-sister Bóthildr, great-granddaughter of Hákon jarl, and the Wends fell away from the Danes.

Nú var í þenna tíma keisari í Saxlandi Heinrekr, son
Now was in this time emperor in Saxony Heinrek son
Heinreks keisara hins milda, hann var hermaðr mikill, ok
of-Heinrek emperor the Mild he was a-warrior great and
er hann spurði at Eiríkr konúngr var úr landi farinn, þá
when he learned that Eirik king was out-of land gone then

stefndi hann miklum her saman í ríki sínu, ok fór með
summoned he great host together in realm his and went with
her þann til Vindlands, ok vann þar mikinn hernat í ríki
host that to Wendland and did there great raiding in realm
því, er Dana konúngar höfðu átt þar lengi; játaði þar
that which Danes' kings had owned there long granted there
allt fólk hlýðni keisaranum; heiðit var allt fólk í Vindlandi
all folk obedience to-the-emperor heathen was all folk in Wendland
þá í þenna tíma. Keísarinn setti þar yfir marga höfðíngja
then in this time The-emperor set there over many chieftains
til gæzlu yfir ríki þat, er hann hafði unnit; einn af þeim
to keeping over realm that which he had won one of them
hét Björn, sá var ríkastr. Björn mælti til keisara: við
was-called Bjorn he was mightiest Bjorn spoke to (the)-emperor at
slíkt stórvirki, sem vér höfum unnit á ríki Danakonúngs,
such great-work as we have done on (the)-realm of-(the)-Danes'-king
þá þurfum vér mjök yðvarn afla; vil ek nú þess beiða,
then need we much your strength will I now that ask
at þér unnit oss teingda við yðr; vil ek nú þess ok
that you grant us kinship with you will I now that also
biðja ok hafa tilmæli, er frú Bóthildr er, systir yður, þvíat
ask and have request that lady Bothild is sister your because
mér sýnist þetta eigi hættulaust, at sitja hér fyrir Dönum;
to-me seems this not without-danger to sit here against Danes
er yðr ok kunnig ætt mín ok atferð. Keisari lézt
is to-you also known kin my and conduct (The)-emperor professed
mundi veita honum þetta, ef hann vildi sik allan tilleggja,
would grant him this if he wished himself all to-apply
at verja þetta ríki fyrir Dönum eðr öðrum þeim, er til
to defend this realm against Danes or others those who to
vildi kalla. Síðan gipti keisari frú Bótildi Birni; þat er
wished to-claim Afterward married (the)-emperor lady Bothild to-Bjorn that is

sagt frá hennar ætt, hún var systir keisara sammædd,
told of her kin she was sister of-(the)-emperor of-same-mother
en faðir hennar hét Þorgautr, hann var danskr at ætt,
but father her was-called Thorgaut he was Danish in kin
hann var hirðmaðr Sveins konúngs Úlfssonar, hann var
he was retainer of-Svein king Ulf's-son he was
manna fríðastr, hann kallaði Haraldr konúngr Sigurðarson
of-men handsomest him called Harald king Sigurd's-son
fögrumskinna; faðir hans hét Úlfr, hann var jarl í
Fair-skin father his was-called Ulf he was earl in
Danmörk, hann var hermaðr mikill; hann fór í vestrvíking,
Denmark he was a-warrior great he went on west-viking
ok vann Galizuland ok eyddi, ok gjörði þar mikinn hernað,
and won Galicia and wasted and made there great raiding
ok því var hann kallaðr Galizu-úlfr; hann átti Bóthildi,
and therefore was he called Galicia-Ulf he had Bothild
dóttur Hákonar jarls Eiríkssonar, var hún móðir Þorgauts
daughter of-Hakon earl Eirik's-son was she mother of-Thorgaut
fögrumskinna. Keisari setti nú Björn mág sinn
Fair-skin (The)-emperor set now Bjorn kinsman-by-marriage his
höfðíngja yfir því ríki, sem hann hafði unnit í Vindlandi;
chieftain over that realm which he had won in Wendland
en Heinrekr keisari snéri þá heim aptr í Saxland; en
but Heinrek emperor turned then home back into Saxony but
Björn settist í ríki Danakonúngs, ok hugðist halda
Bjorn settled in (the)-realm of-(the)-Danes'-king and thought-himself hold
mundu því ríki fyrir Dönum. Í þenna tíma kom Eiríkr
would that realm against Danes In this time came Eirik
konúngr sunnan frá Rómi, er Vindr höfðu gengit
king from-the-south from Rome when (the)-Wends had gone

undan hlýðni við hann, ok gafst þeim svá sinn útrúnaðr,
from obedience to him and gave-itself to-them so their unfaithfulness
sem enn mun síðar verða frásagt. Svá segir Markús:
as still will later be told So says Markus

Veldi þorðut Vindr at halda
Realm dared-not (the)-Wends to hold
villan gjörðist þeim at illu
the-error became to-them to ill
sunnan kom þá svikdóms manna
from-the-south came then of-treachery men
sátta rof, þat er buðlúngr átti.
of-settlement breach that which (the)-prince had

Frá Eiríki

LXXVI · OF EIRÍKR

Home again, Eiríkr summoned the levy and invaded Wendland, drawing up his troop in a wedge and fighting in the front rank. Björn fell, the Wends submitted and paid tribute, and Eiríkr burned their halls and claimed the land as his inheritance, returning by Eyland, as Markús's verses tell.

Þá er Eiríkr konúngr kom heim í ríki sitt, ok hann
Then when Eirik king came home into realm his and he
spurði þenna ófrið, er keisarinn hafði gjört í Vindlandi,
learned this unpeace which the-emperor had made in Wendland
þá átti hann þegar þíng við höfðíngja ok bændr, ok
then had he at-once an-assembly with chieftains and farmers and
talaði hann svá: Öllum mönnum er kunnigr suðrmanna
talked he so To-all men is known (the)-southern-men's

ágángr á ríki þau, er Danakonúngar, vorir frændr, hafa
aggression on realms those which Danes'-kings our kinsmen have
lengi átt í Vindlandi; nú skulu þat vita allir mínir menn,
long owned in Wendland now shall that know all my men
at vér ætlum þessum ófriði af oss at hrinda, eða bíða
that we intend this unpeace off us to thrust or wait
bana ella. Síðan sendi hann herboð um allt sitt ríki,
for-death else Afterward sent he war-summons through all his realm
ok dró saman herlið mikit, aflaði sér síðan til skipa,
and drew together war-troop great got for-himself afterward to ships
ok sigldi með allan herinn til Vindlands. Svá segir Markús:
and sailed with all the-host to Wendland So says Markus

Ýngvi hélt í óða straungum
Yngvi held in raging currents
öldugángi skipum þángat;
in-wave-going ships thither
hlýðan skalf, en hristi græðir
lee shook but shook (the)-sea
hélug börð, fyrir Vinda görðum.
frosted planks before (the)-Wends' yards

En er Vindahöfðíngjar, þeir sem keisari hafði þar yfir
But when (the)-Wend-chieftains those whom (the)-emperor had there over
skipat, spurðu at Danaher bjóst á hendr þeim, þá
set learned that (the)-Danish-host readied-itself on hands them then
stefndu þeir liði saman, ok bjuggust til bardaga. Eiríkr
summoned they troop together and readied-themselves for battle Eirik
spurði þat, at Vindar vildu verja honum ríki sitt, gekk hann
learned that that (the)-Wends wished to-defend from-him realm his went he
þá á land með lið sitt, ok fylktu þá hvorir með sínu liði.
then on land with troop his and drew-up then each with his troop

Eiríkr konúngr fylkti svá sínu liði, at rani var á framan á
Eirik king drew-up so his troop that a-snout was on in-front on
fylkíngunni, ok lukt allt utan með skjaldborg. Svá segir Markús:
the-array and closed all outside with a-shield-wall So says Markus

Röndu lauk um rekka kindir
With-rim closed about of-warriors children
risnu maðr, svá at hver tók aðra;
of-bounty man so that each took (the)-other
hamalt, knáttu þá hlífar glymja,
wedge-shaped could then shields clang
hildíngr fylkti liði miklu.
(the)-warrior drew-up troop great

Síðan lét Eiríkr konúngr bera fram merki sitt, tókst
Afterward let Eirik king bear forth standard his began
þar hin snarpasta orrosta. Eiríkr konúngr var framarliga í
there the fiercest battle Eirik king was foremost in
orrostu, ok barðist alldjarfliga, hann var í brynju, ok hafði
battle and fought very-boldly he was in mail and had
hjálm á höfði. Svá segir Markús:
a-helmet on head So says Markus

Styrjöld óx um stilli örvan,
Strife grew about ruler generous
stengr báru fram vísis drengir,
poles bore forth (the)-leader's fellows
mildíngr gekk at miklum hjaldri
(the)-generous-one went to great battle
málmi skrýddr ok faldinn hjálmi.
with-metal clad and hooded with-helmet

Síðan lögðust Vindar á flótta, ok héldu sik á
Afterward laid-themselves (the)-Wends on flight and held themselves in
ýmsum stöðum í borgum ok í kastölum, en Danir sóttu
various places in strongholds and in castles but (the)-Danes attacked
eptir þeim, ok áttu við þá bardaga, ok drápu mart af
after them and had with them fights and killed many of
þeim. Svá segir Markús:
them So says Markus

Hörga varðist herr í borgum,
Of-altars defended-itself (the)-host in strongholds
hjaldr gánga var snörut þángat,
battle going was briskly thither
harðir knídust menn at morði,
hard pressed men to slaughter
merki blés um hilmi sterkan;
standard blew about ruler strong
Eiríkr vakti odda skúrir,
Eirik waked of-points showers
eggjar týndu lífi seggja;
edges lost life of-men
súngu járn, en svæfðust drengir,
sang iron but were-put-to-sleep fellows
sveiti féll á valköst heitan.
sweat fell on slain-heap hot

Blóðit dreif á randgarð rauðan,
The-blood sprinkled on shield-wall red
rógs hegnir drap ótal þegna,
of-strife punisher killed countless thanes
framdi sik, þar er fólkvopn glumdu,
furthered himself there where folk-weapons clanged
fylkir úngr, en brynjur sprúngu.
ruler young but mail-coats burst

Vindar sáu þann sinn kost beztan, at gánga til handa
(The)-Wends saw that their choice best to go to hands
Eiríki konúngi, ok hætta nú til, hverja miskunn hann vill
of-Eirik king and risk now to whatever mercy he will
gjöra þeim. Svá segir Markús:
do them So says Markus

Heiðinn vildi herr um síðir
Heathen wished (the)-host at last
hömlu vigs úr porti gömlu,
of-oar-loop of-battle out-of gate old
urðu þeir, er virkit vöru,
became they who the-stronghold were
vángi næst á hönd at gánga.
cheek nearest on hand to go

Þar var orðit svá mikit mannfall, at engi kom tölu á, þar
There was become so great slaughter that none came count on there
hafði ok fallit Björn, mágr keisarans, ok nær allt
had also fallen Bjorn kinsman-by-marriage of-the-emperor and nearly all
lið þat, er honum hafði fylgt; þar tók Eiríkr konúngr
troop that which him had followed there took Eirik king

mikit herfáng, ok skipti því öllu með sínum mönnum, en
great war-booty and divided that all among his men but
hann sjálfr vildi ekki af hafa. Eiríkr konúngr lét brenna
he himself wished not of to-have Eirik king let burn
bygðir víða um landit, ok varð fólkit svá hrætt, at flýði
settlements widely through the-land and became the-folk so afraid that fled
undan víðs vegar. Svá segir Markús:
away wide ways So says Markus

Heiðin voru hjörtun lýða
Heathen were the-hearts of-people
hrygðafull í Vinda bygðum,
grief-full in (the)-Wends' settlements
eldrinn sveif um ótal hölda,
the-fire swept over countless men
Eiríkr brendi sali þeirra;
Eirik burned halls their
eisur kyndust hátt í húsum,
embers were-kindled high in houses
hallir náðu vítt at falla,
halls got widely to fall
óttu leið, en uppi þóttu
matins passed but up seemed
elris grand í himni standa.
of-alder harm in heaven stand

Þat var ok, sem Markús sagði, at í þessum hernaði lét
That was also as Markus said that in this raiding lost
margr maðr sitt líf bæði fyrir eldi ok vopnum; fóru sumir
many a-man his life both by fire and weapons went some
Vindar þá á fund Eiríks konúngs. Konúngrinn lagði á þá
Wends then to meeting of-Eirik king The-king laid on them

stór fégjöld, ok taldi þat ríki arftekna jörð sína, er
great money-payments and counted that realm inherited land his which
Danakonúngar höfðu átt í Vindlandi, síðan er Sveinn
Danes'-kings had owned in Wendland since when Svein
konúngr tjúguskegg lagði þat undir sik. Svá segir Markús:
king Forkbeard laid that under himself So says Markus

Eiríkr var með uppreist harri,
Eirik was with uprising lord
undan flýðu Vindr af stundu,
away fled (the)-Wends at once
gjöld festu þá grimmir höldar
payments pledged then grim men
gumnar voru sigri numnir;
men were by-victory taken
ýngvi taldi erfðir þángat,
prince counted inheritance thither
alþýða varð stilli at hlýða,
(the)-common-people became (the)-ruler to obey
veldi réð því ástvinr aldar,
realm ruled that beloved-friend of-men
einatt lá þat fyrr und Sveini.
often lay that before under Svein

Eiríkr konúngr setti þar menn til gæzlu í Vindlandi, ok
Eirik king set there men to keeping in Wendland and
því ríki héldu þeir undir Danakonúnga; síðan fór Eiríkr
that realm held they under Danes'-kings afterward went Eirik
konúngr heim með sigri miklum til Danmerkr, kom hann
king home with victory great to Denmark came he

fyrst við Eyland skipum sínum, er hann kom sunnan
first by Oland ships his when he came from-the-south
af Vindlandi, sem Markús segir:
from Wendland as Markus says

Flaustum lukti fólka treystir
With-ships closed of-folk truster
foldar síðu brimi kníða
of-land side with-surf pressed
örr vísi bað oddum læsa
generous leader bade with-points lock
úrga strönd ok svalri röndu;
wet strand and with-cool shield
hlífum keyrði hersa reifir
with-shields drove of-lords gladdener
harðla nýtr um landit ytra,
very useful about the-land outer
hilmir lauk við hernað ólman
(the)-ruler closed with raiding wild
hauðr Eydana skjaldborg rauðri.
land of-Isle-Danes with-shield-wall red

Eptir þetta settist Eiríkr konúngr um kyrt heima í ríki
After this settled Eirik king in quiet at-home in realm
sínu, ok varð enn frægr ok ágætr af ferð þessari.
his and became still famous and excellent from journey this

Upptekinn heilagr dómr Knúts konúngs

LXXVII · KING KNÚTR'S RELICS TAKEN UP

With the bishops' consent Eiríkr had Knútr's coffin opened at Óðinsey; a cripple was healed as the relics passed, and the body was found whole. A linen doll the size of the body was laid on it and set alight with hallowed fire; the body lay unburned when the doll was ash. Knútr was enshrined and his day kept as a high feast, and Benedikt, his wounds found healed, rested in a shrine of his own.

Eiríkr konúngr lét kalla saman alla hina vitrustu menn í
Eirik king let call together all the wisest men in
ríki sínu, lærða ok ólærða. Konúngrinn segir, at þat er
realm his learned and unlearned The-king says that that is
hans vili, at leitat sé til graptar Knúts konúngs, ef þat
his will that searched be for (the)-grave of-Knut king if that
væri eigi á móti vilja kennimanna, segir þó á þeirra forsjá
were not in against will of-clerics says yet on their foresight
vera skyldu. Allir báðu konúng fyrir at sjá; ok þá með
be should All bade (the)-king for to see and then with
samþykki biskupanna ok allrar alþýðu ok konúngs
consent of-the-bishops and of-all (the)-common-people and (the)-king's
atkvæði fóru þeir til Fjóns með miklu fjölmenni, voru
decision went they to Fyn with great multitude were
þar þá með konúngi allir hinir beztu menn í Danmörk.
there then with (the)-king all the best men in Denmark
Síðan var leitat til leiðis Knúts konúngs, ok tekin upp
Afterward was searched for (the)-grave of-Knut king and taken up
kistan, ok var heilagr dómr hans borinn um kirkju með
the-coffin and was holy relic his borne about (the)-church with
lofsaungum, en fyrir austan kirkju sat einn maðr, sá er
praise-songs but on east-of (the)-church sat one man he who

lengi hafði kryplingr verit, hann varð fyrir þeim mönnum,
long had a-cripple been he was before those men
er helgan dómina báru, en er þeir báru fram yfir hann
who (the)-holy relics bore but when they bore forth over him
kistuna, þa stóð hann heill upp, ok gekk með öðrum
the-coffin then stood he whole up and walked with other
mönnum um kirkjuna, lofandi guð ok hinn heilaga Knút
men about the-church praising God and the holy Knut
konúng. Síðan var heilagr dómr borinn í kirkjuna, ok
king Afterward was holy relic borne into the-church and
var settr á mitt kirkjugólfit; eptir þat gekk konúngrinn til
was set on middle the-church-floor after that went the-king to
ok kennimenn, ok var upplokin kista Knúts konúngs, ok
and clerics and was opened-up (the)-coffin of-Knut king and
líkami hans var með heilu líki, sem hann væri þá nýandaðr,
body his was with whole flesh as he were then newly-dead
ok þótti öllum mönnum þetta mikils vert; þá var líkaminn
and seemed to-all men this much worth then was the-body
tekinn úr kistunni, ok lagðr á barar. Þá mæltu menn, at
taken out-of the-coffin and laid on a-bier Then spoke men that
reyna skyldi helgan dóminn, ok viku þessu allir til konúngs
test should (the)-holy relic and turned this all to (the)-king's
atkvæða. Konúngr mælti: þess em ek fúsari, at reyndr sé,
decision (The)-king spoke of-that am I more-eager that tested be
þvíat þat kann vera, ef eigi er reyndr, at þat sé mælt at
because that may be if not is tested that that be said that
þetta sé fals ok nýúng vor, Dana; en vér væntum þess,
this be falsehood and novelty our of-Danes but we expect that
at guð muni þat veita fyrir verðleik síns píningarvotts,
that God will that grant for merit of-his martyr
Knúts konúngs, at þá skuli öllum enn auðsærra vera ok
Knut king that then shall to-all still more-evident be and

óefanligra um hans helgi, er þar sé meiri raun til gjör,
more-undoubted about his holiness if there be greater proof to made
svá at þá megi engi ifa um. Þá lét Eiríkr konúngr taka
so that then may none doubt about Then let Eirik king take
lérept óhreint ok vefja saman í brúðu, til þess at þat var
linen unclean and wrap together into a-doll to that that it was
eigi meira né skemra enn líkami Knúts konúngs; síðan var
not bigger nor shorter than (the)-body of-Knut king afterward was
þessi brúða lögð ofan á líkamann, þá var tekinn vígðr eldr,
this doll laid down on the-body then was taken hallowed fire
ok lagðr í brúðuna, ok hún brann svá, at aska ein var
and laid into the-doll and it burned so that ash alone was
eptir, en líkamr hins helga Knúts konúngs var óbrunninn
after but (the)-body of-the holy Knut king was unburned
ok svá alheill, at öngu hári var skatt, en líkaminn var
and so all-whole that no hair was scathed but the-body was
miklu bjartari enn áðr; hófu lærðir menn upp Te deum,
much brighter than before raised learned men up Thee God
ok lofaðu allir almátkan guð, ok þenna hans píningar vott;
and praised all almighty God and this his of-martyrdom witness
var þá þegar tekinn í mikit hald hans lífláts dagr, ok
was then at-once taken into great keeping his life-loss day and
er um alla Danmörk hans messudagr haldinn, sem hinar
is through all Denmark his mass-day kept as the
hæstu hátíðir. Þá var úr jörðu tekinn líkkista Benedikts
highest feasts Then was out-of earth taken (the)-coffin of-Benedikt
konúngsbróðurs, ok voru sár hans öll gróin, þau er horft
(the)-king's-brother and were wounds his all healed those which turned
höfðu at Knúti konúngi. Eiríkr konúngr lét gjöra virðuligt
had to Knut king Eirik king let make a-worthy
skrín, var þar í lagðr heilagr dómr konúngs, var skrínit
shrine was there into laid (the)-holy relic of-(the)-king was the-shrine

sett yfir altari. I öðru skríni hvílir Benedikt í Óðinsve á
set over (the)-altar In another shrine rests Benedikt in Odinsey on
Fjóni. I þessi sömu kirkju, er nú er helgut Knúti konúngi,
Fyn In this same church which now is hallowed to-Knut king
veitir guð fyrir hans bænir ok árnaðarorð mykla miskunn
grants God for his prayers and intercession great mercy
ok margar jarteignir: þar fá blindir menn sýn, haltir gánga,
and many miracles there get blind men sight lame walk
líkþráir hreinsast, djöflar flýja frá óðum mönnum; veitist
lepers are-cleansed devils flee from mad men is-granted
þessi hjálp ok víða, þarsem á hann er heitit eða kallat
this help also widely where on him is called-upon or called
með réttri trú, at samvinnanda drottni vorum Jesú Kristó,
with right faith with co-working lord our Jesus Christ
þeim er lifir ok ríkir einn guð at eilífu utan enda, amen.
him who lives and reigns one God for ever without end amen

Frá sonum Eiríks konúngs

LXXVIII · OF KING EIRÍKR'S SONS

Eiríkr had a son, Knútr, by the captive Bóthildr, whom he sent home but kept the boy; his elder sons were Eiríkr and Haraldr kesja, and his daughter's son Eiríkr lamb. He built five stone churches, as Markús records.

Eiríkr konúngr hafði tekit at herfángi frú Bóthildi, systur
Eirik king had taken as war-booty lady Bothild sister
Heinreks keisara, er átt hafði Björn, sem fyrr var ritat; fór
of-Heinrek emperor whom had had Bjorn as before was written went
hún til Danmerkr með Eiríki konúngi; við henni gat Eiríkr
she to Denmark with Eirik king with her begot Eirik

konúngr son; sá sveinn hét eptir Knúti hinum helga,
king a-son that boy was-called after Knut the Holy
bróður hans, hann var snemma vænligr ok fríðr sýnum; en
brother his he was early promising and handsome in-looks but
er hann var úngr at aldri, þa sagði Eiríkr konúngr frú
when he was young in age then said Eirik king to-lady
Bóthildi svá: nú hafa vistir þínar verit hér nokkurar stundir,
Bothild so now have stays your been here some while
en nú mun þat þrjóta, mun ek nú láta fylgja þér heim til
but now will that end will I now let follow you home to
frænda þinna. Hún svarar: ek ætla okkr lítt til ástarfunda
kinsmen your She answers I think for-us-two little for love-meetings
auðit hafa vorðit, ok hafit þér meirr gert samlag við mik
granted have become and have you more made union with me
af heipt enn ást; munu þér þá, herra! unna mér þess,
from hatred than love will you then lord grant me that
at Knútr, son okkar, fari með mér til hugganar. Konúngr
that Knut son our-two go with me for comfort (The)-king
svarar: ekki á ek svá gott at launa frændum þínum, at
answers not have I so good to repay kinsmen your that
ek unna þeim þess, at þessi maðr vaxi þar upp, þvíat þat
I grant them that that this man grow there up because that
er hugboð mitt, at hann verði at sæmd sínum frændum
is foreboding my that he become to honor to-his kinsmen
ok mörgum öðrum. Síðan var henni fylgt heim til frænda
and many others Afterward was she escorted home to kinsmen
sinna, fékk konúngr henni sæmiligt föruneyti. En Knútr óx
her got (the)-king her a-seemly company But Knut grew
upp í hirð föður síns, hann var vinsæll ok vel mentr
up in (the)-court of-father his he was popular and well educated
í alla staði; konúngrinn unni honum mikit ok þarmeð öll
in all places the-king loved him much and therewith all

alþýða. Eiríkr konúngr átti 2 sonu aðra, þá er ellri
(the)-common-people Eirik king had two sons other those who older
voru, hét annarr Eiríkr, en annarr Haraldr kesja, þeir
were was-called one Eirik but (the)-other Harald Halberd they
voru báðir efniligir menn. Eiríkr konúngr átti eina dóttur,
were both promising men Eirik king had one daughter
hún var gipt þeim manni, er hét Hákon hinn nærræni,
she was married to-that man who was-called Hakon the Norwegian
hann var ok kallaðr Hákon Sunnifuson; Sunnifa var dóttir
he was also called Hakon Sunniva's-son Sunniva was daughter
Hákonar jarls Ívarssonar ok Ragnhildar, dóttur Magnúss
of-Hakon earl Ivar's-son and of-Ragnhild daughter of-Magnus
konúngs hins góða. Sonr Hákonar hins norræna ok
king the Good (The)-son of-Hakon the Norwegian and
Ragnhildar, dóttur Eiríks konúngs, hét Eiríkr lamb, er
of-Ragnhild daughter of-Eirik king was-called Eirik Lamb who
enn mun síðar verða frá sagt. Eiríkr konúngr hafði laungum
still will later be of told Eirik king had long
starfsamt í ríki sínu, á meðan hann réði fyrir Danmörk;
busy in realm his in while he ruled over Denmark
hann lagði mikla stund á stjórn bæði lands ok laga, hann
he laid great time on governing both of-land and of-laws he
hafði ok mikinn hug á at styðja staði þá, er niðr voro
had also great mind on to support places those which down were
fallnir eða hrörnaðir; hann lét gjöra 5 steinkyrkjur af sjálfs
fallen or decayed he let make five stone-churches from self
síns kostnaði, ok lagði síðan fé til. Svá segir Markús:
his cost and laid afterward wealth to So says Markus

Víða setti vísdóms græðir
Widely set of-wisdom healer
virki skrýddar höfuð kyrkjur,
strongholds adorned head churches
gjöra lét þar hollr um héruð
make let there (the)-gracious-one through districts
hrein musteri fimm af steini;
pure minsters five of stone
voru þau með trygðar tiri
were they with of-faith glory
tíða flaustr, er gramr lét smíða
of-hours ship which (the)-prince let build
böðvar snjallr ok beztr at öllu
of-battle valiant and best in all
borði merkt fyrir Saxa norðan.
board marked on (the)-Saxons from-the-north

Jórsalaferð Eiríks konúngs

LXXIX · KING EIRÍKR'S JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM

Eiríkr announced at an assembly his pilgrimage to Jerusalem, leaving Haraldr kesja to rule, giving Knútr the duchy of Heiðabær, and naming his brother Nikulás heir by law. The King of the Franks sent gifts, and the emperor troops.

Þat var eitt sinn at Eiríkr konúngr átti fjölment þíng,
That was one time that Eirik king had a-crowded assembly
hann tók svá til orðs: guð þakki yðr Dönum ást ok hlýðni
he took so to word God thank you Danes love and obedience

ok marga góða hluti, er þér hafit til mín gjört, meðan
and many good things which you have to me done while
vort samveldi hefir verit, en nú ætla ek mér ferð úr
our joint-rule has been but now intend I for-myself a-journey out-of
landi til Jórsala, er þat eigi vist, hvort mér verðr auðit
land to Jerusalem is that not certain whether to-me becomes granted
aptrkomu, skal fara með mér Eiríkr son minn, ok þar með
return shall go with me Eirik son my and there with
aðrir höfðíngjar, þeir er (ek) ræð til at nefna; Haraldr son
other chieftains those whom I decide to to name Harald son
minn skal vera eptir til landsstjórnar í Danmörk, meðan
my shall be behind for land-government in Denmark while
ek em á braut. Knúti syni mínum vil ek gefa hertogadóm,
I am off away To-Knut son my will I give a-dukedom
ok þarmeð Heiðabý ok þat ríki, er þar fylgir; en þat er
and therewith Hedeby and that realm which there follows but that is
öllum mönnum kunnigt, at Nikulás, bróðir minn er nærstr
to-all men known that Nikulas brother my is nearest
konúngdóminum eptir minn dag fyrir laga sakir, vil ek
to-the-kingship after my day for law's sake will I
ok eigi ræna hann sinni sæmd ok ríki, vænti ek at hann
also not rob him of-his honor and realm expect I that he
muni mér þat vel launa; þikjumst ek eiga at honum góða
will me that well repay think-myself I have at him good
frændsemi, at hann veiti Knúti syni mínum vináttu ok
kinship that he grant Knut son my friendship and
styrk, til at halda ríki því, er ek fæ honum í hendr,
strength to to hold realm that which I give him into hands
þvíat hann er sjálfr barn at aldri; vildi ek at þeir frændr
because he is himself a-child in age wished I that those kinsmen
byggi vel saman, vil ek ok þess biðja alla mína vini, at
lived well together will I also that ask all my friends that

þeir gjöri vel til sveinsins ok sæmiliga. Síðan bjó Eiríkr
they do well to the-boy and seemly Afterward prepared Eirik
konúngr ferð sína með miklum kostnaði, ok spurðist víða
king journey his with great cost and was-learned widely
þessi hans fyrirætlan, réðust ok margir ríkismenn til þessarar
this his plan undertook also many men-of-rank to this
ferðar, bæði útlenzkir ok innlenzkir. Í þenna tíma sendi
journey both foreign and native In this time sent
Frakkakonúngr Eiríki konúngi sæmiligar gjafir, áðr hann fór
(the)-Franks'-king to-Eirik king seemly gifts before he went
úr landi. Þat er flestra manna sögn, at þá hafi verit gjör
out-of land That is of-most men tale that then have been made
sátt í millum Heinreks keisara ok Eiríks Danakonúngs, svá
settlement in between Heinrek emperor and Eirik Danes'-king so
at þeir sjálfir sendust gjöfum í millum. Keisarinn sendi
that they themselves sent-each-other gifts in between The-emperor sent
Eiríki konúngi herlið mikit af sínu ríki. Svá segir Markús:
Eirik king war-troop great from his realm So says Markus

Blíðan gæddi björtum auði
Blithe endowed with-bright wealth
Bjarnar hlýra Frakklands stýrir,
of-Bjorn brother of-France steerer
stórar lét sér randgarðs rýrir
great let himself of-shield-wall diminisher
ríks keisara gjafir líka;
mighty emperor's gifts please

honum lét til hervígs búna
to-him let for war ready
harra spjalli láð menn snjalla
of-lord confidant land men valiant
alla leið, áðr öðlíngr náði
all way before (the)-noble reached
Jóta grundar Cesars fundi.
of-(the)-Jutes ground of-Caesar meeting

Frá erkibiskupi

LXXX · OF THE ARCHBISHOP

Össurr Sveinsson, bishop of Lund, was chosen first archbishop of Denmark, with the see at Lund, as Markús tells.

Í þenna tíma var Özur, son Sveins Þórgunnusonar, biskup i
In this time was Ozur son of-Svein Thorgunna's-son bishop in
Lund í Skáney, hann var ríkr ok stórættaðr, ok hinn mesti
Lund in Scania he was powerful and great-born and the greatest
höfðíngi, hann átti frændaafla mikinn, ok sýndist mörgum
chieftain he had kinsmen's-strength great and seemed to-many
mönnum hann vel til erkibiskups fallinn, ok með forsjó Eiríks
men him well to archbishop fitted and with foresight of-Eirik
konúngs ok allra samþykki í Danmörk, þá var Özur kosinn
king and of-all consent in Denmark then was Ozur chosen

til erkibiskups í Danmörk, ok skyldi erkistóll vera í
to archbishop in Denmark and should (the)-archbishop's-see be in
Lundi, skyldu þar allir Danir til þjóna. Svá segir Markús:
Lund should there all Danes to serve So says Markus

Dróttum lét í Danmörk settan
For-hosts let in Denmark set
döglíng grundar skamt frá Lundi
(the)-king of-ground short from Lund
erkistól, þann er öll þjóð dýrkar,
an-archbishop's-see that which all people worships
eljun þúngr, á danska túngu;
with-zeal weighty in (the)-Danish tongue
hildíngr framdi heilagt veldi,
(the)-warrior furthered holy power
hvar gegnan má Özur fregna
where able may Ozur ask
honum vísar hölda reynir
to-him points of-men tester
himna stig, til biskups vígðan.
of-heavens path to bishop consecrated

Frá Eiríki konúngi

LXXXI · OF KING EIRÍKR

Eiríkr was received in procession in every city. In Miklagarðr Alexis, king of the Greeks, offered him half a load of gold or the hippodrome games; he chose the gold and was given robes and fourteen warships. He died on Cyprus, mourned as the best-loved Danish king, after eight winters' rule, as Markús laments.

Nú er Eiríkr konúngr hafði búit lið sitt, sem honum líkaði,
Now when Eirik king had prepared troop his as him pleased
þá fór hann úr landi með fríðu föruneyti; hann hafði mikit
then went he out-of land with handsome company he had great
riddaralið, ok marga fótgángandi menn. Svá segir Markús:
knight-troop and many foot-going men So says Markus

Lýst skal hitt er læknast fýstist
Told shall the-other which to-be-healed longed
lið hraustr konúngr sár en iðri;
of-troop brave king wounds the inner
norðan fór með helmíng harðan
from-the-north went with host hard
hersa mæðir sál at græða;
of-lords wearier soul to heal
harri bjóst til heims ins dýrra
(the)-lord readied-himself to world the dearer
hann gjörði för út at kanna,
he made journey out to explore
böðlúngr vildi bjart líf öðlast,
(the)-prince wished bright life to-gain
bygð Jórsala í friði trygða.
(the)-settlement of-Jerusalem in peace of-faith

Eiríkr konúngr fór ríkuliga ok með pris miklum; ok í
Eirik king went richly and with honor great and in
hverri borg, er hann kom, þá var hans sæmd gjör, gengu
each city where he came then was his honor done went
kennimenn í móti honum með prócessióne ok helgum
clerics in against him with procession and holy
dómi. Svá segir Markús:
relics So says Markus

Báru menn úr borgum stórum
Bore men out-of cities great
bleyði skjars á móti harra,
of-cowardice of-shield in against (the)-lord
súngit var þá herr tók hríngja,
sung was then (the)-host took to-ring
hnossum göfgud skrín ok krossa;
with-treasures honored shrines and crosses
aldri fær í annars veldi
never gets in another's realm
jöfra ríkr metnað slíkan,
of-princes mighty honor such
eitt var sér þat er jafnast mátti
one was for-himself that which equal could
engi maðr við Dana þengil.
no man with (the)-Danes' prince

Eiríkr konúngr fór til þess, er hann kom til Miklagarðs, þá
Eirik king went till that when he came to Miklagard then
var Alexis Grikkjakonúngr, hann tók vel við Eiríki konúngi,
was Alexis Greeks'-king he took well with Eirik king
ok veitti honum virðuliga veizlu. Alexis konúngr bauð Eiríki
and granted him worthy feast Alexis king offered Eirik

konúngi, hvört hann vildi heldr þiggja af honum hálfa
king whether he wished rather to-accept from him half
lest gulls, eða léti hann leika fyrir honum þann leik, er
a-load of-gold or let he play before him that game which
Grikkjar kalla paðreims leik, ok konúngr er vanr at láta
(the)-Greeks call hippodrome's game and (the)-king is wont to let
leika á paðreimi, í þeim stað er svá heitir, ok sögðu
play at (the)-hippodrome in that place which so is-called and said
allir at eigi kostaði konúnginn minna leikrinn, enn þetta
all that not cost the-king less the-game than this
gull, er hann bauð Eiríki konúngi; en fyrir því at Eiríki
gold which he offered Eirik king but for that that to-Eirik
konúngi var kostnaðarsamt, er hann hélt fjölmenni mikit,
king was costly when he held following great
ok eyddist mjök lausafé hans, en farvegr lángr fyrir
and was-spent much movable-wealth his but way long before
hendi, þá kaus hann fyrir þá sök gullit. Þessi sami Alexis
hand then chose he for that reason the-gold This same Alexis
Grikkjakonúngr bauð síðan Sigurði Noregskonúngi jórsalafara
Greeks'-king offered afterward Sigurd Norway's-king Jerusalem-farer
slíkan kost, en með því at Sigurðr fór þá heimleiðis, ok
such choice but with that that Sigurd went then homeward and
hafði þá lokit hinum mesta fékostnaði, þá kaus hann fyrir
had then finished the greatest money-cost then chose he for
því leikinn, ok greinast menn á fyrir því, hvört höfðíngligra
that the-game and differ men in for that whether more-lordly
þótti. Grikkjakonúngr gaf Eiríki konúngi tignarklæði sín, ok
seemed (The)-Greeks'-king gave Eirik king robes-of-state his and

hann gaf honum 14 herskip, ok marga hluti veitti hann
he gave him fourteen warships and many things granted he
honum stórmannliga í fégjöfum. Svá segir Markús:
him lordly in money-gifts So says Markus

Hildíngr þá við hæst lof aldar
(The)-warrior received with highest praise of-men
höfgan auð í gulli rauðu
heavy wealth in gold red
hálfa lest af harra sjálfum
half load from lord himself
harðla ríkr í Miklagarði;
very mighty in Miklagard
áðan tók við allvalds skrúði
before took with mighty-king's finery
Eiríkr, þó at gefit var fleira,
Eirik though that given was more
reynir veitti herskip honum
tester granted warships to-him
hersa máttar sex ok átta.
of-lords of-might six and eight

Skildu þeir Alexis konúngr ok Eiríkr konúngr með allmikilli
Parted they Alexis king and Eirik king with very-great
blíðu ok vináttu. Eiríkr sigldi þá frá Miklagarði með
blitheness and friendship Eirik sailed then from Miklagard with
miklu liði, ok er hann kom við eyna Kipr, þá tók
great troop and when he came by the-island Cyprus then took
hann þar sótt, þá er hann leiddi til bana; hann andaðist
he there sickness that which him led to death he died
í borg þeirri, er Basta heitir, ok fékk þat öllum hans
in city that which Basta is-called and got that to-all his

mönnum mikillar hrygðar ok víða annarsstaðar, þar er
men great grief and widely elsewhere there where
menn spurðu þessi tíðindi. Svá segir Markús:
men learned these tidings So says Markus

Andar krafði út í löndum
Spirit demanded out in lands
allsstýrandi konúng snjallan
all-steering-one king valiant
elli beiðat ofvægr stillir
old-age awaited-not over-mighty ruler
aldr stríð, er frægt er víða;
age's strife which famous is widely
síðan harma siklíngs dauða
afterward grieve (the)-prince's death
snjallir menn um heimsbygð alla,
valiant men through world-settlement all
drúpir her at dólga steypi
droops (the)-host at foes' feller
dyggan, þótti veröld hryggva.
loyal seemed world grieve

Eiríkr konúngr var mjök harmdauði öllum þeim, er
Eirik king was much lamented by-all those whom
hann var kunnigr, svá at þat er sannliga sagt, at engi
he was known so that that is truly said that no
Danakonúngr hafi ástsælli verit af allri alþýðu í
Danes'-king have more-beloved been by all (the)-common-people in
þann tíma; hann var 8 vetr konúngr í Danmörk, ok
that time he was eight winters king in Denmark and
stýrði því veldi með miklum ríkdóm ok skörúngskap; öngvir
steered that realm with great power and authority no

höfðíngjar gengu á ríki hans eðr hans sona, eða ríki þeirra
chieftains went on realm his or his sons' or realm their
mínkaðist við þá; hann var grimmr óvinum sínum, ok stóð
lessened with them he was grim to-enemies his and stood
þeim því ótti af honum, hann var blíðr ok kátr við
them therefore fear from him he was blithe and cheerful with
vini sína, varð hann af því vinsæll. Svá segir Markús:
friends his became he from that popular So says Markus

Hvörgi stóðust hjörva borgar
Nowhere withstood of-swords strongholds
hristi meiðar konúngs reiði
shook trees (the)-king's anger
raunar varðat rönd við hánum
truly defended-not shield against him
reist, gjörðust þess jöfrar freista;
raised became of-that princes to-try
ógnin stóð af jarla meiði,
the-terror stood from of-earls tree
engi þorði kapp at strengja,
none dared contest to bind
flestir ugðu foldvörð hraustan,
most feared land-warden brave
fylkir snarr við Dana harra.
ruler keen with (the)-Danes' lord

Ættir í Danmörk

LXXXII · LINEAGES IN DENMARK

Haraldr kesja ruled in Eiríkr's absence. His son Björn járnsíða and Björn's descendants married into the royal houses of Sweden and Norway; Haraldr's sons by Ragnhildr, Magnús berfœttr's daughter, were Magnús, Óláfr, Haraldr, and Knútr.

Eptir þat er Eiríkr konúngr fór úr Danmörk, tók Haraldr
After that when Eirik king went out-of Denmark took Harald
kesja stjórn ok forráð ríkisins yfir öllu Danaveldi, eptir
Halberd government and rule of-the-realm over all (the)-Danes'-realm after
því sem Eiríkr konúngr hafði tilskipat; hann var þá fullkominn
that which Eirik king had arranged he was then a-full-grown
maðr fyrir aldrs sakir, hann var vinsæll af sínum mönnum,
man for age's sake he was popular by his men
ok naut hann þó mest vinsælda föður síns. Haraldr kesja
and enjoyed he yet most (the)-popularity of-father his Harald Halberd
átti einn son, er Björn hét, ok var kallaðr járnsíða, hann
had one son who Bjorn was-called and was called Iron-Side he
átti dóttur Ínga Steinkelssonar Svíakonúngs, er Katrín
had (the)-daughter of-Ingi Steinkel's-son Swedes'-king who Katrin
hét; þeirra dóttir hét Kristín, er átti Eiríkr hinn
was-called their daughter was-called Kristin whom had Eirik the
helgi Játvarðsson Svíakonúngr, ok voro börn þeirra: Knútr
Holy Edward's-son Swedes'-king and were children their Knut
Svíakonúngr ok Margrét drottníng, er átti Sverrir Noregs
Swedes'-king and Margret queen whom had Sverrir Norway
konúngr, ok Katrín er átti Nikulás blaka: þeirra dóttir var
king and Katrin whom had Nikulas Blaka their daughter was
frú Kristín, er átti Hákon jarl gamli í Noregi, ok var þeirra
lady Kristin whom had Hakon earl (the)-Old in Norway and was their

sonr Knútr jarl í Noregi. Haraldr kesja átti Ragnhildi, dóttur
son Knut earl in Norway Harald Halberd had Ragnhild daughter
Magnúss berfæts, Noregs konúngs; voro þeirra synir Magnús
of-Magnus Barefoot Norway king were their sons Magnus
ok Ólafr, er enn mun síðar frá sagt, ok Haraldr ok Knútr.
and Olaf who still will later of told and Harald and Knut

Frá Nikolási konúngi

LXXXIII · OF KING NIKULÁS

Nikulás Sveinsson succeeded; Össurr received the pallium. Nikulás married Margrét, Magnús berfœttr's widow; Haraldr kesja was dear to him, but Eiríkr's son Eiríkr was not.

Nikulás Sveinsson tók nú konúngdóm í Danmörk eptir Eirík
Nikulas Svein's-son took now kingship in Denmark after Eirik
konúng, bróður sinn, þá voru andaðir allir synir Sveins konúngs.
king brother his then were dead all sons of-Svein king
Á því sama sumri sendi Paskalis páfi pallíum Özuri erkibiskupi
In that same summer sent Paschal pope (the)-pallium to-Ozur archbishop
at bæn ok tilskipan Eiríks konúngs. Özur var lengi síðan
at prayer and arrangement of-Eirik king Ozur was long afterward
erkibiskup í Lundi, hann var ríkr höfðíngi. Nikolás konúngr
archbishop in Lund he was a-powerful chieftain Nikulas king
gjörðist ok höfðíngi mikill, hann fékk Margrétar Íngadóttur,
became also a-chieftain great he got Margret Ingi's-daughter
er fyrr hafði átt Magnús konúngr berbeinn. Haraldr kesja var
whom before had had Magnus king Bare-leg Harald Halberd was
kær vin Nikoláss konúngs, frænda síns, ok var laungum innan
a-dear friend of-Nikulas king kinsman his and was long within

hirðar með honum, stundum sat hann í Róiskeldu í Sjólandi,
(the)-court with him sometimes sat he in Roskilde in Zealand
ok hélt þar mikla sveit manna, ok efldi þann stað mjök.
and held there great following of-men and strengthened that place much
Eiríkr, son Eiríks konúngs, var eigi jafnkær Nikolási konúngi.
Eirik son of-Eirik king was not equally-dear to-Nikulas king

Upphaf Knúts lávarðar

LXXXIV · THE BEGINNING OF KNÚTR LÁVARÐR

Knútr, Eiríkr's son, held the duchy of Heiðabær, so generous and well loved that he was called lávarðr, though his open-handedness emptied his purse and Nikulás and his son Magnús envied him. He visited his kinsman the emperor Heinrekr and was warmly received.

Knútr son Eiríks konúngs, hafði hertugadæmi í Heiðabý,
Knut son of-Eirik king had a-dukedom in Hedeby
sem Eiríkr konúngr, faðir hans, hafði gefit honum; hann var
as Eirik king father his had given him he was
allra manna vinsælastr ok örvastr af fé, ok bezt þokkaðr
of-all men most-popular and most-generous of wealth and best liked
af alþýðu, þótt Nikolás konúngr eða Magnús son
by (the)-common-people though Nikulas king or Magnus son
hans hefði ríki meira, því var hann kallaðr Knútr lávarðr.
his had realm greater therefore was he called Knut Lavard
Þat bar mest til vinsælda hans, at hann lét öllum mönnum
That bore most to popularity his that he let to-all men
heimilt fé sitt, er hafa þurftu, en þeir gættu eigi hófs, er
free-to-use wealth his who have needed but they kept not measure who
hafa vildu, ok urðu framlögin minni í móti, enn nauðsyn
have wished and became the-contributions less in against than need

krafði, ok gekk upp fyrir honum mjök lausaféit; ekki
demanded and went up for him much the-movable-wealth not
var mart um með þeim Nikolási konúngi ok Knúti lávarði;
was much about between them Nikulas king and Knut Lavard
öfundudu þeir feðgar mjök vinsæld Knúts; var þat ok
envied they father-and-son much (the)-popularity of-Knut was that also
mjök rétt at segja, at hverr maðr í Danmörk vildi svá sitja
much right to say that each man in Denmark wished so to-sit
ok standa sem Knútr vildi; var Magnús þó jafnan færri til
and stand as Knut wished was Magnus yet always cooler toward
hans. Nökkurum vetrum eptir andlát Eiríks konúngs andaðist
him Some winters after (the)-death of-Eirik king died
Heinrekr keisari í Saxlandi, var síðan keisari Heinrekr son
Heinrek emperor in Saxony was afterward emperor Heinrek son
hans; en er Knútr spurði þat, at Heinrekr, móðurbróðir
his but when Knut learned that that Heinrek mother's-brother
hans, var andaðr, en Heinrekr son hans keisari orðinn, þá
his was dead but Heinrek son his emperor become then
fýstist hann at finna frænda sinn, keisarann, ok fór hann
longed he to find kinsman his the-emperor and went he
með virðuligu föruneyti; ok er keisarinn spurði til frænda
with worthy company and when the-emperor learned of kinsman
síns, þá lét hann búa virðuliga veizlu á móti honum, ok
his then let he prepare worthily a-feast in against him and
fagnaði honum með blíðu, er þeir fundust. Dvaldist Knútr
welcomed him with blitheness when they met Stayed Knut
með keisara um hríð í hinum mestum kærleikum ok prís.
with (the)-emperor for a-while in the greatest love and honor

Frá Knúti lavarð

LXXXV · OF KNÚTR LÁVARÐR

Knútr asked the emperor's counsel for keeping his duchy; Heinrekr advised him to lock the harbors and take toll, as was the custom of great lords, and sent him home with gifts.

Þat var eitt sinn, er þeir töluðu Heinrekr keisari ok Knútr
That was one time when they talked Heinrek emperor and Knut
lávarðr, þá mælti hertoginn til keisara: herra! segir hann,
Lavard then spoke the-duke to (the)-emperor lord says he
ek hefi veitt yðr heimsókn í minni tilkomu, at sækja at
I have paid you a-visit in my coming to seek from
yðr heil ráð fyrir frændsemisakir, vænti ek hér sæmdar,
you whole counsels for kinship's-sake expect I here honor
sem þér erut, ok at þér munit meira meta við mik
as you are and that you will more value toward me
frændsemi enn viðskipti minna fyrri frænda, en ríki mitt
kinship than dealings of-my former kinsmen but realm my
stendr mjök til auðnar, en hugr minn fýsist ad halda
stands much toward desolation but mind my longs to hold
sæmdum, vilda ek eigi láta þat vald, er faðir minn fékk
honors would-wish I not to-lose that power which father my gave
mér í hendr, vildum vér gjarna þar til hafa heil ráð af
me into hands wished we gladly there to to-have whole counsels from
yðr, hversu með skal fara. Keisari svarar: ek hefi spurt
you how with shall go (The)-emperor answers I have learned
vinsæld yðra, ok at þér hafit hvers manns lof, ok er hin
popularity your and that you have each man's praise and is the
mesta nauðsyn, at þér fáit ríki yðru haldit ok sæmdum; nú
greatest need that you get realm your held and honors now

er þat siðr vor, segir keisarinn, hér í Saxlandi ok enn víða
is that custom our says the-emperor here in Saxony and also widely
annarsstaðar at læsa hafnir fyrir landinu, ok taka þar toll
elsewhere to lock harbors before the-land and take there toll
af, ok láta aunga ná at leggja skipum sínum í höfnina,
of and let none get to lay ships their into the-harbor
nema leigu leggi eptir; nú kann vera at þetta þikir hart,
unless fee lay after now may be that this seems hard
þar er menn eru óvanir þessu, en svá mikinn framgáng
there where men are unused to-this but so great advance
hefir yður sæmd áðr fengit, at mik væntir at hún mun
has your honor before got that I expect that it will
ekki við þetta mínkast; þvíat þat er ríkra manna siðr víða
not at this lessen because that is of-mighty men custom widely
í löndum, at læsa hafnir fyrir landi sínu, ok taka menn
in lands to lock harbors before land their and take men
þar stórfé eptir, en þat er þó gæzla mikil ríkinu við
there great-wealth after but that is yet a-guard great to-the-realm against
ófriði; þarmeð skal ek fá þér nökkut í fjármunum, svá
unpeace therewith shall I give you something in money so
at þú megir halda sóma þínum fyrir þessa sök. Hertoginn
that you may hold honor your for this reason The-duke
þakkaði keisaranum fyrir sín tillög, ok kallaði vel tilfallit í
thanked the-emperor for his counsels and called well suited in
sínu landi, at læsa hafnir, ok kallaði svá háttat landinu, at
his land to lock harbors and called so disposed the-land that
þat væri auðvelt víða. Síðan fór hertoginn heim í ríki
that were easy widely Afterward went the-duke home into realm
sitt með stórmannligum fégjöfum ok mörgum sæmiligum
his with lordly money-gifts and many seemly
hlutum, er hann hafði þegit af keisara.
things which he had received from (the)-emperor

Læstar hafnir

LXXXVI · LOCKED HARBORS

To check the heathen raiders Knútr built two castles at Schleswig and an iron chain across the sound at Heiðabær, taking toll from every ship; he grew rich and kept his popularity.

Þá var mjök herskátt í Danmörk af heiðnum mönnum,
Then was much war-harried in Denmark by heathen men
þeim er laungum lágu í hernaði á sumrum, ok ræntu
those who long lay in raiding in summers and robbed
kaupmenn eða landsmenn. Ok er Knútr lávarðr hafði eigi
merchants or land-men And when Knut Lavard had not
lánga stund heima verit í ríki sínu, þá lét hann gjöra
long while at-home been in realm his then let he make
kastala 2 tveim megin Slesvíkur, þar sem mjóst var yfir
castles two on-two sides of-Schleswig there where narrowest was over
sundit, er utan gengr at Heiðabý; síðan lét hann gjöra
the-sound which out goes at Hedeby afterward let he make
yfir sundit járnrekendr, en sumt af viðum, svá at læsa mátti
over the-sound iron-chains but some of timbers so that lock could
sundit, settu síðan menn í kastalann at gæta, ok láta þau
the-sound set afterward men into the-castle to guard and let those
ein skip þar inn leggja, er þeir tæki fé af hverju skipi.
only ships there in lay which they took wealth from each ship
Hertoginn sat laungum í Heiðabý, var hann nú hirðr fyrir
The-duke sat long in Hedeby was he now a-guard against
öllum ófriði; styrktist hann nú mjök að peningum, en hélt
all unpeace grew-strong he now much in money but held
þó öllum vinsældum, eptir því sem keisarinn hafði getit til.
yet all popularity after that which the-emperor had guessed to

Frá Víðgauti

LXXXVII · OF VÍÐGAUTR

Víðgautr, a learned heathen merchant of Samland, fled the Kurlanders to Heiðabær, where the watchmen let him through the locked sound; offered the choice by Knútr, he and his men took baptism, and he wintered with the duke, telling him much of the East-Way.

Víðgautr hét maðr, hann var ættaðr af Sámlandi, hann
Vidgaut was-called a-man he was born-of-a-line from Samland he
var maðr heiðinn, hann var kaupmaðr, ok var stórauðigr ok
was a-man heathen he was a-merchant and was very-wealthy and
vel mentr um marga hluti, hann sigldi jafnan kaupferðir í
well educated in many things he sailed always trading-voyages in
Austrveg. Þat var eitt sumar, er hann sigldi austan at
(the)-East-Way That was one summer when he sailed from-the-east to
Kúrlandi, þá lágu Kúrir þar fyrir honum á herskipum,
Kurland then lay (the)-Kurlanders there before him on warships
ok lögðu þegar at honum, ok vildu drepa hann; en með
and laid at-once at him and wished to-kill him but with
því at hann var einskipa, þá sá hann sik aunga viðtöku
that that he was single-shipped then saw he himself no resistance
mega hafa, ok setr upp segl, ok ætlar at sigla heim til
may have and sets up sail and intends to sail home to
Sámlands. Kúrir sigldu þegar eptir; ok komast í
Samland (The)-Kurlanders sailed at-once after and get in
millum Sámlands ok hans; sér hann at hann hefir 2 kosti
between Samland and him sees he that he has two choices
fyrir höndum: at hætta á fund þeirra, hver yrði, eða sigla
before hands to risk on meeting their whatever became or sail
á haf undan, ok snúa til kristinna landa, ok þótti honum
on (the)-sea away and turn to Christian lands and seemed to-him

hvorgi góðr. Tók hann þó þat til ráðs, at sigla á haf
neither good Took he yet that to counsel to sail on (the)-sea
ok austan til Danmerkr; hann hafði haft spurn af Knúti
and from-the-east to Denmark he had had word of Knut
lávarði, ok þat með at allir hlytu gott af honum, er á
Lavard and that with that all got good from him who to
hans fund kæmi; vænti hann sér þar sóma, er margir
his meeting came expected he for-himself there honor as many
fengu aðrir; réð hann þá þat af, at sigla til Heiðabæjar,
got others decided he then that of to sail to Hedeby
sigldi hann þá at sundinu, því er læst var, þá kallar
sailed he then to the-sound that which locked was then calls
hann á varðmennina, þá er í kastalanum voru, sagðist
he on the-watchmen those who in the-castle were said-of-himself
hann vildu leggja inn í höfnina. Varðmaðrinn spur, hverr
he to-wish to-lay in into the-harbor The-watchman asks who
hann væri. Hann svarar: ek heiti Víðgautr. Varðmaðrinn
he were He answers I am-called Vidgaut The-watchman
svarar: ekki býðr Knútr lávarðr, at vér lúkum upp hafnir
answers not bids Knut Lavard that we open up harbors
fyrir mönnum, er vér vitum eigi skyn á. Víðgautr svarar:
for men whom we know not knowledge of Vidgaut answers
láttu upp höfnina, góðr maðr! þvíat ek vil Knút finna, skal
let-you up the-harbor good man because I will Knut find shall
ek ok fyrir þik svara, ef hertogi vill þik nokkut um þetta
I also for you answer if (the)-duke will you anything about this
kunna. Varðmaðrinn mælti: vel er tilmælt, segir hann. Luku
blame The-watchman spoke well is requested says he Opened
þeir þá upp sundinu, ok lagði Víðgautr inn skipi sínu, ok
they then up the-sound and laid Vidgaut in ship his and
fór síðan á fund hertoga. Knútr spurði: hverir þeir væri.
went afterward to meeting of-(the)-duke Knut asked who they were

Víðgautr sagði, at þeir væri af Sámlandi. Knútr svarar:
Vidgaut said that they were from Samland Knut answers
heyrt hefi ek þín getit, ok er mér sagt, at þú munir vera
heard have I of-you mentioned and is to-me told that you will be
heiðinn maðr. Víðgautr svarar: víst erum vér heiðnir menn.
a-heathen man Vidgaut answers surely are we heathen men
Hertogi mælti: tveir eru kostir til, at þér takit við kristni,
(The)-duke spoke two are choices to that you take with Christianity
ok látið skírast, skuluð þér vera hér þá allir velkomnir,
and let be-baptized shall you be here then all welcome
eða hætta til ella, hvat fyrir liggr. Víðgautr svarar: mun
or risk to else what before lies Vidgaut answers will
eigi einsætt, herra! at kjósa hinn betra sér til handa, ef
not clear lord to choose the better for-oneself to hand if
þess er kostr; vil ek gjarna taka við trú, ok þiggja síðan
of-that is choice will I gladly take with faith and receive afterward
sóma af yðr. Síðan voru þeir skírðir, ok voru með Knúti
honor from you Afterward were they baptized and were with Knut
lávarði um vetrinn í góðu yfirlæti. Víðgautr var laungum á
Lavard in the-winter in good favor Vidgaut was long in
tali við hertoga, kunni hann frá mörgu at segja, þvíat hann
talk with (the)-duke knew he of much to tell because he
var vitr maðr, ok hafði víða farit. Hertogi spurði hann
was a-wise man and had widely traveled (The)-duke asked him
margs úr Austrvegi, ok kunni hann þaðan mart at segja.
of-much out-of (the)-East-Way and knew he thence much to tell

Kvánfáng Knúts lávarðar

LXXXVIII · KNÚTR LÁVARÐR'S MARRIAGE

Knútr sent Víðgautr east to ask King Haraldr of Hólmgarðr for his daughter Ingibjörg; Víðgautr gave the duke forty shirts of gray furs and praised his manly worth to Haraldr, who consented, and Ingibjörg was married to Knútr.

Haraldr var konúngr austr í Hólmgarði, son Valdimars
Harald was king east in Holmgard son of-Valdimar
konúngs Jarislafssonar, Valdimarssonar. Móðir Haralds var
king Jarislaf's-son Valdimar's-son Mother of-Harald was
Gyða, dóttir Haralds Englakonúngs, Guðinasonar. Haraldr
Gyda daughter of-Harald Englishmen's-king Godwine's-son Harald
átti Kristínu, dóttur Ínga Svíakonúngs, Steinkelssonar, systur
had Kristin daughter of-Ingi Swedes'-king Steinkel's-son sister
Margrétar drottníngar, er þá átti Nikolás Danakonúngr.
of-Margret queen whom then had Nikulas Danes'-king
Dætr Haralds ok Kristínar voru þær Málmfríðr, er átti
Daughters of-Harald and of-Kristin were they Malmfrid whom had
Sigurðr konúngr jórsalafari, ok Íngibjörg. En er Víðgautr
Sigurd king Jerusalem-farer and Ingibjorg But when Vidgaut
hafði verit einn vetr með Knúti lávarði í miklum kærleikum,
had been one winter with Knut Lavard in great love
þá beiddi hertogi at hann mundi fara sendiför hans austr
then asked (the)-duke that he would go errand his east
til Hólmgarðs, ok biðja Íngibjargar, dóttur Haralds konúngs,
to Holmgard and ask-for Ingibjorg daughter of-Harald king
til handa honum. Víðgautr svarar: herra! segir hann, einn
to hand him Vidgaut answers lord says he one
hlutr er sá, er ek em tilfær yðvart erindi at flytja, at
thing is that which I am able-for your errand to bring that

fé skortir mik eigi, en þó at ek sé fyrir margra hluta
wealth lacks me not but though that I be for many things'
sakir vanfær til yðvart erindi at flytja, þá verð ek þó skyldr
sakes unfit to your errand to bring then become I yet bound
til at gjöra yðvarn vilja um allt, þat sem þér villt mik
to to do your will in all that which you will me
til nýta. Hertogi þakkar honum, ok lézt því þetta mál
to use (The)-duke thanks him and professed therefore this matter
við hann talat hafa, at honum þætti hann bezt tilfallinn,
with him talked have that to-him seemed he best fitted
þeirra manna er í hans valdi voru, bæði fyrir (sakir) vits
of-those men who in his power were both for sake of-wit
ok framkvæmdar. Síðan var búin ferð hans, ok áðr enn
and of-enterprise Afterward was prepared journey his and before than
Víðgautr færi á burt, mælti hann til hertoga: herra! segir
Vidgaut went off away spoke he to (the)-duke lord says
hann, þér hafit gjört til vor í vetr með miklum sóma,
he you have done to us in (the)-winter with great honor
ok veitt oss stórmannliga, en launin munu vera minni af
and granted us lordly but the-reward will be less from
minni hendi enn vert væri; þér skulið þiggja af mér 40
my hand than worth were you shall receive from me forty
serkja grárra skinna, en 5 timbr eru í serk hverjum, enn
shirts of-gray skins but five timbers are in shirt each but
40 skinna í timbr. Hertogi þakkaði honum gjöfina, ok
forty skins in a-timber (The)-duke thanked him the-gift and
kvaðst eigi betri gjöf þegit hafa. Víðgautr siglir nú í
said-of-himself no better gift received have Vidgaut sails now off
burt með sínu föruneyti, ok létti eigi fyrr enn hann kemr
away with his company and stopped not before than he comes
austr í Hólmgarð á fund Haralds konúngs; heimti hann
east into Holmgard to meeting of-Harald king brought he

sik fram með fégjöfum við konúnginn. Konúngrinn tók
himself forward with money-gifts with the-king The-king received
honum vel, þvíat Víðgautr var frægr maðr ok djarfr í
him well because Vidgaut was a-famous man and bold in
máli, ok kunni margar túngur; hann bar fram erindi sín við
speech and knew many tongues he bore forth errand his with
konúnginn, ok flutti kænliga, ok sagði svá frá Knúti lávarði,
the-king and pleaded skillfully and said so of Knut Lavard
at allir mundu frá honum einnveg segja, at engi er hans
that all would of him one-way say that none is his
jafníngi í Danmörk ok miklu víðara: ætt hans er yðr öllum
equal in Denmark and much wider kin his is to-you all
kunnig, ok er yðr öllum sómi í þessu. Konúngr svarar:
known and is to-you all honor in this (The)-king answers
mikit fulltíng veitir þú honum í orðum þínum, ok mán hér
great support grant you him in words your and will here
skjótt lykt falla á þetta mál, ef vér höfum þín ráð hér
quickly end fall on this matter if we have your counsel here
um. Já, herra! segir hann, í aungvan stað mun yðr reynast
about Yes lord says he in no place will to-you prove
óframar, enn ek hefi frá sagt, þvíat þat er almæli, at Knútr
less-forward than I have of told because that is common-talk that Knut
lávarðr er fyrirmaðr allra þeirra manna, er nú vaxa upp í
Lavard is (the)-foremost of-all those men who now grow up in
Danmörk eða á Norðrlöndum. Konúngr svarar: með því at
Denmark or in (the)-Northlands (The)-king answers with that that
vér vitum þik sannorðan, ok þú ert oss at góðu einu kunnr,
we know you truthful and you are to-us for good alone known
höfum vér ok áðr heyrt nokkut getit Knúts lávarðs, þá
have we also before heard something mentioned of-Knut Lavard then
skulum vér máli þessu vel svara, en ríki þikir oss hann
shall we matter this well answer but realm seems to-us he

lítit hafa til forræðis, þótt hann hafi einn hertogadóm í
little have to rule though he have one dukedom in
Danmörk. Víðgautr svarar: þat hefir hann þarámót, er
Denmark Vidgaut answers that has he thereagainst which
miklu er frægra. Hvat er þat? segir konúngr. Víðgautr
much is more-famous What is that says (the)-king Vidgaut
svarar: mannkosti skal hann hafa umfram flesta menn aðra,
answers man-qualities shall he have beyond most men other
ok er þat meira vert enn mikit fé eða ríki. Síðan átti
and is that more worth than much wealth or realm Afterward had
konúngr tal við dóttur sína ok við annat ráðuneyti sitt, ok
(the)-king talk with daughter his and with other counsel his and
tjáði þetta mál fyrir þeim, en allir fýstu þessa ráðs, ok svá
set-forth this matter before them but all urged this match and so
kom með samþykki Íngibjargar, at hún skyldi giptast Knúti
came with consent of-Ingibjorg that she should be-married to-Knut
lávarði, ok fór Víðgautr með þessum erindum til Danmerkr,
Lavard and went Vidgaut with these errands to Denmark
ok fann Knút hertoga, ok sagði frá sínum erindum.
and found Knut duke and told of his errands
Knútr hertogi þakkaði honum sitt starf; efnaði hertogi til
Knut duke thanked him his work prepared (the)-duke for
brúðlaups síns, en Haraldr konúngr sendi Íngibjörgu dóttur
wedding his but Harald king sent Ingibjorg daughter
sína austan úr Hólmgarði at nefndri stundu með fríðu
his from-the-east out-of Holmgard at named time with handsome
föruneyti; en er hún kom til Danmerkr, tók hertogi vel
company but when she came to Denmark took (the)-duke well
við henni ok þarmeð öll alþýða; síðan gjörði hann
with her and therewith all (the)-common-people afterward made he

brúðlaup sitt til hennar með miklum fagnaði ok sóma. Þau
wedding his to her with great joy and honor They
áttu nokkur börn, þau er enn munu síðar nefnd vera.
had some children those who still will later named be

Frá Magnúsi Nikulássyni

LXXXIX · OF MAGNÚS NIKULÁSSON

Magnús, Nikulás's son, was the biggest man in Denmark, strong and early grown, married to Ríkiza daughter of Búrizláfr, but Knútr was better loved, and envy grew between them.

Magnús Nikulásson óx upp í hirð föður síns, ok var
Magnus Nikulas's-son grew up in (the)-court of-father his and was
hann allra manna mestr í allri Danmörk, ok vel vinsæll,
he of-all men greatest in all Denmark and well popular
en þó var Knútr lávarðr allra vinsælastr ok bezt þokkaðr
but yet was Knut Lavard of-all most-popular and best liked
af alþýðu, þóat þeir Nikulás konúngr ok Magnús
by (the)-common-people though they Nikulas king and Magnus
son hans hefði ríki meira; ok þat sama olli því, er
son his had realm greater and that same caused that that
nokkur fæð var í milli þeirra, at þeim feðgum óx
some coolness was in between them that to-them father-and-son grew
öfund á vinsældum hans, ok þótti þeim hans vinir hölzt
envy at popularity his and seemed to-them his friends most
í margir. Magnús Nikulásson fékk Rikizu, dóttur Búrizlafs
too many Magnus Nikulas's-son got Rikiza daughter of-Burizlaf
Vindakonúngs. Þeirra synir voru þeir Knútr ok Nikulás.
Wends'-king Their sons were they Knut and Nikulas

Magnús hafði jafnan með sér mikla sveit manna; var hann
Magnus had always with himself great following of-men was he
löngum innan hirðar með Nikulási konúngi feðr sínum,
long within (the)-court with Nikulas king father his
en stundum var í sínum stað hvárr þeirra; hann var sterkr
but sometimes was in his place each of-them he was a-strong
maðr ok bráðgjörr í öllu; hann var kallaðr Magnús sterki.
man and early-grown in all he was called Magnus (the)-Strong

Frá Knúti lávarð

XC · OF KNÚTR LÁVARÐR

Knútr visited the emperor again and gave him Víðgautr's furs; the emperor gave him his robes of state and bade him never part with them. The emperor soon died, and Ljóðgeirr, called Lótarius, succeeded; men say that whoever parted with those robes was short-lived.

Knútr lávarðr bjó ferð sína úr landi í annat sinn,
Knut Lavard prepared journey his out-of land for (the)-second time
ok fór enn á fund Heinreks keisara, frænda síns; ok er
and went again to meeting of-Heinrek emperor kinsman his and when
keisarinn spurði til ferða hans, þá lét hann búa fyrir
the-emperor learned of journeys his then let he prepare for
honum veizlu virðuliga, ok fágnaði honum vel. Keisarinn
him a-feast worthily and welcomed him well The-emperor
mælti eitt sinn til hertugans: gleðr mik þat, frændi! sagði
spoke one time to the-duke gladdens me that kinsman said
hann, er allir sýngja yðr eitt lof, þvíat þik lofa allir, þeir
he that all sing to-you one praise because you praise all those
er nokkut skynja, ok þíns nafns heyra getit, svá at engi
who anything discern and your name hear mentioned so that no

maðr er jafn vinsæll sem þú. Hertuginn svarar: gæfu beru
man is equally popular as you The-duke answers luck bear
vér til þess, herra! sagði hann, en þér hafið oss upphafit
we to that lord said he but you have us raised-up
með yðrum styrk ok ráðum. Þá lét hertuginn frambera
with your strength and counsels Then let the-duke bring-forth
grávöruna, þá er Víðgautr hafði gefit honum, ok mælti til
the-gray-fur those which Vidgaut had given him and spoke to
keisarans: þenna varníng vil ek at þér þiggið af mér, herra!
the-emperor this ware wish I that you accept from me lord
þó at smærri minníngar sé gjörvar enn vera ætti. Keisarinn
though that smaller remembrances be made than be ought The-emperor
sá þessa gjöf, ok þakkaði honum, ok mælti: þegit hefi ek
saw this gift and thanked him and spoke received have I
stærri gjafir, sagði hann, en fár þær, at mér hafi betri
greater gifts said he but few those that to-me have better
þótt. Hertuginn dvaldist með keisaranum um hríð í góðu
seemed The-duke stayed with the-emperor for a-while in good
yfirlæti ok miklum kærleikum; ok er hertuginn bjóst
favor and great love and when the-duke readied-himself
til heimferðar, þá gaf keisarinn honum margar gjörsimar,
for homeward-journey then gave the-emperor him many treasures
ok sagði at hann skyldi eigi fé skorta, meðan þeir lifa
and said that he should not wealth lack while they live
báðir: en þær gjafir, er þér færðut mér, skal ek launa einar
both but those gifts which you brought me shall I repay alone
saman; þér skuluð þiggja af mér klæði, er eigi er víst at
together you shall receive from me clothes which not is certain that
önnur sé slík í yðru landi eða víðara, ok þess vænti ek, ef
others be such in your land or wider and that expect I if
þér egið klæðin, at þar fylgi hamíngja yður ok gipta ríkis
you own the-clothes that there follow luck you and fortune of-realm

yðar eptir; vil ek þess biðja yðr, frændi! segir hann, at þú
your after will I that ask you kinsman says he that you
lógir eigi klæðunum, en um þat em ek hræddr, ef þér
part-with not the-clothes but about that am I afraid if you
lógið, at þá sé skömm unaðsbót at yðvarri sæmd. Þetta
part-with that then be short delight-amends to your honor This
voru tignarklæði keisarans, ok voru þau öll gullsaumuð ok
were (the)-robes-of-state of-the-emperor and were they all gold-sewn and
enar mestu gjörsimar. Hertuginn þakkaði honum gjafirnar ok
the greatest treasures The-duke thanked him the-gifts and
allan þann sóma, er hann hafði til hans gjörvan. Síðan
all that honor which he had to him done Afterward
fór hertuginn heim í ríki sitt, ok þótti jafnan enn mesti
went the-duke home into realm his and seemed always the greatest
ágætismaðr. Litlu síðarr andaðist keisarinn, ok segja menn,
excellent-man A-little later died the-emperor and say men
at sú náttúra fylgði tignarklæðunum, þeim er keisarinn gaf
that that nature followed (the)-robes-of-state those which the-emperor gave
Knúti lávarði, frænda sínum, at flestir yrði skamlífir þaðan
Knut Lavard kinsman his that most became short-lived thence
frá, er klæðunum hefði lógat. Síðan tók keisaradóm
from who the-clothes had parted-with Afterward took emperorship
Ljóðgeirr, saxneskr hertogi, hann var síðan kallaðr Lótarius.
Ljodgeir Saxon duke he was afterward called Lotharius

Frá Knúti lávarð

XCI · OF KNÚTR LÁVARÐR

To end the envy Knútr feasted Nikulás and Magnús at Heiðabær and gave Magnús the emperor's robes; they thanked him and invited him to their Yule feast, and they parted with the greatest love.

Knútr lávarðr var svá vinsæll, sem fyrr var sagt, at allir
Knut Lavard was so popular as before was said that all
enir beztu menn í Danmörk voru hans vinir, eigi minni
the best men in Denmark were his friends not less
enn Nikoláss konúngs eða Magnúss sonar hans; en þat
than of-Nikulas king or of-Magnus son his but that
var, sem fyrr var sagt, at þeir feðgar kunnu því svá
was as before was said that they father-and-son bore that so
illa fyrir öfundar sakir, at fyrir þat sama lögðu þeir óþekt
ill for envy's sake that for that same laid they dislike
til hertugans ok margra hans vina; ok er Knútr lávarðr
to the-duke and of-many his friends and when Knut Lavard
fann þetta, leitaði hann sér ráðs ok þóttist vandliga
found this sought he for-himself counsel and thought-himself thoroughly
saklaus við þá feðga. Þat var eitt sinn at þeir
guiltless toward them father-and-son That was one time that they
Nikulás konúngr ok Magnús son hans voru suðr á Jótlandi,
Nikulas king and Magnus son his were south in Jutland
at Knútr lávarðr fór á fund þeirra með nokkura menn;
that Knut Lavard went to meeting their with some men
ok er þeir fundust, fögnuðu þeir vel hertuganum. Knútr
and when they met welcomed they well the-duke Knut
mælti þá: þat er örendi mitt híngat, at ek vil bjóða ykkr
spoke then that is errand my hither that I will invite you-two

feðgum til veizlu: vilda ek at vér ættim marga góða
father-and-son to a-feast would-wish I that we had many good
hluti saman, sem oss sómir fyrir frændsemi sakir, ok látum
things together as to-us befits for kinship's sake and let-we
eigi rógsmenn spilla frændsemi várri fyrir öngva tilgjörninga.
not slanderers spoil kinship our for no doings
Þeir svöruðu ok sögðust þat gjarna vilja, ok sögðu önga
They answered and said-of-themselves that gladly to-wish and said no
hluti í milli þeirra vera, þá er eigi mætti þeirra frændsimi
things in between them be those which not might their kinship
vel fara. Síðan reið Knútr lávarðr heim til Heiðabæjar, ok
well go Afterward rode Knut Lavard home to Hedeby and
lét þar búa veizlu í móti Nikulási konúngi ok Magnúsi
let there prepare a-feast in against Nikulas king and Magnus
syni hans; en þeir komu til veizlunnar at ákveðinni stundu,
son his but they came to the-feast at determined time
ok var þar ágæt veizla; ok er sá dagr kom, er þeir
and was there an-excellent feast and when that day came when they
skyldu í brott ríða, þá þakkaði hertuginn Nikulási konúngi
should off away ride then thanked the-duke Nikulas king
þann sóma, er þeir höfðu honum gjörvan í þángatkvámu
that honor which they had him done in coming-thither
sinni, ok gaf konúnginum marga ágæta gripi. Síðan gekk
their and gave the-king many excellent treasures Afterward went
hann til Magnúss, ok mælti: Magnús frændi! sagði hann,
he to Magnus and spoke Magnus kinsman said he
hér ero klæði þau, er Heinrekr keisari, frændi minn, gaf
here are clothes those which Heinrek emperor kinsman my gave
mér, en nú vil ek gefa yðr klæðin til vináttu ok heillar
me but now will I give you the-clothes for friendship and whole
frændsimi; ok vil ek því gefa þér ena beztu gripi, er
kinship and will I therefore give you the best treasures which

ek á til, at þér samir vel at bera, enda ann ek þér vel
I own to that to-you befits well to bear also grant I you well
at njóta, þvíat þú munt mér þat góðu launa. Magnús fór
to enjoy because you will me that with-good repay Magnus went
þegar í klæðin, ok mæltu allir, er hann sá, at eigi mundi
at-once into the-clothes and spoke all who him saw that not would
finnast honum vænni maðr eða tíguligri, ok sögðu, sem
be-found than-him a-handsomer man or more-stately and said as
satt var, at þar var stórsæmda fyrir vert. Nikulás konúngr
true was that there was great-honors for worth Nikulas king
ok Magnús son hans þökkuðu hertuganum þá hluti, er
and Magnus son his thanked the-duke those things which
hann hafði sæmiliga til þeirra gjört í heimboði ok í
he had seemly to them done in home-invitation and in
stórmannligum gjöfum; ok áðr enn þeir skildu, buðu þeir
lordly gifts and before than they parted invited they
honum til sín um vetrinn til jólaveizlu; hann tók því
him to themselves in the-winter to (the)-Yule-feast he took that
þakksamliga. Skildu þeir frændr þá með enum mesta kærleik.
thankfully Parted they kinsmen then with the greatest love

Fall Knúts

XCII · THE FALL OF KNÚTR

At the Yule feast at Hringstaðir Magnús promised Knútr forty knights and rode with him into a wood to wait for them. A man warned by tearing his sleeve, and Knútr noticed Magnús wore mail; then trumpets sounded and Heinrekr halti fell on them. Knútr forgave Magnús and fell; Denmark mourned him. He was buried at Hringstaðir as a saint, and the clearing where he fell stays green winter and summer.

Þenna vetr skyldi Nikulás konúngr taka jólaveizlu á
This winter should Nikulas king take a-Yule-feast at
Hríngstöðum norðr í Sjólandi, ok til þessar veizlu kom
Hringstadir north in Zealand and to this feast came
Knútr lávarðr, eptir því sem ætlat var, við nokkura menn,
Knut Lavard after that which intended was with some men
ok var hann með Nikulási konúngi um jólin, ok var þar
and was he with Nikulas king in the-Yule and was there
ágætlig veizla, ok voru þar miklir kærleikar með þeim
an-excellent feast and were there great loves between them
Nikulási konúngi ok Magnúsi syni hans ok Knúti lávarð
Nikulas king and Magnus son his and Knut Lavard
frænda þeirra. En er sá dagr kom, er veizluna skyldi
kinsman their But when that day came when the-feast should
eyða, þá segir hertuginn, at hann vill þá búast til
end then says the-duke that he will then make-ready for
ferðar; þenna dag var veizlan allra áköfust, ok voru menn
journey this day was the-feast of-all fiercest and were men
hertugans mjök druknir. Þá mælti Magnús til hertugans:
of-the-duke much drunk Then spoke Magnus to the-duke
herra! sagði hann, þó at yðr verði smærri gjafir veittar
lord said he though that to-you become smaller gifts granted

enn vert væri, þá vil ek þó minnast yðar: ek vil gefa yðr
than worth were then will I yet remember you I will give you
riddara 40 með öllum búnaði sínum, (en þat er sagt, at
knights forty with all equipment their but that is said that
einn riddara kostar 8 merkr gulls sinn búnað). Hertuginn
one knight costs eight marks of-gold his equipment The-duke
þakkar Magnúsi gjöfina, ok segir at þessi gjöf var bæði góð
thanks Magnus the-gift and says that this gift was both good
ok stórmannlig. Nú leið á daginn, ok kom eigi riddaraliðit,
and lordly Now passed on the-day and came not the-knight-troop
þat er Magnús skyldi gefa hertuganum, þvíat eigi var alla
that which Magnus should give the-duke because not was all
í einum stað upp at taka. Þá mælti hertuginn: Magnús
in one place up to take Then spoke the-duke Magnus
frændi! sagði hann, nú munu vér ríða fyrir ok bíða svá
kinsman said he now will we ride before and wait so
liðsins, þar sem yðr þikkir fallit. Magnús svaraði: gjörum
for-the-troop there where to-you seems fitting Magnus answered do-we
svá, sagði hann, ok skal ek ríða á leið með yðr, frændi!
so said he and shall I ride on way with you kinsman
ok skiljast eigi fyrri við yðr, enn þat er efnat, er ek
and part not before with you than that is fulfilled which I
hefi heitit yðr. Já, herra! sagði hertuginn, allt mun þat
have promised you Yes lord said the-duke all will that
svá efnast, sem þér hafið tilskipat, en jafnan þikkir oss
so be-fulfilled as you have arranged but always seems to-us
sæmd at yðru föruneyti. Síðan mynntist Knútr lávarðr við
honor in your company Afterward kissed Knut Lavard with
Nikulás konúng frænda sinn ok aðra menn, þá er honum
Nikulas king kinsman his and other men those whom to-him
sýndist. Eptir þat stíga þeir á hesta sína, ok ríða í brott;
seemed After that mount they on horses their and ride off away

þeir riðu um skóg nokkurn, ok komu í rjóðr eitt; þá
they rode through wood some and came into clearing one then
bað Magnús þá stíga af baki, ok bíða riddaranna, ok lézt
bade Magnus them step off back and wait for-the-knights and professed
vænta at þeir mundi skamma stund þurfa. Þeir gjörðu
expect that they would short while need They did
nú svá, at menn stigu af hestunum, ok settust niðr í
now so that men stepped off the-horses and sat down in
rjóðrinu, ok sofnuðu þegar margir, er af baki voru farnir,
the-clearing and fell-asleep at-once many who off back were gone
þvíat þeir höfðu drukkit fast um daginn. Knútr lávarðr sat
because they had drunk hard in the-day Knut Lavard sat
á lág einni, en Magnús frændi hans hjá honum, ok var
on log one but Magnus kinsman his beside him and was
hann Magnús í blárri kápu. Síðan sjá þeir, hvar maðr
he Magnus in a-blue cloak Afterward see they where a-man
hljóp fram úr skóginum, þar sem þeir voru, ok er hann
ran forth out-of the-wood there where they were and when he
kom í rjóðrit, þar er þeir sátu, steypti hann af sér
came into the-clearing there where they sat threw he off himself
kápunni, er hann var í, ok reif af ermina aðra; hann
the-cloak which he was in and tore off the-sleeve other he
mælti ekki við þá, hljóp síðan aptr í skóginn. Hertuginn
spoke not with them ran afterward back into the-wood The-duke
spurði Magnús: frændi! sagði hann, hvat ætlar þú slíkt
asked Magnus kinsman said he what think you such
vera, svá (er) sem þetta sé vísbendíng nokkur? Ek veit eigi,
be so is as this be a-sign some I know not
herra! sagði Magnús, lítit mark ætla ek at slíku, eðr hyggr
lord said Magnus little mark think I to such or think
þú, at hér búi nákkvat annat undir? Hertuginn svaraði:
you that here dwell something other under The-duke answered

þat grunar mik, at þetta muni skolu vera njósn nokkur,
that suspects me that this will shall be a-spying some
þeim er nær oss eru, ok mun lið vera komit at oss í
to-those who near us are and will troop be come at us in
skóginum. Ekki mun þat vera, frændi! segir Magnús, þvíat
the-wood Not will that be kinsman says Magnus because
þú ert svá vinsæll maðr, at engi vill yðr grand gjöra. Þá
you are so popular a-man that none will you harm do Then
tók hertuginn hendi sinni á öxl Magnúsi, ok spurði: hví
took the-duke with-hand his on shoulder of-Magnus and asked why
leiddir þú mik svá á götu, frændi! sagði hann, at þú vart
led you me so on road kinsman said he that you were
í brynju? Magnús svaraði: þvíat ek em eigi jafn vinsæll
in mail Magnus answered because I am not equally popular
sem þér eruð, frændi! Í þenna tíma, er þeir töluðust við,
as you are kinsman In this time when they talked with
kváðu við lúðrar í skóginum alla vega braut frá þeim, ok
sounded at trumpets in the-wood all ways away from them and
þvínæst drifu menn at þeim úr mörkinni. Fyrir þessu liði
next rushed men at them out-of the-forest Before this troop
réð sá maðr, er hét Heinrekr halti, hann var son
ruled that man who was-called Heinrek (the)-Lame he was son
Sveins, Sveinssonar konúngs, Úlfssonar, manni firnari enn
of-Svein Svein's-son king Ulf's-son one-man more-distant than
bræðrúngr Knúts lávarðar; en þetta voru þó ráð þeirra
cousin of-Knut Lavard but these were yet counsels of-those
feðga Nikuláss konúngs ok Magnúss sonar hans; ok er
father-and-son Nikulas king and of-Magnus son his and when
hertuginn sá, at liðit þusti fram or skoginum at þeim,
the-duke saw that the-troop rushed forth out-of the-wood at them
ok hann sá at þetta voru ófriðarmenn, þá mælti hann:
and he saw that these were men-of-unpeace then spoke he

hvat er nú, Magnús frændi! sagði hann, ræðr þú nákkvat
what is now Magnus kinsman said he rule you anything
fyrir fjölmenni þessu? Magnús snaraðist við honum, ok
over multitude this Magnus twisted against him and
mælti: öngvu skipir þik, hverr fyrir ræðr, at fullu skal þér
spoke nothing concerns you who before rules at full shall to-you
nú vinna. Snérist hann þá í lið með Heinreki halta.
now work Turned he then into troop with Heinrek (the)-Lame
Hertuginn mælti: guð fyrirgefi þér, frændi! sagði hann, ef
The-duke spoke God forgive you kinsman said he if
nákkvat er ofgjört í þessu, ok fyrirgefa vil ek þér. Þeir
anything is overdone in this and forgive will I you They
Magnús ok Heinrekr halti veittu þeim Knúti lávarði
Magnus and Heinrek (the)-Lame made on-them Knut Lavard
atgöngu harða, en þeir hertuginn snérust til varnar í móti;
an-attack hard but they the-duke turned to defense in against
þar tókst hörð orrosta, ok var mjök ójafnlig, þvíat margir
there began hard battle and was much uneven because many
voru þar um einn; voru þeir ok ekki viðbúnir, þvíat þeir
were there about one were they also not prepared because they
vissu sér einskis ótta vánir ne ófriðar á þeim degi;
knew for-themselves of-no fear expected nor of-unpeace on that day
voru ok margir svá dauðadruknir, at eigi vöknuðu, fyrr enn
were also many so dead-drunk that not woke before than
spjótin dundu á þeim eða í gegnum þá, þeir er sofnat
the-spears thundered on them or in through them those who fallen-asleep
höfðu. Þar féll Knútr lávarðr, ok er þat flestra manna
had There fell Knut Lavard and is that of-most men
sögn, at Heinrekr halti bæri vápn á hann, ok veitti
tale that Heinrek (the)-Lame bore weapons on him and gave
honum bana; þar féll ok mestr hluti liðs hans hertugans,
him death there fell also greatest part of-troop his of-the-duke

en hann sjálfr fékk þó mælt fyrir sér, þat er honum var
but he himself got yet spoken for himself that which to-him was
hjálpvænligast, áðr hann lézt, en fátt eðr ekki lézt af liði
most-helpful before he died but few or nothing died of troop
þeirra Magnúss ok Heinreks. En er þessi tíðendi spurðust
of-them Magnus and Heinrek But when these tidings were-learned
um Danmörk, þá harmaði hverr maðr Knút lávarð, ok
through Denmark then mourned each man Knut Lavard and
urðu þeir Nikulás ok Magnús son hans stórilla þokkaðir af
became they Nikulas and Magnus son his very-ill liked from
þessu verki, svá at nær engi maðr í Danmörk bað þeim
this deed so that nearly no man in Denmark prayed them
góðs fyrir þetta, ok jafnvel þeir, er áðr voru vinir þeirra,
good for this and even they who before were friends their
sögðu, svá sem var, at þetta var eð mesta níðingsverk,
said so as was that this was the greatest dastard's-deed
ok engi dugandi maðr mundi til þeirra vilja þjóna upp
and no doughty man would to them wish to-serve up
frá því. Knútr lávarðr var færðr til Hríngstaða, ok þar
from that Knut Lavard was carried to Hringstadir and there
jarðaðr, ok er sannheilagr maðr, ok gjörir margar fagrar
buried and is a-truly-holy man and works many fair
jarteignir ok dýrligar. Líflátsdagr hans er einni nótt eptir
miracles and glorious (The)-death-day his is one night after
enn 13 dag jóla, en nú er honum haldinn messudagr
the thirteenth day of-Yule but now is to-him kept mass-day
um alla Danmörk enn næsta dag eptir Jónsmessu baptista
through all Denmark the next day after John's-mass (the)-Baptist's
á sumarit, þvíat þá var upptekinn úr jörðu heilagr dómr
in the-summer because then was taken-up out-of earth (the)-holy relic
hans; þar heitir nú Lávarðsskógr, er hann féll. Svá segja
his there is-called now Lavard's-wood where he fell So say

Danir, at í rjóðri því, er enn helgi Knútr lávarðr féll, sé
(the)-Danes that in clearing that which the holy Knut Lavard fell be
jáfnan síðan fagrgrænn völlr, hvárt sem er vetr eða sumar.
always since fair-green field whether as is winter or summer

Frá börnum Knúts lávarðar

XCIII · OF KNÚTR LÁVARÐR'S CHILDREN

Knútr and Ingibjörg had three daughters, married into the East-Way, Norway, and Scania, and a posthumous son, Valdimarr, born seven nights after his father's death and raised among his mother's kin in Garðaríki.

Enn helgi Knútr lávarðr ok Íngibjörg áttu dætr 3, Margrétu
The holy Knut Lavard and Ingibjorg had daughters three Margret
ok Kristínu ok Katrínu, hún var gipt í Austrveg; en Kristínu
and Kristin and Katrin she was married into (the)-East-Way but Kristin
átti Magnús blindi, Noregs konúngr, son Sigurðar jórsalafara;
had Magnus (the)-Blind Norway king son of-Sigurd Jerusalem-farer
Margrétu átti Stígr hvítaleðr á Skáni: þeirra börn voru þau
Margret had Stig White-Leather in Scania their children were they
Nikulás ok Kristín, er átti Karl Svíakonúngr Sörkvisson:
Nikulas and Kristin whom had Karl Swedes'-king Sorkvir's-son
þeirra son var Sörkvir Svíakonúngr, hann átti Íngigerði,
their son was Sorkvir Swedes'-king he had Ingigerd
dóttur Birgis jarls brosu: þeirra son var Jón Svíakonúngr.
daughter of-Birgir earl Brosa their son was Jon Swedes'-king
En er hinn heilagi Knútr lávarðr féll, var Íngibjörg kona
But when the holy Knut Lavard fell was Ingibjorg wife
hans með barni, hún var þenna vetr austr í Garðaríki með
his with child she was this winter east in Gardariki with

Haraldi konúngi feðr sínum, hún fæddi sveinbarn, ok hét
Harald king father her she bore a-boy-child and was-called
sá sveinn Valdimar, hann var fæddr 7 nóttum eptir líflát
that boy Valdimar he was born seven nights after (the)-death
ens heilaga Knúts lávarðar feðr síns, hann var snemma bæði
of-the holy Knut Lavard father his he was early both
vænn ok mikill ok afbragðligr um flesta hluti, hann óx upp
handsome and big and outstanding in most things he grew up
austr í Garðaríki með móðurfrændum sínum, meðan hann
east in Gardariki with mother's-kinsmen his while he
var í barnæsku, ok var brátt vinsæll af alþýðu manna.
was in childhood and was soon popular by (the)-common-people of-men

Frá Eiríki

XCIV · OF EIRÍKR

Eiríkr, Knútr's brother, came to Denmark to avenge him and was joined by his father's and brother's friends. He harried Nikulás's realm while Haraldr kesja, who had sided with Nikulás, held Hróiskelda against him.

Eiríkr, son Eiríks konúngs góða Sveinssonar var ekki
Eirik son of-Eirik king (the)-Good Svein's-son was not
innanlands, er hann spurði líflát Knúts lávarðar bróður
inland when he learned (the)-death of-Knut Lavard brother
síns; en er hann frétti þessi tíðendi, þá safnar hann liði at
his but when he heard these tidings then gathers he troop to
sér, öllu því er hann fékk, ok honum vildi fylgja; hann fór
himself all that which he got and him wished to-follow he went
síðan til Danmerkr, ok er hann kom í land, þá krafði
afterward to Denmark and when he came into land then demanded

hann sér liðs, en með því at mörgum þótti hann mikils
he for-himself troop but with that that to-many seemed he much
eiga at hefna við Nikulás konúng ok Magnús son hans, þá
have to avenge with Nikulas king and Magnus son his then
varð Eiríki fyrir því gott til liðs; naut hann at því ok mjök
became for-Eirik for that good of troop enjoyed he in that also much
vinsælda Eiríks konúngs föður síns ok Knúts lávarðar bróður
(the)-popularity of-Eirik king father his and of-Knut Lavard brother
síns, ok söfnuðust þeir menn margir til Eiríks, er áðr höfðu
his and gathered those men many to Eirik who before had
verit vinir þeirra. En þegar hann fékk nokkurn styrk liðs,
been friends their But as-soon-as he got some strength of-troop
þá herjaði hann víða í Danmörk, ok gjörði mikinn hernað
then harried he widely in Denmark and made great raiding
í ríki Nikuláss konúngs, ok veitti stór slög mönnum
in (the)-realm of-Nikulas king and gave great blows to-men
hans; ok varð af þessu mikill hernaðr innanlands. Nikulás
his and became from this great raiding inland Nikulas
konúngr setti menn til landvarnar í móti her þessum; voru
king set men to land-defense in against host this were
þá ríkastir menn í ríki Nikuláss konúngs, Magnús
then mightiest men in (the)-realm of-Nikulas king Magnus
son hans, Heinrekr halti, Haraldr kesja, bróðir Knúts ens
son his Heinrek (the)-Lame Harald Halberd brother of-Knut the
helga lávarðar, hann var kær Nikulási konúngi frænda sínum
holy Lavard he was dear to-Nikulas king kinsman his
ok Magnúsi syni hans; ok láu margir á hálsi honum um
and to-Magnus son his and lay many on neck his about
þat, ok fékk hann af því mikit ámæli; hann hafði ríki
that and got he from that great blame he had realm
í Sjólandi, ok sat hann löngum í Róiskeldu til landvarnar
in Zealand and sat he long in Roskilde for land-defense

fyrir her Eiríks bróður síns, ok hafði hann mikla sveit
against (the)-host of-Eirik brother his and had he great following
manna með sér, ok styrkti hann þann stað mjök; hann
of-men with himself and strengthened he that place much he
lét gjöra kastala mikinn ok sterkan, ok setti þar í margt
let make a-castle great and strong and set there in much
lið til varnar, þá er hann var eigi við. Nikulás konúngr
troop for defense then when he was not by Nikulas king
hafði löngum fjölment með sér, síðan þessi ófriðr hófst.
had long many-men with himself since this unpeace began

Frá Nikulási konúngi ok Magnúsi

XCV · OF KING NIKULÁS AND MAGNÚS

Eiríkr fought Nikulás on Jalangrsheiðr, took and razed Haraldr kesja's castle at Hróiskelda, and won Scania and Halland with the help of Archbishop Össurr. Nikulás came north with a fleet and six bishops.

Þat finnst ritat í fróðum dönskum bókum, at þeir Nikulás
That is-found written in learned Danish books that they Nikulas
konúngr ok Eiríkr hafi átt nokkurar orrostur, þær er vér
king and Eirik have had some battles those which we
kunnum eigi frásagnir af, með hverjum tíðendum lyktazt hafi.
know not accounts of with what tidings ended have
En svá er ritat, at á öðru ári eptir líflát hins heilaga
But so is written that in (the)-second year after (the)-death of-the holy
Knúts lávarðar, bróður síns, áttu þeir Nikulás konúngr orrostu
Knut Lavard brother his had they Nikulas king a-battle
á Jalángrsheiði, ok því næst áttu þeir, eða menn þeirra, aðra
on Jalang-heath and that next had they or men their another

orrostu í Fótvík á Skáni, þat er skamt frá Lundi. Tveim
battle at Fotvik in Scania that is short from Lund Two
vetrum eptir fall ens heilaga Knúts lávarðar kom Eiríkr
winters after (the)-fall of-the holy Knut Lavard came Eirik
til Sjólands ok herjaði þar víða, ok þá vann hann kastalann
to Zealand and harried there widely and then won he the-castle
Haralds kesju, bróður síns, í Róiskeldu, ok drap þar mart
of-Harald Halberd brother his in Roskilde and killed there much
fólk; hann lét brjóta niðr allan kastalann, en Haraldr kesja var
folk he let break down all the-castle but Harald Halberd was
þá eigi í staðnum; ok á öðru ári eptir þá eyddi Eiríkr
then not in the-town and in (the)-second year after then wasted Eirik
allan staðinn í Róiskeldu, ok þá gekk mart fólk til handa
all the-town in Roskilde and then went much folk to hands
honum í Sjólandi, ok veitti honum hlýðni. Þaðan fór hann
of-him in Zealand and gave him obedience Thence went he
með mikit lið norðr á Skáni, ok gekk þá allt fólk undir
with great troop north to Scania and went then all folk under
hann, bæði á Skáni ok Hallandi, ok veitti honum hlýðni. Í
him both in Scania and Halland and gave him obedience In
þenna tíma var Özur erkibiskup í Lundi; hann tók vel ok
this time was Ozur archbishop in Lund he took well and
sæmiliga við Eiríki, ok fékk honum allan þann styrk, er
seemly with Eirik and gave him all that strength which
hann hafði föng á, þvíat erkibiskup hafði verit enn mesti vinr
he had means on because (the)-archbishop had been the greatest friend
Eiríks konúngs ens góða föður hans; en þat var ok, sem fyrr
of-Eirik king the Good father his but that was also as before
var sagt, at þeir Nikulás konúngr ok Magnús son hans höfðu
was said that they Nikulas king and Magnus son his had
mikinn óþokka fengit af alþýðu manns í Danmörk
great dislike got from (the)-common-people of-men in Denmark

af drápi Knúts lávarðar; ok því meir sem óx afli
from (the)-killing of-Knut Lavard and the more as grew (the)-strength
Eiríks, því meiri var óvinsæld þeirra Nikulás konungs ok
of-Eirik the greater was unpopularity their of-Nikulas king and
Magnúss, ok snérust þá margir menn til hlýðni ok þjónustu
of-Magnus and turned then many men to obedience and service
við Eirík. Nikulás konungr fór með skipaher norðr á Skáni,
with Eirik Nikulas king went with a-ship-host north to Scania
ok hafði mikit lið, þar var í liði með honum Magnús son
and had great troop there was in troop with him Magnus son
hans, Heinrekr halti ok Haraldr kesja ok margt annarra
his Heinrek (the)-Lame and Harald Halberd and many of-other
ríkismanna; þar voru í liði með honum 6 biskupar, ok var
men-of-rank there were in troop with him six bishops and was
einn ofan af Svíþjóðu, annar af Sjólandi, enn 4 voru
one down from Sweden (the)-second from Zealand but four were
sunnan af Jótlandi, Pétr biskup af Róiskeldu af Sjólandi,
from-the-south from Jutland Petr bishop of Roskilde of Zealand
Þórir biskup af Rípum, Ketill biskup af Vendli úr Jörúngi.
Thorir bishop of Ribe Ketil bishop of Vendil from Hjorring

Tala konúngs ok erkibiskups

XCVI · THE KING'S AND THE ARCHBISHOP'S SPEECHES

At Fótvík at Whitsun, Archbishop Össurr bade his clerics shrive the host and told the men to fight boldly, since every man must die once; Eiríkr reminded them of the murder of Knútr lávarðr.

Eiríkr hafði liðsafnað mikinn fyrir á Skáni, ok hélt her
Eirik had a-troop-gathering great before in Scania and held host
sínum til Fótvíkr, til móts við Nikulás konúng, þat er
his to Fotvik to meeting with Nikulas king that is
suðr frá Lundi. Özur erkibiskup var í liði með Eiríki;
south from Lund Ozur archbishop was in troop with Eirik
þar var með honum mikill frændabálkr hans, ok svá annat
there was with him great kin-band his and so other
lið, þat sem honum fylgði. Þar voru með Eiríki Skánúngar
troop that which him followed There were with Eirik Scanians
ok Hallendíngar, ok þat lið, er honum hafði fylgt or
and Hallanders and that troop which him had followed out-of
Sjólandi, ok margt annat fólk; var þar þá mikill herr
Zealand and much other folk was there then a-great host
manns; voru þar ok í liði margir höfðíngjar. Þat var á
of-men were there also in troop many chieftains That was at
hvítadögum, er herrinn kom allr saman í Fótvík, ok þá
Whitsun when the-host came all together at Fotvik and then
fylktu hvárirtveggju liði sínu, ok bjuggust til bardaga; með
drew-up both-sides troop their and made-ready for battle with
erkibiskupi var mikill fjöldi kennimanna. Erkibiskup mælti,
(the)-archbishop was a-great number of-clerics (The)-archbishop spoke
er liðit bjóst til bardagans: taki lærðir menn viðbúnað,
when the-troop readied-itself for the-battle take learned men preparation

ok veiti mönnum skript, þvíat eigi er annars ván, enn
and give men confession because not is other expected than
fundr þessi verði með tíðendum miklum, svá at margr
meeting this becomes with tidings great so that many
kunni ekki frá at segja, ok hugsi nú svá hverr sitt ráð, at
can not of to tell and think now so each his counsel that
eigi sé víst, at hann eigi kost héðan frá, at játa syndir
not be certain that he have choice hence from to confess sins
sínar fyrir neinum kennimanni. Nú er sú skript mín: at ek
his before any cleric Now is that penance my that I
býð yðr í guðs nafni, at þér gángið fram karlmannliga, ok
bid you in God's name that you go forth manfully and
berizt djarfliga; hugsið þat, sem er, at guði þikja eigi betri
fight boldly think that which is that to-God seem not better
huglausir menn, enn röskvir drengir, skal ok eitt sinn hverr
heartless men than doughty fellows shall also one time each
deyja. Síðan talar Eiríkr fyrir sínum mönnum, ok mælti
die Afterward talks Eirik before his men and spoke
svá: öllum mönnum er kunnigt hér í landi níðíngsvíg
so to-all men is known here in land (the)-dastard-killing
ok skemdarverk, er þeir Nikulás konúngr ok Magnús son
and shameful-deed which they Nikulas king and Magnus son
hans hafa unnit í drápi Knúts hertuga bróður míns, ok
his have done in (the)-killing of-Knut duke brother my and
launat svá Eiríki konúngi feður mínum marga góða hluti,
repaid so Eirik king father my many good things
er hann hefir til þeirra gjört, má oss hugkvæmt vera
which he has to them done may to-us mindful be
hvers at hefna er. Hann eggjaði mjök liðit.
what to avenge is He urged much the-troop

Fall Magnúss Nikulássonar

XCVII · THE FALL OF MAGNÚS NIKULÁSSON

Six bishops fell on Nikulás's side; Nikulás and Haraldr kesja fled. Sigurðr the Strong carried Magnús, in his mail that no weapon bit, toward the ships, but Eiríkr's men cut them off and both fell, with Heinrekr halti, four winters after Knútr lávarðr's death.

Eptir þetta kváðu við lúðrar um allan herinn hvárratveggju.
After this sounded at trumpets through all the-host of-both-sides
Sigurðr enn sterki hét maðr, hann var fóstbróðir Magnúss
Sigurd the Strong was-called a-man he was foster-brother of-Magnus
sterka konúngssonar, ok bar merki hans. Síðan tókst þár
(the)-Strong king's-son and bore standard his Afterward began there
mikil orrosta, ok urðu þar mikil stórtíðendi, þó at vér
great battle and happened there great great-tidings though that we
kunnum óglöggt at segja frá falli tíginna manna. Þar féllu
know unclearly to tell of (the)-fall of-noble men There fell
6 biskupar af liði Nikuláss konúngs. Sigurðr enn sterki var
six bishops of (the)-troop of-Nikulas king Sigurd the Strong was
jafnan þar fyrir, sem mest var atsótt, ok barðist alldjarfliga, svá
always there before where most was attacked and fought very-boldly so
at hans vörn er ágætt. Nikulás konúngr varð sár nakkvat í
that his defense is famous Nikulas king became wounded somewhat in
orrostunni, ok eigi mjök, áðr hann flýði, ok svá Haraldr kesja;
the-battle and not much before he fled and so Harald Halberd
þá rauf hann þegar fylkíngina, er haun sá, at konúngr flýði,
then broke he at-once the-array when he saw that (the)-king fled
hélt hann þá ok í brott. Síðan héldu þeir upp bardaganum
held he then also off away Afterward held they up the-fight
Magnús ok Heinrekr halti með því liði, er eptir var; þá
Magnus and Heinrek (the)-Lame with that troop which behind was then

var fast atsótt merkjum Magnúss, var þá alstaðar los á
was hard attacked (the)-standards of-Magnus was then everywhere loosening in
fylkíngunum í hernum. Magnús var í hríngabrynju þeirri,
the-arrays in the-host Magnus was in a-ring-mail that
er aldregi festi vopn á, ok barðist allhraustliga, ok bað
which never fastened weapons on and fought very-bravely and bade
menn standa vel við ok leggjast eigi á flótta. En er
men stand well against and lay-themselves not on flight But when
Sigurðr enn sterki sá, at þyntist um merki Magnúss, ok
Sigurd the Strong saw that thinned about (the)-standard of-Magnus and
eigi mundi duga svá búit, þá kastaði hann merkinu, en hann
not would avail so settled then cast-away he the-standard but he
tók Magnús upp í fáng sér, ok snéri til skipa, ok vildi
took Magnus up into embrace his and turned to ships and wished
á skip út. En er Eiríksmenn sá þetta, snéru þeir þegar
on ship out But when Eirik's-men saw this turned they at-once
eptir honum, ok ráku flóttann, þvíat þá snöru allir á flótta
after him and drove the-flight because then turned all on flight
Magnúss menn. Þeir Eiríkr komust milli þeirra Sigurðar
of-Magnus men They Eirik got between them Sigurd
ok skipanna, ok varð þá at hrökkva við. Tókst þar orrosta
and the-ships and became then to shrink back Began there battle
í annat sinn, ok lauk svá, at þeir Magnús ok Sigurðr
for (the)-second time and ended so that they Magnus and Sigurd
féllu þar báðir, ok flest lið, þat er þeim hafði fylgt, sumt
fell there both and most troop that which them had followed some
flýði, þat er því kom við. Í Fótvík varð allmikit mannfall
fled that which to-it came with At Fotvik became very-great slaughter
af liði þeirra Nikuláss konúngs ok Magnúss sonar hans; þar
of troop of-them Nikulas king and Magnus son his there

féll Heinrekr halti ok mart annat ríkismanna, sem áðr
fell Heinrek (the)-Lame and many other men-of-rank as before
var sagt; þá voru 4 vetr liðnir frá lífláti Knúts lávarðar.
was said then were four winters passed from (the)-death of-Knut Lavard

Drepinn Nikulás konúngr

XCVIII · KING NIKULÁS KILLED

Nikulás fled to Heiðabær and took the bells and music there for a welcome, but the town was full of Knútr lávarðr's friends and Saxons; they seized him and, after he had seen a priest, killed him, after thirty winters as king.

Nikulás konúngr flýði or bardaganum í Fótvík, sem fyrr
Nikulas king fled out-of the-fight at Fotvik as before
var sagt, hann komst á skip með nokkura menn, ok fór
was said he got on ship with some men and went
suðr til Jótlands; síðan fór hann til Heiðabæjar, ok var
south to Jutland afterward went he to Hedeby and was
fámennr, en er hann reið at staðnum, þá heyrðu þeir
with-few-men but when he rode to the-town then heard they
lúðragáng ok þarmeð allskyns streingleik ok klukknahljóð. Þá
trumpet-sound and therewith all-kinds-of string-music and bell-ringing then
mælti Nikulás konúngr: hér munu menn vel við oss taka ok
spoke Nikulas king here will men well with us take and
tígugliga, er bæði er hríngt í móti oss ok svá streingleikar,
nobly when both is rung in against us and so string-musics
ok mun hér ekki afsparat at veita oss allan aurgata, þann
and will here nothing spared to grant us all welcome that
er til er. Einn maðr svaraði konúnginum: lengi hefir þú
which to is One man answered the-king long have you

ekki verit vitr maðr, ok þat sýnist ok í þessu, er þér
not been a-wise man and that seems also in this when you
ætlið hér til sómans, er fyrir eru ástvinir Knúts lávarðar,
think here to the-honor where before are loving-friends of-Knut Lavard
ok vænna þætti mér, at öðru mundir þú hér mæta. Þeir
and likelier would-seem to-me that other would you here meet They
riðu þó í bæinn; þar var mikit fjölmenni fyrir í Heidabæ;
rode yet into the-town there was great multitude before in Hedeby
váru þar ok margir þeir menn, er verit höfðu vinir Knúts
were there also many those men who been had friends of-Knut
lávarðar. En er þeir spurðu, at Nikulás konúngr mundi
Lavard But when they learned that Nikulas king would
koma til Heiðabæjar, þá beiddu þeir sér liðveizlu alla
come to Hedeby then asked they for-themselves support all
þá menn, er í staðnum voru. Þá var þar Saxaherr mikill.
those men who in the-town were Then was there a-Saxon-host great
Ok með því at Nikulás konúngr gjörðist þá mörgum mjök
And with that that Nikulas king became then to-many much
óþokkaðr í Danmörk, þá veittu þeir honum þegar atgaungu,
disliked in Denmark then made they him at-once an-attack
er hann kom í staðinn; var Nikulás konúngr þá höndum
when he came into the-town was Nikulas king then with-hands
tekinn, ok var hann látinn ná kennimanna fundi. Síðan var
taken and was he let get clerics' meeting Afterward was
hann af lífi tekinn; þá hafði hann konúngr verit 30 vetra.
he from life taken then had he king been thirty winters

Eiríkr eymuni tekinn til konúngs

XCIX · EIRÍKR EYMUNI TAKEN AS KING

Eiríkr Eiríksson was taken as king over all Denmark; he was so harsh to Nikulás's friends that he was called eymuni, Ever-Memorable. He married Málmfríðr of Hólmgarðr, Sigurðr jórsalafari's widow.

Eptir fall Nikuláss konúngs var Eiríkr Eiríksson til
After (the)-fall of-Nikulas king was Eirik Eirik's-son to
konúngs tekinn í Danmörk um allt land; var þat gjört
king taken in Denmark through all land was that done
með vild ok samþykki alþýðu. Hann var ríkr
with goodwill and consent of-(the)-common-people He was powerful
ok refsíngasamr við alla þá menn, er hann þóttist
and punishing toward all those men whom he thought-himself
stórsakir við eiga, ok öllum þeim grimmastr, er mestir höfðu
great-charges with have and to-all those grimmest who greatest had
verit vinir Nikuláss konúngs eðr Magnúss sonar hans, svá at
been friends of-Nikulas king or of-Magnus son his so that
þeir þóttust varla mega búa undir ríki hans; ok með
they thought-themselves scarcely may dwell under realm his and with
því at margir þóttust lángan aldr mundu minni eiga til
that that many thought-themselves long life would memory have to
at reka grimdar hans, þá var hann kallaðr Eiríkr eymuni.
to avenge cruelty his then was he called Eirik Ever-Memorable
Hann átti Málmfríði drotníngu, dóttur Haralds konúngs
He had Malmfrid queen daughter of-Harald king
Valdimarssonar, Jarizleifssonar, austan úr Hólmgarði, systur
Valdimar's-son Jarizleif's-son from-the-east out-of Holmgard sister

Íngibjargar, er átti Knútr lávarðr bróðir hans. Málmfríði
of-Ingibjorg whom had Knut Lavard brother his Malmfrid
hafði fyrr átta Sigurðr jórsalafari, Noregs konúngr.
had before had Sigurd Jerusalem-farer Norway king

Frá Noregs konúngum

C · OF THE KINGS OF NORWAY

Haraldr gilli, beaten by Magnús Sigurðarson at Fyrileif, fled to his sworn brother Eiríkr, who let him draw on Halland and gave him some men and ships; Haraldr won Norway that winter, and Magnús was blinded and put in a cloister.

Í þenna tíma voru konúngar í Noregi: Magnús konúngr,
In this time were kings in Norway Magnus king
son Sigurðar jórsalafara, ok Haraldr gilli, bróðir Sigurðar
son of-Sigurd Jerusalem-farer and Harald Gilli brother of-Sigurd
konúngs; þeir höfðu ófriðsamt ríki sín á milli, þeir börðust
king they had unpeaceful realms their in between they fought
á Fyrileif þat sama sumar, er þeir voru drepnir í Danmörk
at Fyrileif that same summer when they were killed in Denmark
Nikulás konúngr ok Magnús son hans. Þá flýði Haraldr gilli
Nikulas king and Magnus son his Then fled Harald Gilli
or orrostu þeirri suðr til Danmerkr á fund Eiríks konúngs
out-of battle that south to Denmark to meeting of-Eirik king
eymuna, en Magnús konúngr lagði þá undir sik ríki allt
Ever-Memorable but Magnus king laid then under himself realm all
í Noregi. Eiríkr konúngr tók vel við Haraldi konúngi, ok
in Norway Eirik king took well with Harald king and
bauð honum í ríki sínu þá hluti, er hann þyrfti at hafa til
offered him in realm his those things which he needed to have for

kostnaðar fyrir lið sitt, þvíat þeir Eiríkr konúngr ok Haraldr
cost for troop his because they Eirik king and Harald
gilli höfðu svarizt í bræðralag. Haraldr konúngr beiddi
Gilli had sworn-themselves into brotherhood Harald king asked
Eirík konúng fá sér lið ok afla nokkurn, at fara aptr til
Eirik king get for-himself troop and strength some to go back to
Noregs, ok vildi hann vinna undir sik ríki þat, er hann
Norway and wished he to-win under himself realm that which he
hafði látit um sumarit fyrir Magnúsi konúngi; en með því
had lost in the-summer to Magnus king but with that
at Eiríkr konúngr var mjök nýkominn til ríkis í Danmörk,
that Eirik king was much newly-come to realm in Denmark
ok hafði þá enn lítt fengit trúnað af fólkinu, þá þóttist
and had then still little got trust from the-folk then thought-himself
hann lítinn afla mega fá Haraldi konúngi af sínu ríki, en
he little strength may get Harald king from his realm but
þó veitti hann honum Halland til yfirferðar, ok fékk honum
yet granted he him Halland for passage and gave him
nokkurn afla bæði liðs ok skipa; skildu konúngarnir með
some strength both of-troop and of-ships parted the-kings with
vináttu, ok héldu þat, meðan þeir lifðu. Síðan fór Haraldr
friendship and held that while they lived Afterward went Harald
aptr til Noregs þat sama haust með þat lið, er Eiríkr
back to Norway that same autumn with that troop which Eirik
konúngr hafði fengit honum, ok þann vetr vann hann ríki
king had given him and that winter won he realm
allt undir sik í Noregi, en Magnús konúngr var blindaðr, ok
all under himself in Norway but Magnus king was blinded and
sendr síðan í klaustr, sem segir í æfi Noregs konúnga.
sent afterward into a-cloister as says in (the)-lives Norway kings

Herferð Eiríks konúngs

CI · KING EIRÍKR'S CAMPAIGN

Eiríkr had Haraldr kesja and his sons killed, then harried Wendland, took Arkona, and made its people Christian, but they cast off the faith as soon as he left.

Eiríkr eymuni var harðr ok stirðr við fólk allt í
Eirik Ever-Memorable was hard and stiff toward folk all in
Danmörk, þegar hann þóttist festast í ríkinu; hann lét
Denmark as-soon-as he thought-himself to-be-fixed in the-realm he let
drepa Harald kesju, bróður sinn, ok sonu hans 2, ok marga
kill Harald Halberd brother his and sons his two and many
aðra vini Nikuláss konúngs; þat var einum vetri eptir fall
other friends of-Nikulas king that was one winter after (the)-fall
Nikuláss konúngs, er Haraldr kesja var drepinn, en vetri
of-Nikulas king when Harald Halberd was killed but a-winter
síðar fór Eiríkr konúngr til Vindlands með her sinn, ok
later went Eirik king to Wendland with host his and
herjaði þar víða, ok vann þar mikit hervirki; hann vann þar
harried there widely and did there great war-work he won there
þann stað, er Arkún heitir, þat fólk var heiðit, er þann
that place which Arkona is-called that folk was heathen which that
stað bygði. Eiríkr konúngr fór svá þaðan, at þeir tóku áðr
place inhabited Eirik king went so thence that they took before
við kristni, er eigi voru drepnir af heiðnum mönnum, ok lét
with Christianity who not were killed by heathen men and let
konúngr kristna allt fólk í staðnum; fór hann síðan heim til
(the)-king christen all folk in the-town went he afterward home to
Danmerkr. En þegar konúngr var í brottu þaðan, þá köstuðu
Denmark But as-soon-as (the)-king was in away thence then cast
þeir aptr kristni, ok efldu síðan blót ok heiðin sið.
they back Christianity and strengthened afterward sacrifice and heathen custom

Frá Eiríki konúngi

CII · OF KING EIRÍKR

Magnús the Blind persuaded Eiríkr that Norway lay open. At Oslo Hallvarðr's shrine grew too heavy for the townsmen to move, then light enough for six men to carry it away from the Danes, who burned the town and the church; Þjóstólfr Álason, carrying the boy king Ingi in his lap, drove them off. Eiríkr returned shamed and grew harsher still.

Magnús, er blindaðr hafði verit, fór úr klaustri eptir
Magnus who blinded had been went out-of (the)-cloister after
dráp Haralds gilla, ok efldi síðan flokk í móti
(the)-killing of-Harald Gilli and strengthened afterward a-band in against
sonum Haralds konúngs, Ínga ok Sigurði, ok átti við þá
sons of-Harald king Ingi and Sigurd and had with them
nokkrar orrostur, ok fengu þeir jafnan sigr, en Magnús flýði.
some battles and got they always victory but Magnus fled
Síðan fór Magnús til Danmerkr á fund Eiríks eymuna,
Afterward went Magnus to Denmark to meeting of-Eirik Ever-Memorable
ok sótti hann at liðveizlu; sagði svá, at þat væri honum
and sought him for support said so that that were for-him
höfðíngligt bragð, at fara til Noregs með her, ok vinna þar
a-lordly move to go to Norway with a-host and win there
undir sik ríki; sagði hann, at þar voru konúngar börn at
under himself realm said he that there were kings children in
aldri, en þeir lendir menn, er þar voru til ráðuneytis teknir,
age but those landed men who there were to counsel taken
voru allir ósáttir hverr við annann fyrir öfundar sakir; sagði
were all at-odds each with another for envy's sake said
hann svá höfðíngjum, hvar sem hann kom, at ríkit í
he so to-chieftains wherever as he came that the-realm in

Noregi mundi laust fyrir liggja, ef nokkurir stórir höfðingjar
Norway would loose before lie if any great chieftains
vildi tilleita, ok eigi mundi einu skapti í móti þeim skotit.
wished to-try and not would one shaft in against them shot
En með því at Eiríkr konúngr var fúss sæmdarinnar ok
But with that that Eirik king was eager for-the-honor and
tignar enn meiri, enn áðr hafði hann, þá félst honum þetta
dignity yet greater than before had he then fell to-him this
vel í skap, ok fór síðan með Danaher til Noregs af
well in mind and went afterward with (the)-Danish-host to Norway at
áeggjan Magnúss blinda, ok hafði allmikit lið; þar var ok
(the)-egging of-Magnus (the)-Blind and had very-great troop there was also
Magnús blindi í ferð með þat lið, er honum hafði fylgt
Magnus (the)-Blind on journey with that troop which him had followed
til Danmerkr; þeir komu í Víkina austr, ok fóru spakliga
to Denmark they came into the-Vik east and went peacefully
austanfjarðar, þvíat þar voro fyrir vinir Magnúss konúngs; en
east-of-the-fjord because there were before friends of-Magnus king but
er þeir komu til Túnsbergs, þá spurðu þeir at Þjóstólfr
when they came to Tunsberg then learned they that Thjostolf
Álason lendr maðr var í Osló, ok svá annat lið Ínga
Ali's-son landed man was in Oslo and so other troop of-Ingi
konúngs. Eiríkr konúngr sigldi þá til Oslóar, þegar byr
king Eirik king sailed then to Oslo as-soon-as wind
gaf; en er bæjarmenn sá, at lið Eiríks konúngs sigldi
gave but when (the)-townsmen saw that (the)-troop of-Eirik king sailed
utan at Höfuðey, þá vildu þeir bera skrín ens helga
from-outside to Hofudey then wished they to-bear (the)-shrine of-the holy
Hallvarðar upp úr bænum, ok gengu undir svá margir,
Hallvard up out-of the-town and went under so many
sem flestir máttu at komast, en skrínit varð svá þúngt, at
as most could to get but the-shrine became so heavy that

þeir máttu eigi bera lengra en utar á midt kirkjugólfið.
they could not bear further than out on middle the-church-floor
Eiríkr konúngr lá um nóttina út við Höfuðey; en um
Eirik king lay through the-night out by Hofudey but in
morguninn, er ljóst var, lögðu þeir inn til bæjarins; þá
the-morning when light was laid they in to the-town then
gengu bæjarmenn til skrínsins, er herrinn sigldi til bæjarins,
went (the)-townsmen to the-shrine when the-host sailed to the-town
ok vildu eigi, at Danir tæki í brott skrínið, ok þá varð
and wished not that (the)-Danes took off away the-shrine and then became
þat svá létt, at 6 menn báru þat úr bænum ok allt
it so light that six men bore it out-of the-town and all
uppá Raumaríki, ok var skrín ens helga Hallvarðar þar at
up-to Raumariki and was (the)-shrine of-the holy Hallvard there at
Forsi 3 mánaði síðan. En konúngr brendi bæinn í Osló
Fors three months afterward But (the)-king burned the-town in Oslo
ok svá Hallvarðs kirkju; en Þjóstólfr safnaði liði í móti, ok
and so of-Hallvard church but Thjostolf gathered troop in against and
réð til bardaga við þá, þvíat hann var þá mestr formaðr
decided to battle with them because he was then greatest leader
í Noregi allra lendra manna, en konúngarnir voru svá úngir,
in Norway of-all landed men but the-kings were so young
at Þjóstólfr bar Ínga konúng í kiltíng sér í bardaganum,
that Thjostolf bore Ingi king in lap his in the-fight
en Danir lögðu þegar undan til skipa, ok lögðu þegar í
but (the)-Danes laid at-once away to ships and laid at-once off
braut, ok fóru síðan til Danmerkr; ok er þat mál manna,
away and went afterward to Denmark and is that talk of-men
at eigi hafi verri för farin verit í annars konúngs ríki
that not have a-worse journey gone been in another king's realm
með jafnmiklu liði. Þótti Eiríki konúngi eigi sér svá
with equally-great troop Seemed to-Eirik king not to-himself so

reynast, sem Magnús konúngr hafði sagt honum, at laust
prove as Magnus king had told him that loose
mundi liggja ríkit fyrir í Noregi, ok engi maðr mundi
would lie the-realm before in Norway and no man would
skapti skjóta í móti honum, ok lézt aldrei skyldi vera hans
shaft shoot in against him and professed never should be his
vin jafnmikill sem áðr. Svá mikit óx grimd ok ofríki
friend equally-great as before So much grew cruelty and overbearing
Eiríks konúngs í Danmörku, at ríkismenn þóttust varla
of-Eirik king in Denmark that men-of-rank thought-themselves scarcely
þola mega; en þó þorði engi í móti at mæla, því sem
bear may but yet dared none in against to speak that which
hann vildi vera láta; hét hann þeim jafnan afarkostum, ef
he wished be let promised he them always hard-terms if
nokkurir voro, þeir er eigi vildu þegar samþykkja þat er
any were they who not wished at-once to-agree that which
hann vildi, ok líkaði þat mörgum landsmönnum illa, er þeir
he wished and pleased that many land-men ill that they
höfðu farit herför til Noregs, ok fengit þar enga sæmd
had gone a-war-journey to Norway and got there no honor
af, en margir höfðu þá ferð nauðgir farit, ok sinn kostnað
of but many had that journey unwilling gone and their cost
þar til gefit, en aflat einskis í ferðinni; en þótti Eiríkr
there to given but gained nothing on the-journey but seemed Eirik
konúngr enga þá hluti stunda vilja, er landsmönnum væri
king no those things attend-to wish which to-land-men were
til nytsemdar eðr ríkinu til framkvæmdar.
for usefulness or to-the-realm for advancement

Plógr the Black, whose father Eiríkr had killed, made a priest give him the sacrament, then came to the king's assembly with a capped spear and ran Eiríkr through. He mocked Eiríkr lamb as he drew his sword and escaped in the crush; Eiríkr had reigned four winters.

Plógr hinn svarti hét maðr, hann var einn ríkr maðr
Plog the Black was-called a-man he was one powerful man
í Danmörk, hann var ættaðr af Jótlandi, þar sem heitir
in Denmark he was born-of-a-line from Jutland there where is-called
Plógssýsla, þat er í Rípa biskupsríki. Eiríkr konúngr lét
Plog's-district that is in Ribe bishop's-realm Eirik king let
drepa föður hans, ok eigi fyrir meiri tilgjörnínga, enn hann
kill father his and not for greater doings than he
mælti í móti honum á einu þíngi. Plógr kunni þessu illa,
spoke in against him at one assembly Plog bore this ill
en sá þó engan sinn kost annann, enn láta vera svá búit
but saw yet no his choice other than let be so settled
ok kyrt. Plógr var þá á únga aldri, er faðir hans var
and quiet Plog was then at young age when father his was
drepinn. Eiríkr konúngr lét hann eigi njóta þess, þótt hann
killed Eirik king let him not enjoy that though he
hefði honum harm unnit. En er Eiríkr konúngr var suðr
had him harm done But when Eirik king was south
á Jótlandi, átti hann þíng við bændr; ok er Plógr
in Jutland had he an-assembly with farmers and when Plog
veit þetta, þá ferr hann á fund prests eins, ok biðr hann
knows this then goes he to meeting of-priest one and asks him
gefa sér þjónustu. Prestrinn svarar: hví munda ek þat
give to-himself (the)-sacrament The-priest answers why would I that

gjöra, mér sýnist þú ósjúkr. Þá mælti Plógr: gjör sem ek
do to-me seems you unsick Then spoke Plog do as I
mæli, ella mun ek drepa þik. Prestrinn svarar: fyrir hverja
say else will I kill you The-priest answers for what
sök biðr þú þessa? Plógr lézt eigi mundi honum frá
reason ask you this Plog professed not would him of
segja, sagði hann engu skipta. Síðan gaf prestr honum
tell said he nothing matter Afterward gave (the)-priest him
corpus Christi. Þá tók hann fíngrgull af hendi sér, ok gaf
body of-Christ Then took he a-finger-gold off hand his and gave
prestinum, ok bað hann fyrirgefa sér, er hann hafði heitazt
the-priest and bade him forgive himself that he had threatened
við hann. Eptir þat gekk Plógr á þíngit, hann hafði spjót
with him After that went Plog to the-assembly he had a-spear
mikit í hendi, ok kefli mikit framan á spjótinu, hann
great in hand and a-knob great in-front on the-spear he
snéri niðr oddinum; hann bað gefa sér gáng á konúngs
turned down the-point he bade give to-himself going to (the)-king's
fund, ok lézt við hann eiga eyrendi. Hann hafði ekki
meeting and professed with him have errand He had not
fleira vápna enn spjótit, ok er hann nálgaðist þángat, steig
more weapons than the-spear and when he neared thither stepped
hann keflit af spjótsoddinum, síðan lagði hann spjótinu
he the-knob off the-spear-point afterward thrust he with-the-spear
í gegnum konúnginn, ok veitti honum banasár. Plógr
in through the-king and gave him a-death-wound Plog
lagði svá örugglíga til, at konúngrinn féll áfram við lagit,
thrust so surely to that the-king fell forward at the-thrust
er í gegnum gekk konúnginn. Þá varð þraung mikil,
which in through went the-king Then became crush great
ok vissu menn úglöggt, hverr þetta verk hafði unnit, þvíat
and knew men unclearly who this deed had done because

bráðan bar at. Eiríkr lamb hét maðr, hann var sonr
suddenly bore to Eirik Lamb was-called a-man he was son
Hákonar ens norræna, Sunnifusonar, sem fyrr var ritat, ok
of-Hakon the Norwegian Sunniva's-son as before was written and
dótturson Eiríks hins góða, en systurson Eiríks eymuna,
daughter's-son of-Eirik the Good but sister's-son of-Eirik Ever-Memorable
hann var þar viðstaddr; hann ljóp upp, ok brá sverði á
he was there present he leapt up and drew sword at
þinginu. Þá mælti Plógr: ver eigi svá óðr, Eiríkr lamb! fel
the-assembly Then spoke Plog be not so furious Eirik Lamb hide
sverð þitt; feitt flesk féll þér í ketil, ef þú kant at súpa.
sword your fat pork fell to-you into kettle if you can to sup
Því mælti Plógr svá, at honum þótti hann nær standa
That spoke Plog so that to-him seemed he near stand
konúngdóminum, en maðrinn vinsæll, sem síðar reyndist. Á
to-the-kingship but the-man popular as later proved At
þinginu varð allmikil þröng, þviat eigi varð skjótt víst,
the-assembly became very-great crush because not became quickly certain
hverr drepit hafði konúnginn, ok raufst við þat þingit. En
who killed had the-king and was-broken at that the-assembly But
Plógr forðaði lífi sínu lánga stund, ok var mikill maðr fyrir
Plog saved life his long while and was a-great man for
sér. Eiríkr eymuni var 4 vetr konúngr yfir Danmörk.
himself Eirik Ever-Memorable was four winters king over Denmark

Many young men of royal blood had claims, among them Valdimarr, son of Knútr lávarðr, Sveinn, son of Eiríkr eymuni, and Knútr, son of Magnús, but the Danes, unwilling to serve the kin of Nikulás or Eiríkr eymuni, took Eiríkr lamb, called the Wise, to hold the realm for Valdimarr.

Í þenna tíma voru þeir margir menn í Danmörk, er
In this time were those many men in Denmark who
komnir voru af konúngaættum, ok voru allir nær börn at
come were from king-lines and were all nearly children in
aldri, þóttust allir vera nær komnir konúngdóminum; en
age thought-themselves all to-be near come to-the-kingship but
ríkismenn urðu eigi á eitt sáttir, sumir vildu þeim fulltíng veita,
men-of-rank became not on one agreed some wished them support to-grant
en sumir mæltu á móti, sem jafnan kann verða, at eigi verða
but some spoke in against as always can happen that not become
allir á eitt sáttir. Valdimarr, sonr hins heilaga Knúts lávarðar,
all on one agreed Valdimar son of-the holy Knut Lavard
var þá kominn til Danmerkr, hann var þá 8 vetra gamall, er
was then come to Denmark he was then eight winters old when
Eiríkr konúngr eymuni var drepinn, föðurbróðir hans. Sveinn
Eirik king Ever-Memorable was killed father's-brother his Svein
hét sonr Eiríks eymuna. Knútr hét son Magnúss
was-called (the)-son of-Eirik Ever-Memorable Knut was-called (the)-son of-Magnus
sterka Nikulássonar; móðir Knúts var Rikiza, dóttir Búrizlafs
(the)-Strong Nikulas's-son mother of-Knut was Rikiza daughter of-Burizlaf
Vindakonúngs. Ólafr hét son Haralds kesju; móðir hans
Wends'-king Olaf was-called (the)-son of-Harald Halberd mother his
var Ragnhildr, dóttir Magnúss berfætts Noregs konúngs. Þetta
was Ragnhild daughter of-Magnus Barefoot Norway king These

voro allt úngir menn ok efniligir; en fyrir sakir úvinsælda
were all young men and promising but for sake of-unpopularity
Nikulass konúngs ok svá Eiríks eymuna, þá voru menn
of-Nikulas king and so of-Eirik Ever-Memorable then were men
úfúsir at þjóna þeirra afkvæmi; var þat flestra manna mál ok
unwilling to serve their offspring was that of-most men talk and
vill, at taka Valdimar Knútsson til konúngs, fyrir sakir vinsældar
will to take Valdimar Knut's-son to king for sake of-popularity
föður hans, en með því at hann var úngr, þá var þat gjört með
of-father his but with that that he was young then was that done with
ráði móður hans ok annarra vina þeirra, at Eiríkr lamb var til
counsel of-mother his and of-other friends their that Eirik Lamb was to
konúngs tekinn, skyldi hann varðveita ríkit honum til handa,
king taken should he keep the-realm for-him to hand
þar til er hann kynni sjálfr fyrir at sjá. Eiríkr lamb var vitr
there till when he could himself for to see Eirik Lamb was a-wise
maðr ok vinsæll af Dönum, hann var kallaðr Eiríkr hinn spaki.
man and popular by Danes he was called Eirik the Wise

CV · ARCHBISHOP ÁSKELL

Archbishop Össurr died after thirty-four winters in Lund, and his brother's son Áskell succeeded him.

Özur erkibiskup í Lundi andaðist einum vetri eptir fall
Ozur archbishop in Lund died one winter after (the)-fall
Eiríks eymuna, hann var mörgum mönnum harmdauði,
of-Eirik Ever-Memorable he was by-many men lamented
þá hafði hann erkibiskup verið 14 vetr ok 20. Áskell
then had he archbishop been fourteen winters and twenty Askel

hét bróðurson Özurar, hann var þarnæst erkibiskup í
was-called (the)-brother's-son of-Ozur he was next archbishop in
Danmörk; hann var ok ríkr höfðingi ok vitr maðr, ok
Denmark he was also a-powerful chieftain and a-wise man and
sat lengi at stóli sínum í Danmörk.
sat long at see his in Denmark

CVI · THE REIGN OF EIRÍKR THE WISE

Óláfr, son of Haraldr kesja, rose against Eiríkr and fell after three winters of battles. Eiríkr ruled in peace, walled Lund in stone, and after eight winters gave up the kingdom and died a monk at Óðinsey.

Ólafr, son Haralds kesju, hófst til ríkis í móti Eiríki hinum
Olaf son of-Harald Halberd rose to realm in against Eirik the
spaka, á hinu fyrsta ári ríkis Eiríks, ok á hinu þriðja
Wise in the first year of-(the)-reign of-Eirik and in the third
ári áttu þeir Eiríkr konúngr ok Ólafr 8 orrostur, ok 3 á
year had they Eirik king and Olaf eight battles and three in
einum vetri, ok hafði Eiríkr sigr í öllum. Þeir voru 3 vetr
one winter and had Eirik victory in all They were three winters
höfðíngjar í Danmörk báðir; en á enu fjórða ári áttu þeir enn
chieftains in Denmark both but in the fourth year had they again
orrostu, ok í þeirri orrostu féll Ólafr, son Haralds kesju. Eptir
a-battle and in that battle fell Olaf son of-Harald Halberd After
fall Ólafs Haraldssonar kesju réð Eiríkr enn spaki einn
(the)-fall of-Olaf Harald's-son Halberd ruled Eirik the Wise alone
ríki í Danmörk með konúngsnafni; hann var ríkr konúngr
realm in Denmark with king's-name he was a-powerful king
innanlands ok friðsamr, hófust þá ok öngir höfðíngjar í móti
inland and peaceful rose then also no chieftains in against

honum til ríkis. Hann sat löngum í Lundi, ok þann stað
him to realm He sat long in Lund and that place
efldi hann mjök, svá at á hans dögum var engi annarr
strengthened he much so that in his days was none other
ríkari í allri Danmörku; hann lét gjöra steinmúr um staðinn,
mightier in all Denmark he let make a-stone-wall about the-town
svá at hann var einum múr allr utan luktr; hefir þat þar
so that it was with-one wall all outside locked has that there
lengi síðan haldizt. Eiríkr enn spaki var 8 vetr konúngr at
long since held Eirik the Wise was eight winters king at
Danmörk. Hann skildi sik sjálfr frá ríki, ok fór í klaustr, ok
Denmark He parted himself himself from realm and went into a-cloister and
andaðist múnkr í Óðinsey, ok var mönnum mjök harmdauði.
died a-monk in Odinsey and was to-men much lamented

Upphaf Sveins Eiríkssonar

CVII · THE BEGINNING OF SVEINN EIRÍKSSON

The Scanians took Sveinn, son of Eiríkr eymuni, as king and the Jutes Knútr, son of Magnús; Valdimarr, now seventeen, sided with Sveinn, since Magnús had betrayed his father. Sveinn won the first battle at Slangaþorp.

Sveinn, son Eiríks konúngs eymuna, var til konúngs
Svein son of-Eirik king Ever-Memorable was to king
tekinn á Skáni eptir Eirík konúng enn spaka; en Jótar
taken in Scania after Eirik king the Wise but (the)-Jutes
tóku til konúngs Knút, son Magnúss ens sterka Nikulássonar.
took to king Knut son of-Magnus the Strong Nikulas's-son
Valdamarr Knútsson var þa 17 vetra gamall, hann var
Valdimar Knut's-son was then seventeen winters old he was

æðlíngr; hann var meir snúinn til vináttu við Svein konúng
a-prince he was more turned to friendship with Svein king
enn Knút konúng, þvíat Magnús, faðir Knúts, hafði svikit enn
than Knut king because Magnus father of-Knut had betrayed the
heilaga Knút lávarð, föður Valdimars. Þeir Sveinn konúngr ok
holy Knut Lavard father of-Valdimar They Svein king and
Knútr konúngr áttu mikinn ófrið sín á milli; þeir áttu
Knut king had great unpeace themselves in between they had
ena fyrstu orrostu við Slángaþorp, ok hafði Sveinn konúngr
the first battle at Slangathorp and had Svein king
sigr í þeim bardaga, en Knútr konúngr flýði til Jótlands.
victory in that fight but Knut king fled to Jutland

Frá konúngum

CVIII · OF THE KINGS

Called by Pope Eugenius to crusade, the two kings set out together for the Wends, but turned back. Sveinn beat Knútr at Þorsteinsþorp; his counselors made him hated, and Einarr Skúlason made a verse on his avarice. Sveinn and Valdimarr beat Knútr at Viborg and at Geitsbekkr, where Valdimarr found a ford and cut down a count, and Sveinn stormed Mildinborg in Frisland, and Knútr fled to Saxony.

Í þenna tíma var unnin Jórsalaborg af heiðnum mönnum,
In this time was won Jerusalem by heathen men
ok komu þá sendiboð af Evgenío páfa, at menn skyldu
and came then messages from Eugenius pope that men should
krossast til Jórsalaferðar, ok berjast við heiðna menn; ok í
take-the-cross for Jerusalem-journey and fight with heathen men and on
þeirri ferð varð Konráðr keisari. En er þessi tíðendi komu
that journey was Konrad emperor But when these tidings came
til Danmerkr, þá vildi hvártveggi konúnganna vera í þeirri
to Denmark then wished each of-the-kings to-be on that

ferð, þvíat svá hafði páfinn fyrir mælt, ok heitit því af guðs
journey because so had the-pope for spoken and promised that on God's
hálfu, at hverr maðr skyldi laus af öllum sínum syndum,
behalf that each man should loose from all his sins
þeim er hann hafði til skripta borit, hvat sem hann hafði
those which he had to confession borne whatever as he had
hendt, þegar hann var krossaðr til útferðar, ok fyrri skyldi
befallen as-soon-as he was crossed for out-journey and sooner should
önd hans í himinríki, enn blóð hans væri kaldt á jörðu, ef
soul his in heaven's-realm than blood his were cold on earth if
hann létist í þeirri ferð. Konúngarnir mæltu nú til sætta
he died on that journey The-kings spoke now to settlement
á milli sín með enna beztu manna ráði, ok settu þeir
in between themselves with of-the best men counsel and set they
gisla milli sín til trúnaðar; setti Sveinn konúngr Ólaf
hostages between themselves for trust set Svein king Olaf
glugg, en Knútr konúngr Nikulás skata; ok fara síðan
Window but Knut king Nikulas Skati and go afterward
báðir konúngarnir til Dubbin, ok kom Knútr konúngr
both the-kings to Dobin and came Knut king
fyrri með sinn her í Vizmarhöfn, en Sveinn konúngr
first with his host into Wismar-harbor but Svein king
kom með Fjónbúum ok Sjólendíngum ok Hallendíngum ok
came with Fyn-dwellers and Zealanders and Hallanders and
Skanúngum. Þar komu til þeirra Suðrmenn, þeir er berjast
Scanians There came to them Southerners those who to-fight
vildu við heiðna menn fyrir guðs sakir. Sveinn konúngr hafði
wished with heathen men for God's sake Svein king had
týnt skipi sínu einu ok öllu því sem á var, bæði mönnum
lost ship his one and all that which on was both men
ok fé; þá bauð Knútr konúngr at gefa honum annat skip
and wealth then offered Knut king to give him another ship

með öllum reiða, utan menn. Sveinn konúngr vildi þat eigi
with all tackle except men Svein king wished that not
þiggja, ok raufst þá útferðin konúnganna, fóru þeir þá
to-accept and was-broken then the-out-journey of-the-kings went they then
heim, þvíat hvárgi vildi svá frá fara ríkinu, at annarr væri
home because neither wished so from to-go the-realm that the-other were
eptir, ok gengu þá aptr gislarnir. Sveinn konúngr var þá á
behind and went then back the-hostages Svein king was then in
Skáni, en Knútr konúngr fór af Jótlandi til Sjólands. Þá
Scania but Knut king went from Jutland to Zealand Then
er Sveinn konúngr var á Skáni, tók hann Áskel erkibiskup
when Svein king was in Scania took he Askel archbishop
með valdi, ok hafði í gislíngum um stund. En er Sveinn
with force and had in hostageship for a-while But when Svein
konúngr spurði, at Knútr konúngr var kominn til Sjólands
king learned that Knut king was come to Zealand
með her, þá flutti hann her af Skáni til Sjólands í móti
with a-host then carried he a-host from Scania to Zealand in against
Knúti konúngi, ok fundust þeir við Þorsteinsþorp, ok börðust
Knut king and met they at Thorsteinsthorp and fought
þar, ok fékk Sveinn konúngr sigr, en Knútr konúngr flýði
there and got Svein king victory but Knut king fled
til Jótlands. Valdimarr Knútssón var öðlíngr, sem fyrr var
to Jutland Valdimar Knut's-son was a-prince as before was
sagt, ok hafði ríki á Jótlandi, hann kom til liðs með Sveini
said and had realm in Jutland he came to troop with Svein
konúngi, ok kom hann eptir orrostu. Síðan fór Sveinn
king and came he after (the)-battle Afterward went Svein
konúngr eptir Knúti konúngi til Fjóns, ok bauð honum
king after Knut king to Fyn and offered him
sættir; en er hann kom til Óðinseyjar, þá andaðist þar
settlements but when he came to Odinsey then died there

ráðgjafi hans, föðurbróðir Absalons, er síðan var erkibiskup;
counselor his father's-brother of-Absalon who afterward was archbishop
hvarf Sveinn konúngr þá aptr fyrir þær sakir, ok var þann
turned Svein king then back for those causes and was that
vetr kyrr í Sjólandi. Eptir þat kom Rípa-Úlfr til ráðuneytis
winter quiet in Zealand After that came Ribe-Ulf to counsel
við Svein konúng ok Þéttleifr Eðlarson ok Ýngvarr kveisa,
with Svein king and Thettleif Edla's-son and Yngvar Boil
ok óx mjök óvinsæld hans við þat. Svá sögðu Danir,
and grew much unpopularity his at that So said (the)-Danes
at Eiríkr konúngr eymuni heitaðist at gjöra Dönum
that Eirik king Ever-Memorable threatened to do to-Danes
allt hið illa, en Sveinn konúngr son hans léti gjöra; hann
all the ill but Svein king son his let do him
kölluðu Danir Svein svíðanda, þvíat hann var við allt
called (the)-Danes Svein (the)-Scorcher because he was toward all
fólk harðr ok grimmr. Hann réð Plóg svarta föðurbana
folk hard and grim He plotted Plog (the)-Black father's-slayer
sinn, en Ýngvarr kveisa drap hann. Þenna tíma kom Einar
his but Yngvar Boil killed him This time came Einar
prestr Skúlason til Danmerkr, hann orti kvæði um Svein
priest Skuli's-son to Denmark he composed a-poem about Svein
konúng, ok fékk engi laun fyrir, þá kvað Einar vísu þessa:
king and got no reward for then recited Einar verse this

Ekki hlaut af ítrum
Nothing got from glorious
Einar gjafa Sveini,
Einar of-gifts Svein

öld lofar öðlíngs mildi
people praise (the)-prince's generosity
æðru stygs, fyrir kvæði;
of-fear shy for poem
danskr harri metr dýrra,
Danish lord values dearer
dugir miðlúng þat, fiðlur,
avails middling that fiddles
ræðr fyrir ræsis auði
rules over (the)-king's wealth
Rípa-Úlfr, ok pípur.
Ribe-Ulf and pipes

Þá er Sveinn konúngr hafði verit um vetrinn á Sjólandi,
Then when Svein king had been through the-winter in Zealand
sem fyrr var sagt, þá bauð hann her út um várit, ok fór
as before was said then summoned he host out in the-spring and went
til Jótlands á hendr Knúti konúngi. Valdimarr var þá með
to Jutland on hands Knut king Valdimar was then with
Sveini konúngi. Knútr konúngr var þá í Heiðabæ, ok safnaði
Svein king Knut king was then in Hedeby and gathered
liði um Jótland, þegar hann frétti til Sveins konúngs;
troop through Jutland as-soon-as he heard of Svein king
þeir hittust við Vebjörg, ok varð þar orrosta, ok fengu þeir
they met at Viborg and became there battle and got they
Sveinn konúngr sigr ok Valdimarr, en Knútr konúngr flýði
Svein king victory and Valdimar but Knut king fled
til Álaborgar, ok þaðan norðr í Noreg til Konúngahellu, ok
to Alaborg and thence north into Norway to Konungahella and
þaðan fór hann upp í Ljóðhús. Hann fann í Gautlandi
thence went he up into Ljodhus He found in Gautland

Sörkvi Kolsson mág sinn, hann átti Rikizu, móður
Sorkvir Kol's-son kinsman-by-marriage his he had Rikiza mother
Knúts konúngs, ok beiddi hann liðsafla. Sörkvir konúngr
of-Knut king and asked him troop-strength Sorkvir king
bauð at fá honum ríki í Svíþjóðu, þat er hanu mætti
offered to give him realm in Sweden that which he might
vel halda sik við; en hann kveðst mundu taka þat ríki,
well hold himself by but he says-of-himself would take that realm
er Knútr konúngr átti í Danmörku; en Knútr konúngr
which Knut king owned in Denmark but Knut king
vildi þat eigi. Síðan fór Knútr konúngr austr í Garðaríki,
wished that not Afterward went Knut king east into Gardariki
ok þaðan austan; hann fór þá suðr í Rauðstokk til
and thence from-the-east he went then south into Raudstokk to
móðurbræðra sinna, ok vildu þeir eigi at hann væri þar,
mother's-brothers his and wished they not that he were there
þvíat þeir ætluðu at hann mundi vilja hafa ríkit undan
because they thought that he would wish have the-realm from-under
þeim. Síðan fór Knútr konúngr suðr í Brimar á fund
them Afterward went Knut king south into Bremen to meeting
Harðvígs erkibiskups, en hann fylgði honum í Brúnsvík á
of-Hardvig archbishop but he followed him into Brunswick to
fund Heinreks hertoga, sonar Konráðs keisara, ok tók han
meeting of-Heinrek duke son of-Konrad emperor and took he
við Knúti konúngi; þá var Konráðr keisari andaðr, en Friðrekr
with Knut king then was Konrad emperor dead but Fridrek
var þá keisari. Knútr konúngr efldist at liði í Saxlandi, ok
was then emperor Knut king grew-strong in troop in Saxony and
fór með Suðrmannaher til Jótlands. En er Sveinn konúngr
went with a-Southerners'-host to Jutland But when Svein king
spurði þat ok þeir Úlfr, at Knútr konúngr var kominn
learned that and they Ulf that Knut king was come

til Jótlands, þá söfnuðu þeir her í móti, ok hittust við
to Jutland then gathered they a-host in against and met at
Geitsbekk; þar var mýrlendt, er þeir fundust, ok máttu
Geitsbekk there was marshy where they met and could
þeir eigi nást til. Þar var Valdimar kunnigt, ok vissi
they not reach-each-other to There was to-Valdimar known and knew
hann vað eitt, ok reið þartil; þá runnu í móti honum 4
he ford one and rode thereto then ran in against him four
Suðrmenn, ok lögðu til hans allir senn; hestrinn viknaði við,
Southerners and thrust to him all at-once the-horse gave-way at
er þeir lögðu tveir framan í brjóstit, þá lögðu aðrir tveir
when they thrust two in-front into the-breast then thrust other two
í mót aptan í lendina, ok réttist þá upp hestrinn;
in against from-behind into the-loin and righted-itself then up the-horse
þá komu at menn Valdimars ok svá fleiri Suðrmenn; þá hjó
then came at men of-Valdimar and so more Southerners then hewed
Valdimarr til Fólkráðs greifa, svá at hann féll af hestinum;
Valdimar to Folkrad count so that he fell off the-horse
komu þá til menn Valdimars, ok drápu greifann. Eptir þat
came then to men of-Valdimar and killed the-count After that
varð hörð orrosta ok eigi löng, áðr Knútr konúngr flýði, en
became hard battle and not long before Knut king fled but
þeir Sveinn konúngr ok Valdimarr fengu sigr. Knútr konúngr
they Svein king and Valdimar got victory Knut king
for þá aptr enn til Saxlands, ok dvaldist þar litla hríð, þá
went then back again to Saxony and stayed there little while then
fór hann til Frislands, ok gaf þar hverjum manni hálfa örtug
went he to Frisland and gave there to-each man half ortug
vegna af því gjaldi, er þeir áttu at gjalda konúnginum
weighed of that payment which they had to pay the-king
í Danmörk, til þess at þeir héldi hann þar í móti Sveini
in Denmark to that that they held him there in against Svein

konúngi, ok því jáðu þeir honum, ok gjörðu þar borg mikla
king and that granted they him and made there a-fort great
við á, þá er Mildin heitir, ok kölluðu hana Mildinborg.
by river that which Mildin is-called and called it Mildinborg
En er Sveinn konúngr spurði þetta, dró hann þegar her
But when Svein king learned this drew he at-once a-host
saman, ok fór til Heiðabæjar, hann hafði skipalið, ok dró
together and went to Hedeby he had ship-troop and dragged
þar skipin fra Slétti yfir til Hýlíngstaða á Frislandi; varð
there the-ships from Sletti over to Hylingstadir in Frisland became
þar orrosta mikil, áðr hann fengi unnit Mildinborg; þar
there battle great before he got won Mildinborg there
varð svá mikit mannfall, at menn gengu þurrum fótum
became so great slaughter that men walked with-dry feet
yfir ána Mildin á mannabúkum. Sveinn konúngr fékk þar
over the-river Mildin on men's-bodies Svein king got there
sigr, en Knútr konúngr flýði þá enn suðr í Saxland til
victory but Knut king fled then again south into Saxony to
Heinreks hertuga af Brúnsvík, ok dvaldist þar um stund.
Heinrek duke of Brunswick and stayed there for a-while

Frá keisara ok Sveini konúngi

CIX · OF THE EMPEROR AND KING SVEINN

The emperor Friðrekr made Sveinn his vassal and made peace between him and Knútr; Valdimarr stood surety. When Sveinn broke the settlement, a second was made at Viborg, giving Knútr lands in Jutland, Sjáland, and Scania, and Knútr gave Valdimarr his sister Súffía and a third of his property.

Í þenna tíma sendi Friðrekr keisari Sveini konúngi orð, ok
In this time sent Fridrek emperor Svein king word and
bauð honum til sín með vináttu. En er Sveinn konúngr
invited him to himself with friendship But when Svein king
kom til keisarans, þá rauf keisarinn trú sína við Svein
came to the-emperor then broke the-emperor faith his with Svein
konúng, ok neyddi hann til at gjörast sér handgenginn.
king and forced him to to become to-himself a-vassal
Þá kom þar til keisarans Heinrekr hertugi ok Knútr
Then came there to the-emperor Heinrek duke and Knut
konúngr; þá gjörðu þeir keisarinn ok hertuginn sætt með
king then made they the-emperor and the-duke settlement between
þeim Sveini konúngi ok Knúti konúngi, ok skyldi Knútr
them Svein king and Knut king and should Knut
konúngr vera undirmaðr Sveins konúngs, ok hafa Sjóland
king be underling of-Svein king and have Zealand
til forráða. Þá bað Sveinn konúngr, at Valdimarr skyldi
to rule Then bade Svein king that Valdimar should
gánga í trúnað fyrir hann, at þessi sætt héldist, þvíat
go into pledge for him that this settlement held because
Knútr konúngr hirði ekki, hverju Sveinn konúngr hét, ok
Knut king cared not what Svein king promised and
kallaði hann ekki efna mundu, þat er hann hét, ok vildi
called him not fulfill would that which he promised and wished

konúngr eigi sættast, nema Valdimarr gengi í trúnað
(the)-king not to-be-reconciled unless Valdimar went into pledge
þenna fyrir Svein konúng. Þá mælti Valdimarr: eigi vilda
this for Svein king Then spoke Valdimar not would-wish
ek, at þú beiddir mik þessa, frændi! þvíat ek em eigi vinr
I that you asked me this kinsman because I am not friend
Knúts konúngs; en þó ef þú heldr eigi þá sætt, er ek
of-Knut king but yet if you hold not that settlement which I
em viðbundinn, þá mun mér mislíka, em ek þá ok þegar
am bound-to then will to-me displease am I then also at-once
skildr við þín mál. Sveinn konúngr bað hann gánga í trú
parted from your case Svein king bade him go into pledge
fyrir sik, ok sagðist allvel mundu sættina halda, en
for himself and said-of-himself very-well would the-settlement hold but
kvað hann at heimilu skyldu skiljast við sín mál, ef hann
said him at liberty should part from his case if he
ryfi sættina. Síðan varð þat at lyktum, at Valdimarr
broke the-settlement Afterward became that at last that Valdimar
gekk í trúna með Sveini konúngi, ok fóru síðan heim
went into the-pledge with Svein king and went afterward home
til Danmerkr. En er þeir komu heim, þá rauf Sveinn
to Denmark But when they came home then broke Svein
konúngr þegar sætt við Knút konúng, ok kallaði sína
king at-once settlement with Knut king and called his
eign öll þau konúngsbú, er voru í Sjólandi. Þá krafði
property all those king's-farms which were in Zealand Then demanded
Knútr konúngr Valdimar sinnar trúar, at þat héldist, er
Knut king Valdimar his pledge that that held which
mælt var. Valdimar bað Svein konúng gjöra svá vel, at hann
spoken was Valdimar bade Svein king do so well that he
héldi sætt þá, er hann var í bundinn við Knút konúng;
held settlement that which he was in bound with Knut king

en Sveinn konúngr kvað þá sætt eigi mega haldast, ok
but Svein king said that settlement not may be-held and
bað at þeir skyldu þá gjöra aðra sætt, ok þat var gjört.
bade that they should then make another settlement and that was done
Þá fékk Knútr konúngr Apa sýslu á Jótlandi ok 6 héruð
Then got Knut king Apa district in Jutland and six districts
í Sjólandi, ok 6 héruð á Skáni; en Valdimar gekk þá enn
in Zealand and six districts in Scania but Valdimar went then again
í trú fyrir Svein konúng, þvíat Knútr konúngr kvað þessa
into pledge for Svein king because Knut king said this
sætt eigi mundu betr haldna af stundu enn ena fyrri.
settlement not would better held from time than the former
Sveinn konúngr bað þá enn Valdimar íbindast, ok kallaðist
Svein king bade then again Valdimar bind-himself and said-of-himself
þessa sætt mundu halda, er við hans samþykki var
this settlement would hold which with his consent was
gjör, en kvaðst mjök nauðugr hafa verit at játa öllu því,
made but said-of-himself much unwilling have been to grant all that
er keisarinn vildi vera láta: þá er ek stóð fyrir knjám
which the-emperor wished be let then when I stood before knees
honum. Gekk þá enn við þat saman sætt þeirra um
his Went then again at that together settlement their at
síðir, at Valdimar skyldi skildr við Svein konúng, ef hann
last that Valdimar should parted from Svein king if he
ryfi enn þessa sætt. Þessi sættarfundr var í Vebjörgum.
broke again this settlement This settlement-meeting was at Viborg
Eptir þetta gipti Knútr konúngr Valdimar Súffíu systur sína
After this married Knut king Valdimar Suffia sister his
sammædda, hún var dóttir Valadars konúngs af Polína landi;
of-same-mother she was daughter of-Valadar king of Poland land
hérmeð gaf Knútr konúngr Valdimar þriðjúng af allri sinni
herewith gave Knut king Valdimar a-third of all his

eign til vináttu ok heilla sátta. Kristofórus hét son
property for friendship and whole settlements Kristoforus was-called (the)-son
Valdimars, hann var frilluson; Tófa hét móðir hans.
of-Valdimar he was a-concubine's-son Tofa was-called mother his

Frá Sveini konúngi

CX · OF KING SVEINN

Sveinn won Verandi and Finneiði from the Swedes without the help of the other two. He made peace with them again at Sundby, but plotted with Péttleifr and Rípa-Úlfr to kill both; warned, they escaped. While he lay at Hróiskelda and they at Lyngby, the Scanians deserted him, and he fled to his kinsman the margrave Konráðr at Landsberg.

Sveinn konúngr bauð út leiðángri enn næsta vetr eptir
Svein king called out a-levy the next winter after
sætt þeirra Knúts konúngs ok Valdimars, ok vildi herja
settlement their of-Knut king and of-Valdimar and wished to-harry
í Svíaríki. Hann sendi boð þeim Knúti konúngi
in (the)-Swedes'-realm He sent word to-them Knut king
ok Valdimar, at þeir færi með honum, en þeir vildu
and Valdimar that they went with him but they wished
eigi fara, þvíat Sörkvir konúngr átti Rikizu, móður þeirra
not to-go because Sorkvir king had Rikiza mother of-them
Knúts konúngs ok Súffiu. Síðan fór Sveinn konúngr til
Knut king and Suffia Afterward went Svein king to
Svíþjóðar, ok vann þat ríki af Svíakonúngs veldi, er
Sweden and won that realm from of-(the)-Swedes'-king dominion which
heitir Verandi, þat eru 5 héruð, en eitt biskupsriki; í því
is-called Verandi those are five districts but one bishop's-realm in that
biskupsriki eru 6 kirkjur ens sétta tigar. Ok annat ríki
bishop's-realm are six churches of-the sixth ten And another realm

vann hann, þat er Finneiði heitir, þat eru 3 héruð, er
won he that which Finneidi is-called those are three districts which
svá heita: Austbú, Suðrbú, Vestbú; þessi ríki ok héruð
so are-called Austbu Sudrbu Vestbu these realms and districts
liggja næst Danakonúngs veldi. Í þeirri ferð var drepinn
lie next (the)-Danes'-king's dominion On that journey was killed
Nikulás dotta. Síðan fór Sveinn konúngr heim, en menn
Nikulas Dotta Afterward went Svein king home but men
hans voru eptir í Hallandi í Farðhúsum, ok voru þar
his were behind in Halland at Fardhus and were there
höfðíngjar fyrir þeir Karl ok Knútr. En er þeir Gautar
chieftains before they Karl and Knut But when they (the)-Gauts
spurðu þetta, þá fóru þeir ok tóku hús á þeim, ok drápu
learned this then went they and took houses on them and killed
þegar kertissveinana, þá er útkomust; síðan voru menn
at-once the-candle-boys those who got-out afterward were men
þar handteknir; þá hjuggu þeir Gautar vök á ísi, ok söktu
there seized then hewed they (the)-Gauts a-hole in ice and sank
þeim þar í; en friðr hélzt enn þann vetr með þeim Sveini
them there in but peace held still that winter between them Svein
konúngi ok Knúti konúngi. En at sumri fóru þeir Knútr
king and Knut king But at summer went they Knut
konúngr ok Valdimar með skipaliði til Sjólands, ok láu við
king and Valdimar with ship-troop to Zealand and lay at
Sundbý; en Sveinn konúngr var þá í Róiskeldu, ok líkaði
Sundby but Svein king was then in Roskilde and pleased
honum eigi ferð þeirra, þvíat hann var fáliðr fyrir; en
him not journey their because he was short-of-troop before but
þeir fóru at öllu sem spakligast, ok gjörðu sik til einskis
they went in all as most-peaceably and made themselves to nothing
ófriðarlíkliga. Þá sendi Sveinn konúngr menn til þeirra,
unpeace-like Then sent Svein king men to them

ok var komit á stefnulagi, at þeir skyldu finnast. Reið
and was come to appointed-meeting that they should meet Rode
Sveinn konúngr þá út til þeirra, ok festi þá enn trú sína
Svein king then out to them and pledged then again faith his
ok sætt, þá sem fyrr hafði verit, ok skildust sáttir. Fóru
and settlement that as before had been and parted reconciled Went
þeir Knútr konúngr þann sama dag til Jótlands, en Sveinn
they Knut king that same day to Jutland but Svein
konúngr fór aptr til Róiskeldu. Um morguninn eptir barðist
king went back to Roskilde In the-morning after fought
Sveinn konúngr við Vindr við Kálflunda, ok fékk sigr, ok
Svein king with (the)-Wends at Kalflund and got victory and
drap marga menn. En stóð sættin enn þat ár með þeim
killed many men But stood the-settlement still that year between them
Sveini konúngi ok Knúti konúngi. Svein konúng ángraði
Svein king and Knut king Svein king grieved
þat mjök, at þeir Knútr konúngr ok Valdimar voru svá vel
that much that they Knut king and Valdimar were so well
sáttir, ok töluðu þeir Þéttleifr Eðlarson ok Rípa-Úlfr þat
reconciled and talked they Thettleif Edla's-son and Ribe-Ulf that
jafnan fyrir Sveini konúngi, at hann leitaði nokkurra bragða
always before Svein king that he sought some tricks
í, at taka þá báða senn af lífi með nokkurum svikræðum,
in to take them both at-once from life with some treacheries
ef hann fengi eigi náð þeim öðruvís, ok kölluðu hann svá
if he got not reached them otherwise and called him so
fremi mundu stýra einn öllu Danaveldi í frelsi. Sveini
rather would steer alone all (the)-Danes'-realm in freedom To-Svein
konúngi féll þetta allvel í eyru. Ok eitt sinn spurði hann,
king fell this very-well into ears And one time learned he
at þeir voru báðir mágar í Rípum, Knútr konúngr
that they were both kinsmen-by-marriage at Ribe Knut king

ok Valdimar. Fór Sveinn konúngr þá skyndiliga af Skáni,
and Valdimar Went Svein king then hastily from Scania
ok hafði allmikit lið, en hann spurði at þeir voru fámennir
and had very-great troop but he learned that they were with-few-men
fyrir, ok ætlaði nú at taka þá bæða; en þeim kom njósn
before and intended now to take them both but to-them came word
um ferðir hans ok fyrirætlun, ok skildust þeir. Fór Knútr
about journeys his and intention and parted they Went Knut
konúngr þaðan til Vebjarga, en Valdimar til Heiðabæjar. En
king thence to Viborg but Valdimar to Hedeby But
er Sveinn konúngr spurði þetta, þá vendi hann aptr sömu
when Svein king learned this then turned he back same
leið; ok þegar þeir spurðu at hann var aptr horfinn, þá
way and as-soon-as they learned that he was back turned then
buðu þeir út liði. Sveinn konúngr safnaði ok liði í mót,
called they out troop Svein king gathered also troop in against
þeim Skánúngum ok Sjálandsförum, er honum vildu fylgja,
them Scanians and Zealand-farers who him wished to-follow
ok var hann þá í Róiskeldu, er þeir láu í Lýngbý í
and was he then in Roskilde when they lay at Lyngby in
Valburs héraði, ok láu þeir þar svá 7 nætr, at þeir börðust
Valburs district and lay they there so seven nights that they fought
eigi. Þá skildust Skánúngar við Svein konúng; ok er hann
not Then parted (the)-Scanians from Svein king and when he
fann þat, at þeir flýðu frá honum, þá treystist hann
found that that they fled from him then trusted-himself he
eigi at standa í móti þeim Knúti konúngi ok Valdimar, ok
not to stand in against them Knut king and Valdimar and
flýði í braut um nótt, ok suðr til Falstrs, ok eigi nam
fled off away in (the)-night and south to Falster and not took

hann fyrr stað, enn hann kom til Landesbergs til Konráðs
he before stand than he came to Landesberg to Konrad
margreifa mágs síns, ok var þar 3 mánuði.
margrave kinsman-by-marriage his and was there three months

Sætt konúnga

CXI · THE KINGS' SETTLEMENT

In Sveinn's absence Valdimarr and Knútr were consecrated kings. Sveinn returned with Duke Heinrekr, but fled before Valdimarr; landing again on Fjón, he was deserted by its people and asked Valdimarr to divide the land, pledging to stay on Falster until the settlement was made.

En á þeirri stundu, er Sveinn konúngr var á brottu,
But at that time when Svein king was off away
þá lét Valdimar taka sik til konúngs, ok voru allir til
then let Valdimar take himself to king and were all to
þess búnir, þvíat hann var allvinsæll maðr. Þeir létu þá
that ready because he was a-very-popular man They let then
vígja sik báðir senn til konúnga, Valdimar ok Knútr
consecrate themselves both at-once to kings Valdimar and Knut
konúngr mágr hans. Ok á þeirri stundu heimti
king kinsman-by-marriage his And at that time fetched
Knútr konúngr festarmey sína ofan af Svíþjóðu, dóttur
Knut king betrothed-maid his down from Sweden daughter
Sörkvis konúngs. En meðan Knútr konúngr var uppi í
of-Sorkvir king But while Knut king was up in
Svíþjóð, þá kom Sveinn konúngr í Danmörk ok Heinrekr
Sweden then came Svein king into Denmark and Heinrek
hertugi, ok voru 14 nætr í landinu; þeir komu svá
duke and were fourteen nights in the-land they came so

framarla í landit til Sumarstaða á Jótlandi. En er þat
far-forward into the-land to Sumarstadir in Jutland But when that
spurði Valdimarr konúngr, þá fór hann með þat fólk, er
learned Valdimar king then went he with that folk which
hann fékk í Sjólandi, ok kom til Fjóns, ok fór yfir Fjón
he got in Zealand and came to Fyn and went over Fyn
til Meðalfararsunds, en þar var illa fært yfir sundið fyrir
to Medalfarar-sound but there was ill passable over the-sound for
ísum, ok komst hann á báti yfir með átjánda mann, ok
ice and got he on a-boat over with eighteenth man and
fór hann þegar norðr á Jótland, ok safnaði liði. Sveinn
went he at-once north to Jutland and gathered troop Svein
konúngr ok Heinrekr hertugi fengu frétt til hans, ok vildu
king and Heinrek duke got news of him and wished
eigi bíða hans, ok flýðu, ok fóru þat 2 daga aptr, er
not to-wait for-him and fled and went that two days back which
þeir höfðu 14 daga þángat farit. En er Valdimar konúngr
they had fourteen days thither gone But when Valdimar king
spurði þat, lét hann lið sitt heim fara, en hann dvaldist
learned that let he troop his home go but he stayed
á Jótlandi um vetrinn, ok beið svá Knúts konúngs. En
in Jutland through the-winter and waited so for-Knut king But
er Sveinn konúngr hafði skamma hríð verit á Saxlandi, þá
when Svein king had short while been in Saxony then
leiddist honum þat, ok fór hann þaðan til Vindlands, ok
wearied him that and went he thence to Wendland and
gaf Vindum fé til þess, at þeir flytti hann til Fjóns. En
gave (the)-Wends wealth to that that they carried him to Fyn But
er þeir Knútr konúngr ok Valdimar spurðu þat, þá buðu
when they Knut king and Valdimar learned that then called
þeir þegar út leiðángri ok héldu til Fjóns. Fjónbúar flýðu
they at-once out a-levy and held to Fyn (The)-Fyn-dwellers fled

frá Sveini konúngi, ok vildu eigi fylgja honum, ok fóru
from Svein king and wished not to-follow him and went
þegar til þeirra Knúts konúngs ok Valdimars með öllu fé
at-once to them Knut king and Valdimar with all wealth
sínu ok konum ok börnum, þvíat áðr höfðu allir nauðgir
their and wives and children because before had all unwilling
geingit undir Svein konúng. Sá þá Sveinn konúngr öngan
gone under Svein king Saw then Svein king no
sinn kost vænna, enn at leita sætta við þá konúngana,
his choice likelier than to seek settlements with them the-kings
ok sendi hann þá menn til þeirra, ok beiddist griða til
and sent he then men to them and asked truce for
tals ok sætta umleitanar. Varð þá komit á stefnulagi
talk and of-settlement's seeking Was then come to appointed-meeting
með þeim; á þeirri stefnu bað Sveinn konúngr, at Valdimar
with them at that meeting bade Svein king that Valdimar
konúngr skyldi einn gjöra með þeim, þannig sem hann
king should alone make between them thus as he
vildi, ok kvaðst því skyldu vel una, sem hann vildi
wished and said-of-himself that should well be-content as he wished
vera láta, ok kveðst góðs eina at honum vænta, ok
be let and says-of-himself good only of him to-expect and
bað hann skipta landinu með þeim, sem honum likaði. En
bade him divide the-land between them as him pleased But
Valdimar konúngr kveðst vildu eiga ráð um þetta við
Valdimar king says-of-himself to-wish have counsel about this with
ena vitrustu menn ok ena beztu, er til væri í landinu, en
the wisest men and the best who to were in the-land but
hann lézt ekki mundu svá skjótt grípa á slíku, en bað
he professed not would so quickly grasp at such but bade
Svein konúng bíða á meðan á Falstr. Sveinn konúngr spurði,
Svein king wait in meanwhile on Falster Svein king asked

hvert ráð gjöra skyldi fyrir liði hans meðan, kveðst
what counsel make should for troop his meanwhile said-of-himself
eigi mega fæða fólkið á svá litlu landi, ok bauð þeim
not may feed the-folk on so little land and offered them
konúngunum, at þeir skyldi taka við mönnum hans, ok
the-kings that they should take with men his and
halda, þartil er sættin yrði samið; ok því játuðu þeir.
hold there-till when the-settlement became made and that granted they
En Sveinn konúngr hét því við guðs vitni ok manna, at
But Svein king promised that with God's witness and men's that
hann skyldi eigi koma á braut af Falstr á þeirri stundu,
he should not come off away from Falster in that time
fyrr enn sættin væri samið ok uppsögð milli þeirra, ok
before than the-settlement were made and declared between them and
öngva menn til sín taka, fyrr enn þeir væri sáttir.
no men to himself take before than they were reconciled

Landsskipti

CXII · THE DIVISION OF THE LAND

Valdimarr divided Denmark into three: Jutland for himself; Scania, Halland, Blekinge, and Borghundarhólmr for Sveinn; Sjáland and Fjón for Knútr. All three swore to keep it on pain of the pope's ban.

Nú stefndu þeir Valdimarr konúngr ok Knútr konúngr til
Now summoned they Valdimar king and Knut king to
sín öllum þeim mönnum, sem vitrastir voru í Danmörk,
themselves all those men who wisest were in Denmark
til umráða um landskiptið. En þegar Valdimarr konúngr
to counsel about the-land-division But as-soon-as Valdimar king

ok Sveinn konúngr höfðu skilit, þá sóttu þegar til Sveins
and Svein king had parted then sought at-once to Svein
konúngs allir menn hans, ok þegar hann fekk traust
king all men his and as-soon-as he got support
af þeim, ok hann þóttist hafa nokkurn afla, þá var
from them and he thought-himself have some strength then was
hann ófljótari til sættarstefnu, sem mælt var, ok var Sveinn
he slower to settlement-meeting as spoken was and was Svein
konúngr þá tregr at láta þá sætt vera, er fyrr hafði
king then reluctant to let that settlement be which before had
hann beitt, en þó sá hann at hann mátti enn eigi annað
he sought but yet saw he that he could still not other
gjöra, enn láta svá vera, sem þeir vildu, fyrir liðsafla sakir;
do than let so be as they wished for troop-strength's sake
var þat þá samit, at Valdimar skyldi skipta með þeim
was that then agreed that Valdimar should divide between them
landinu, ok svá kjosa, ok því játuðu þeir Knútr konúngr
the-land and so choose and that granted they Knut king
ok Sveinn konúngr. Valdimar lagði í einn hlut Jótland ok
and Svein king Valdimar laid in one share Jutland and
útlönd, þau er þar liggja til; þá lagði hann í annann stað
out-lands those which there lie to then laid he in second place
Skáni ok Halland, Bleikíng ok Borgundarhólm; í þriðja stað
Scania and Halland Blekinge and Bornholm in third place
lagði hann Sjóland ok Fjón, Erri ok Falstr, ok þau lönd
laid he Zealand and Fyn Erri and Falster and those lands
er þar liggja til. Valdimar kaus Jótland, en Sveinn konúngr
which there lie to Valdimar chose Jutland but Svein king
hlaut Skáni ok þau lönd, er þar voru tilnefnd; en Knútr
got Scania and those lands which there were named but Knut
konúngr hlaut Sjóland ok Fjón; ok þótti öllum Valdimarr
king got Zealand and Fyn and seemed to-all Valdimar

konúngr sýna enn mikinn drengskap við Svein konúng
king show the great manliness toward Svein king
í þessari sættargjörð, þvíat mönnum þótti Sveinn konúngr
in this settlement-making because to-men seemed Svein king
hafa fyrirgjört landi ok láði. Síðan lögðu þeir Valdimar
have forfeited land and sea Afterward laid they Valdimar
konúngr ok Knútr konúngr saman sín lönd; en þeir svörðu
king and Knut king together their lands but they swore
allir konúngarnir við guð ok allan helgan dóm, at þessi
all the-kings by God and all holy relics that this
sætt skyldi haldast, ok sá skyldi í banni af pávanum ok
settlement should be-held and he should in ban from the-pope and
öllum biskupum ok lærðum mönnum, er þessa sætt ryfi.
all bishops and learned men who this settlement broke

Sett grið með konúngunum

CXIII · TRUCE SET AMONG THE KINGS

Knútr invited Sveinn to Hróiskelda but advised that the two kings not meet him together. At Hringstaðir Valdimarr found Sveinn's men mailed, for Sveinn meant to kill both kings had both come; Valdimarr rode boldly up, Sveinn claimed he had heard they meant him no good, and the three kings feasted together at Hróiskelda.

Eptir þessa sætt konúnganna bauð Knútr konúngr Sveini
After this settlement of-the-kings invited Knut king Svein
konúngi heim með sér til Róiskeldu, ok Sveinn konúngr
king home with himself to Roskilde and Svein king
þá heimboðit, ok mæltu þeir konúngarnir allir með
accepted the-home-invitation and spoke they the-kings all with
sér til ens bezta vinfengis. Þeir Valdimarr konúngr ok
themselves to the best friendship They Valdimar king and

Knútr konúngr riðu fyrir báðir, ok bjöggu veizluna í móti
Knut king rode before both and prepared the-feast in against
Sveini konúngi; en svá var mælt, at þeir skyldu ríða í
Svein king but so was spoken that they should ride in
móti Sveini konúngi til Hríngstaða, ok skyldu þeir þar
against Svein king to Hringstadir and should they there
finnast allir konúngarnir; ok nú mælti Valdimarr konúngr
meet all the-kings and now spoke Valdimar king
til Knúts konúngs, at þeir mundu ríða í móti Sveini
to Knut king that they would ride in against Svein
konúngi, ok bjóða honum til veizlunnar, er fyrir var búin.
king and invite him to the-feast which before was prepared
Knútr konúngr svaraði ok kvað þat eigi sitt ráð, at þeir
Knut king answered and said that not his counsel that they
færi báðir á fund Sveins konúngs, svá at hann ætti vald
went both to meeting of-Svein king so that he had power
á þeim, ok sagði at honum var grunr enn á, hversu
over them and said that to-him was suspicion still on how
trúr Sveinn konúngr mundi vera: eru þeir nú ok þar
true Svein king would be are they now also there
með honum ráðgjafar hans, er jafnan fýsa hann ens verra,
with him counselors his who always urge him the worse
Þéttleifr Eðlarson ok Rípa-Úlfr ok Ýngvar kvésa, ok vilda
Thettleif Edla's-son and Ribe-Ulf and Yngvar Boil and would-wish
ek lítinn trúnað eiga undir honum, ætla ek at honum
I little trust to-have under him think I that to-him
líki sættin illa, ok muni hann eigi halda þessa betr
pleases the-settlement ill and will he not hold this better
enn þær, sem hann hefir fyrrum rofit. Gef ek þat ráð til,
than those which he has formerly broken Give I that counsel to
segir Knútr konúngr, at þú ríðir í mót honum, ok menn
says Knut king that you ride in against him and men

með þér, en ek mun ríða til meðan, ok halda saman liði
with you but I will ride to meanwhile and hold together troop
til varúðar, ok vænti ek at þá hlýði, at eigi muni Sveinn
for caution and expect I that then will-do that not will Svein
konúngr því treystast, at taka annann okkarn svá at lífi, at
king that trust-himself to take one of-us-two so from life that
annarr sé eptir til hefnda; mun hann heldr hins á leita
(the)-other be behind for vengeance will he rather that-other on seek
at ná okkur báðum senn. Valdimar svaraði: eigi mun Sveinn
to get us-two both at-once Valdimar answered not will Svein
konúngr frændi svá vándr maðr vilja vera, at búa um nein
king kinsman so wicked man wish be to prepare about any
svikræði við okkr, ok gremja svá guð at sér ok alla
treachery against us-two and anger so God against himself and all
góða menn, ok mun hann at vísu vel halda þessa sætt,
good men and will he at surely well hold this settlement
ok svíkja öngan mann í griðum þessum ok svardögum, sem
and betray no man in truces these and oaths which
yfirstanda; en þó skulu þér þessu ráða, mágr! sem
stand-over but yet shall you this rule kinsman-by-marriage as
yðr líkar; ok svá gjörðu þeir, at Valdimarr konúngr reið
to-you pleases and so did they that Valdimar king rode
í móti Sveini konúngi; ok er hann kom til Hríngstaða,
in against Svein king and when he came to Hringstadir
var Sveinn konúngr þar fyrir, ok hafði fjölmenni mikit,
was Svein king there before and had following great
voru hans menn allir brynjaðir ok svá járnaðir, sem á
were his men all mailed and so ironed as on
eina ísmöl sæi; hafði Sveinn konúngr gjört ráð sitt, ok
one ice-gravel saw had Svein king made counsel his and
ætlaði at drepa þá báða, ef hvártveggi hefði komit. Ok
intended to kill them both if each had come And

er Valdimar sá, hversu fyrir var búit, þá kom honum
when Valdimar saw how before was prepared then came to-him
í hug, at Knútr konúngr mundi eigi þessu fjærri getit
into mind that Knut king would not of-this far guessed
hafa, bað menn sína þá ríða at fram djarfliga, ok láta ekki
have bade men his then ride at forward boldly and let not
finna ótta á sér. Ok er þeir fundust, spurði Valdimarr,
find fear on themselves And when they met asked Valdimar
hví þeir væri svá brynjaðir. Sveinn konúngr sagði, at hann
why they were so mailed Svein king said that he
hefði spurt, at þeir Knútr konúngr vildi eigi um heilt
had learned that they Knut king wished not about whole
búa við hann: eðr hví er hann nú eigi hér? Vilda
to-prepare with him or why is he now not here Would-wish
ek ok svá gæta lífs míns ok minna manna, ef þér byggið
I also so to-guard life my and of-my men if you build
um nokkurn skoll við oss. Valdimarr svaraði: eigi munum
about some trick against us Valdimar answered not will
vér svíkja þik, frændi! en gæti hverr sín, at hverr búi
we betray you kinsman but guard each himself that each prepare
um heilt við annann, þvíat miklu heldr vil ek láta líf mitt
about whole with another because much rather will I lose life my
enn rjúfa svardaga mína, slíka sem viðliggja, ok vér bundum
than break oaths my such as lie-with and we bound
með oss. Sveinn konúngr kvað svá vera mundu, kveðst
with ourselves Svein king said so be would says-of-himself
ok ekki öðru vildu trúa, þótt honum hefði annat sagt verit.
also not other to-wish believe though to-him had other told been
Síðan riðu þeir til Róiskeldu báðir, er Knútr konúngr
Afterward rode they to Roskilde both where Knut king
var þar fyrir, ok var þar veizla en virðuligsta, ok voru þeir
was there before and was there a-feast the most-worthy and were they

allir konúngarnir um nóttina í góðum fagnaði, ok var
all the-kings through the-night in good joy and was
þá eð blíðasta með þeim. Sveinn konúngr hafði þángat
then the blithest between them Svein king had thither
fjölmenni mikit, ok voru þeir þar þá allir ráðgjafar hans.
following great and were they there then all counselors his

Frá svikum

CXIV · OF TREACHERY

As the kings drank, Sveinn slipped out and his men burst in. Knútr kissed Valdimarr as they came; Valdimarr, his cloak around his hand, knocked Péttleifr down and escaped wounded in the thigh while his men covered him, but Péttleifr split Knútr's head. The Danes call him holy.

Annann dag eptir drukku þeir allir konúngarnir í einu
(The)-second day after drank they all the-kings in one
herbergi, ok voru kátir. Menn Sveins konúngs höfðu torg
room and were cheerful Men of-Svein king had market
ok skemtan, ok leika úti hjá herbergjunum, ok drifu
and entertainment and games outside beside the-rooms and drifted
menn þángat til or herbergjunum, er áleið daginn, ok
men thither to out-of the-rooms when on-passed the-day and
þótti mönnum þat kátara, enn at sitja einart við drykkinn;
seemed to-men that merrier than to sit always at the-drink
var þá fátt manna í herberginu, nema þeir konúngarnir;
was then few men in the-room except they the-kings
þá komu þar inn menn Sveins konúngs, Þéttleifr Eðlarsson
then came there in men of-Svein king Thettleif Edla's-son
ok nokkurir menn aðrir, ok báknuðu til Sveins konúngs.
and some men other and beckoned to Svein king

Hann stóð upp í móti þeim, ok töluðust þeir við litla hríð
He stood up in against them and talked they with little while
ok þó leyniliga; síðan gekk Sveinn konúngr út með þeim,
and yet secretly afterward went Svein king out with them
hann gekk í hús eitt, ok byrgði sik þar, en Þéttleifr
he went into house one and shut himself there but Thettleif
ok Tóli Hemíngsson ok Ýngvar kveisa ok aðrir virktamenn
and Toli Heming's-son and Yngvar Boil and other trusted-men
Sveins konúngs snéru þá aptr til herbergissins, þar er þeir
of-Svein king turned then back to the-room there where they
Valdimarr konúngr sátu fyrir ok Knútr konúngr. Valdimarr
Valdimar king sat before and Knut king Valdimar
konúngr lék at skáktafli við annann mann, en Knútr
king played at chess with another man but Knut
konúngr sat í pallinum hjá honum; ok er þeir Þéttleifr
king sat on the-dais beside him and when they Thettleif
gengu í dyrnar, laut Knútr konúngr til Valdimars konúngs,
went into the-doorway bent Knut king to Valdimar king
ok kysti hann. Valdimarr konúngr sá eigi af taflinu, ok
and kissed him Valdimar king looked not from the-board and
spurði: hví ertu nú svá blíðr, mágr! Knútr konúngr
asked why are-you now so blithe kinsman-by-marriage Knut king
svaraði: vita muntu þat brátt. Sveins menn þustu þá inn
answered know will-you that soon of-Svein men rushed then in
hverr at öðrum ok allir alvápnaðir, þeir brugðu þegar
each after another and all fully-armed they drew at-once
sverðunum. En er Valdimarr konúngr sá þat, hljóp hann
the-swords But when Valdimar king saw that leapt he
upp, ok vafði skikkjunni um hönd sér, er hann hafði yfir
up and wrapped the-cloak about hand his which he had over
sér, þvíat þeir voru vápnlausir inni, þvíat engi vissi ófriðar
himself because they were weaponless inside because none knew of-unpeace

ván. Valdimarr konúngr hljóp upp ok fram á gólfit fyrst
expectation Valdimar king leapt up and forth on the-floor first
allra manna sinna; hann stiklaði svá hart upp á Þéttleif, at
of-all men his he vaulted so hard up on Thettleif that
þeir féllu báðir utar fyrir dyrnar; þá hjó Tóli Hemíngsson
they fell both outward before the-doors then hewed Toli Heming's-son
til Valdimars konúngs, ok kom þat högg á lærit, ok var
to Valdimar king and came that blow on the-thigh and was
þat svöðusár ok ekki hættligt; hann varð ok sár á
that a-flesh-wound and not dangerous he became also wounded on
þumalfíngri. Ok er menn Valdimars konúngs sá, at hann var
(the)-thumb And when men of-Valdimar king saw that he was
fallinn, þá lögðust þeir á hann ofan, ok voru þar saxaðir,
fallen then laid-themselves they on him down and were there hacked
en Valdimarr konúngr komst við þetta undan. Þá komst
but Valdimar king got at this away Then got
Þéttleifr á fætr, ok hjó þegar öfgri hendi til Knúts
Thettleif on feet and hewed at-once with-backward hand to Knut
konúngs, ok varð þat högg svá mikit, at hann klauf allt
king and became that blow so great that he clove all
höfuðit til háls, ok var þat hans banasár. Annarr maðr veitti
the-head to neck and was that his death-wound Another man gave
ok Knúti konúngi áverka, sá er Hjálmsviðarr hét. Knútr
also Knut king a-wound he who Hjalmsvidar was-called Knut
konúngr féll í einn skorstein; segja Danir hann helgan.
king fell into one fireplace say (the)-Danes him holy

Absalon, Valdimarr's dearest friend, went into the hall and cradled the dying Knútr. He escaped through a door his kinsman Asley guarded, while Konstantín was killed; Pétr þenja brought horses, and Valdimarr and Absalon fled by Ramsjó to Ásbjörn snara, who gave them ships at Víkingavöð. They crossed in a great storm; that evening six hundred Wendish ships were lost.

En Absalon, er síðan var erkibiskup, hafði eigi verit í
But Absalon who afterward was archbishop had not been in
herberginu, þá er þessi tíðindi urðu, en hann var maðr
the-room then when these tidings happened but he was man
Valdimars konúngs, ok honum kærastr allra manna. Absalon
of-Valdimar king and to-him dearest of-all men Absalon
var allra manna hvatastr ok vápndjarfastr. En er þessi tíðindi
was of-all men briskest and most-weapon-bold But when these tidings
spurðust, þá leitaði hverr sér hælis þángat, sem vænast
were-learned then sought each for-himself refuge thither where likeliest
þótti, þeirra manna, er verit höfðu með þeim konúngunum,
seemed of-those men who been had with them the-kings
þvíat þat var fyrst ætlan manna, at konúngarnir hefðu
because that was first (the)-belief of-men that the-kings had
látizt. Absalon vildi eigi undan leita, þvíat hann hugði
lost-their-lives Absalon wished not away to-seek because he thought
at Valdimar konúngr væri fallinn, en hann vildi eigi við
that Valdimar king were fallen but he wished not from
hann skilja; hann gekk þá inn í herbergið, voru þeir
him to-part he went then in into the-room were they
Þéttleifr þá í brottu, ok vildi hann vita, ef hann fyndi
Thettleif then off away and wished he to-know if he found
nokkut konúnginn Valdimar annadhvárt lífs eða dauðan, en
at-all the-king Valdimar either alive or dead but

Valdimar konúngr var þá í brottu; hann tók þá skinn sín,
Valdimar king was then off away he took then furs his
er hann hafði á herðum sér, ok lagði undir höfuð Knúti
which he had on shoulders his and laid under head of-Knut
konúngi, þar sem hann lá á gólfinu, ok spurði ef konúngr
king there where he lay on the-floor and asked if (the)-king
væri lífvænn, ok sagði at hann mátti þá undan komast,
were life-likely and said that he could then away get
en hann mátti þá ekki mæla, ok andaðist í knjám honum.
but he could then not speak and died in knees his
Konstantín hét einn ríkr maðr af liði þeirra Valdimars
Konstantin was-called one powerful man of troop their of-Valdimar
konúngs ok Knúts konúngs, hann var þar inni í herberginu,
king and of-Knut king he was there inside in the-room
hann bað Absalon hjálpa sér, ef hann mætti. Absalon
he bade Absalon help himself if he might Absalon
svarar: hvat má ek þér hjálpa meir enn þú mér? Þá bað
answers what may I you help more than you me Then bade
Absalon Konstantín gánga til þeirra dyranna, er ekki var
Absalon Konstantin go to those doors where not was
fólkit fyrir úti, ok skolu við nú gánga út jafnsnemma.
the-folk before outside and shall we-two now go out equally-early
Svá gjörðu þeir, ok gekk Absalon þar út, sem flestir voru
So did they and went Absalon there out where most were
menn fyrir Sveins konúngs, ok stóðu allir með brugðnum
men before of-Svein king and stood all with drawn
sverðum fyrir dyrunum, ok ætluðu at drepa hann; en Asley
swords before the-doors and intended to kill him but Asley
frændi hans var þar úti fyrir, ok er hann kendi hann,
kinsman his was there outside before and when he knew him
þá mælti hann, at jafnskjótt sem nokkurir gjörði honum
then spoke he that as-soon as any did him

grand, kveðst hann þann skyldu höggva; Hann var maðr
harm says-of-himself he that-one should hew He was man
Sveins konúngs, ok komst Absalon í brot við þetta. Þeir
of-Svein king and got Absalon off away at this They
Þéttleifr þektu, er Konstantín hljóp út, ok þeir fóru þegar
Thettleif recognized when Konstantin ran out and they went at-once
eptir honum, ok drápu hann. Pétr þenja hét sá maðr,
after him and killed him Petr Thenja was-called that man
er at mestu liði kom Valdimar konúngi eptir líflát Knúts
who to greatest help came Valdimar king after (the)-death of-Knut
konúngs, hann fékk þeim hesta, ok riðu þeir til Ramsjóvar,
king he gave them horses and rode they to Ramsjo
ok var Absalon þar fyrir ok Pétr mágr hans, ok
and was Absalon there before and Petr kinsman-by-marriage his and
varð þar enn mesti fagnafundr; riðu þeir þaðan allir samt
became there the greatest joyful-meeting rode they thence all together
til Búaþorps, ok fundu þar enn nokkura sína menn; þaðan
to Buathorp and found there still some their men thence
riðu þeir til Freysmosa, þar kom í móti þeim Ásbjörn snara,
rode they to Freysmosi there came in against them Asbjorn Snara
bróðir Absalons, ok tók hann allvel við þeim, ok bauð
brother of-Absalon and took he very-well with them and offered
þeim styrk slíkan, sem hann mátti veita þeim; hann fékk
them strength such as he could grant them he gave
þeim skip at Víkíngavöðum, ok fóru þeir þar yfir sundit, ok
them ships at Vikingavad and went they there over the-sound and
fengu allmikinn storm, ok komust þó með heilu til lands;
got very-great storm and got yet with whole to land
en þat sama kveld fórust 600 Vindaskipa við Jóluhólma.
but that same evening perished six-hundred Wend-ships at Joluholm

Frá Valdimari konúngi

CXVI · OF KING VALDIMARR

Valdimarr showed his wounds at Viborg, and the people rose for him. Ásbjörn snara routed Sveinn's scouts; Valdimarr broke the bridge at Randárós, and the armies could not meet.

Valdimarr konúngr var nú kominn til Jótlands, ok kærði sín
Valdimar king was now come to Jutland and complained his
vandræði á Vebjarga þíngi, ok þat morð, er Sveinn konúngr
troubles at Viborg assembly and that murder which Svein king
hafði gjört á Knúti konúngi; hann sýndi þar ok sár sín,
had done on Knut king he showed there also wounds his
at honum var slíkr kostr ætlaðr, ef eigi hefði guð bannat;
that to-him was such choice intended if not had God forbidden
hann krafði sér liðs, ok tjáði mönnum, hver nauðsyn
he demanded for-himself troop and set-forth to-men what need
honum var á höndum; en allr lýðr hljóp upp með kalli, ok
to-him was on hands but all people leapt up with shout and
sögðust allir honum fylgja vilja, ok töldu þetta eð versta
said-of-themselves all him follow to-wish and counted this the worst
verk, sem var, er Sveinn konúngr hafði vinna látit. Síðan
deed as was which Svein king had done let Afterward
bauð Valdimarr konúngr út leiðángri, ok hafði mikit lið; hann
called Valdimar king out a-levy and had great troop he
lét þá skipin, ok safnaði þá liði á landi. Sveinn konúngr
left then the-ships and gathered then troop on land Svein king
fór þá til Vebjarga, ok bað sér þar liðs, ok ætlaði hann
went then to Viborg and asked for-himself there troop and intended he
at taka þar Valdimarr konúng höndum, en hann var þá í
to take there Valdimar king with-hands but he was then in

Randársi, ok beið þar liðs síns. Þá reið Ásbjörn snara
Randaros and waited there for-troop his Then rode Asbjorn Snara
eptir Sveins mönnum, er hann frétti til ferða þeirra, ok
after of-Svein men when he heard of journeys their and
mætti þeim er undan riðu, ok tók af þeim þriggja manna
met them who away rode and took from them three men's
vápn, en drengirnir komust undan, ok fundu Svein konúng
weapons but the-fellows got away and found Svein king
við Kornúngar, ok sögðu honum lát sitt, ok kölluðust
at Kornung and told him loss their and called-themselves
eltir hafa verit, ok komizt nauðuliga undan. Konúngr lét illa
chased have been and got narrowly away (The)-king let ill
yfir því, ok dvaldist þar þá nótt, ok ámælti mjök mönnum
over that and stayed there that night and blamed much men
sínum, sagði at þeir þyrði öngra skamma at reka, þótt þeir
his said that they dared no shames to avenge though they
væri barðir eða eltir, ok kveðst þar vánda menn á mat
were beaten or chased and says-of-himself there wicked men on food
ala, er þeir váru. Ásbjörn snara reið á fund Valdimars
to-feed where they were Asbjorn Snara rode to meeting of-Valdimar
konúngs, ok sagði honum at Sveinn konúngr lá við Kornúng.
king and told him that Svein king lay at Kornung
Valdimarr konúngr fór þá yfir Randárössbrú, ok vildi þá enn
Valdimar king went then over Randaros-bridge and wished then still
eigi berjast, þvíat hann beið þá enn liðs þess, er honum
not to-fight because he waited then still for-troop that which to-him
var ván til sín. En er Sveinn konúngr kom til Randáróss,
was expected to himself But when Svein king came to Randaros
þá hafði Valdimarr konúngr látit skjóta af brúnni, ok mátti
then had Valdimar king let shoot off the-bridge and could
þá eigi yfir ána komast, ok varð því ekki af orrostunni.
then not over the-river come and became therefore nothing of the-battle

Encamped on Graðarheiðr after Michaelmas, Valdimarr dreamed that his father Knútr lávarðr bade him draw up his array where a raven would settle, and God would give him victory.

Þetta eð sama haust eptir Mikjálsmessu kom Valdimarr
This the same autumn after Michaelmas brought Valdimar
konúngr liði sínu þar sem heitir Graðarheiðr, þat er skamt
king troop his there where is-called Gradarheid that is short
suðr frá Vebjörgum; vissi hann þá at Sveins konúngs var
south from Viborg knew he then that of-Svein king was
þángat ván með miklu herliði, ok brátt mundi fundr
thither expected with great war-troop and soon would meeting
þeirra verða með einhverju móti; hafði þá hvártveggi fritt
their become in some way had then each handsome
lið ok mikit. Valdimarr konúngr tók þeim orrostustað, ok
troop and great Valdimar king took them battle-place and
skutu þar landtjöldum sínum; eptir þat snæddu menn ok
pitched there land-tents their after that ate men and
hvíldu sik, ok lagðist Valdimarr konúngr til svefns, ok
rested themselves and lay-down Valdimar king to sleep and
er hann var sofnaðr, dreymdi hann, at hann þóttist
when he was fallen-asleep dreamed him that he thought-himself
sjá enn helga Knút lávarð föður sinn, ok mælti við hann:
see the holy Knut Lavard father his and spoke to him
hér liggr þú, son minn! sagði hann, ok ert mjök óttafullr
here lie you son my said he and are much fearful
um skipti ykkar Sveins konúngs, hvern veg fara munu;
about dealings of-you-two of-Svein king which way go will
ver hraustr enn, sagði hann, þvíat þú hefir góð málefni í
be brave still said he because you have good cause in

ykkrum deilum; hygg at nú vandliga, hvat ek segi þér, son
your-two disputes think about now carefully what I say to-you son
minn! þvíat þetta er ekki fals, er fyrir þik ber: þá er
my because this is not falsehood which before you bears then when
þú vaknar, muntu sjá hvar hrafn einn flýgr, ok þat skaltu
you wake will-you see where raven one flies and that shall-you
vandliga hugsa, hvar hann sezt, þvíat þar skaltu skipa fylkíng
carefully consider where it settles because there shall-you arrange array
þína, sem hrafninn nemr stað, ok mun guð þér sigr gefa.
your where the-raven takes place and will God you victory give

CXVIII · THE BATTLE OF GRATHE HEATH

The raven settled, Valdimarr drew up there, and after a long fight Rípa-Úlfr and his standard fell. Sveinn fled, exchanged clothes with a clerk, and was caught in a thicket; Pétr þenja knew him, and Gvenmarr Ketilsson killed him. Yngvarr kveisa fell, and Péttleifr was broken on the wheel.

Eptir þetta vaknar Valdimarr konúngr, ok stóð upp, ok
After this wakes Valdimar king and stood up and
hugsaði draum sinn; hann sá hvar hrafn einn flaug, svá sem
considered dream his he saw where raven one flew so as
honum hafði verit tilvísat. Síðan skipaði Valdimarr konúngr
to-him had been pointed-out Afterward arranged Valdimar king
þar hermönnum sínum, ok setti þar fylkíng, ok bjóst til
there warriors his and set there an-array and made-ready for
orrostu. Þá sá þeir ok, hvar fór lið Sveins konúngs,
battle Then saw they also where went (the)-troop of-Svein king
hann hafði þá ok mikit lið, ok sótti þángat á heiðina til
he had then also great troop and attacked thither on the-heath to
þeirra, ok fylkti hann ok sínu liði. Rípa-Úlfr bar merki fyrir
them and drew-up he also his troop Ribe-Ulf bore standard before

Sveini konúngi; ok er þeir voru búnir til bardaga, þá æptu
Svein king and when they were ready for battle then shouted
hvárirtveggju heróp; eptir þat gengu saman fylkíngar, ok tókst
both-sides war-cry after that went together (the)-arrays and began
þar bardagi, ok varð hörð orrosta ok laung; var þat lengi
there a-fight and became hard battle and long was that long
at ósýnt var, hvárir sigr mundi fá. Valdimarr konúngr var
that unclear was which-side victory would get Valdimar king was
á hesti, ok barðist alldjarfliga; hann reið þar at með mikla
on horse and fought very-boldly he rode there at with great
sveit manna, er fyrir var merki Sveins konúngs, ok
following of-men where before was (the)-standard of-Svein king and
varð þar allhörð orrosta, áðr Rípa-Úlfr féll, ok merkit varð
became there very-hard battle before Ribe-Ulf fell and the-standard was
niðrhöggvit. Eptir þat kom flótti í lið Sveins konúngs,
hewn-down After that came flight into (the)-troop of-Svein king
en fjöldi féll þar á vígvellinum. Sveinn konúngr reið undan,
but a-host fell there on the-battlefield Svein king rode away
ok skipti búníngi við klerk einn, ok fékk honum hestinn
and exchanged dress with clerk one and gave him the-horse
ok vápnin, ok bað hann ríða undan, sem mætti hann, ok
and the-weapons and bade him ride away as might he and
hestrinn gæti farit, en konúngrinn dvaldist eptir, ok varð
the-horse could go but the-king stayed behind and was
fánginn í runni einum. Pétr þenja kendi hann, ok mælti: hví
caught in thicket one Petr Thenja knew him and spoke why
fari þér nú svá lágt, herra? Þá hljóp at Gvenmarr Ketilsson,
go you now so low lord Then ran at Gvenmar Ketil's-son
ok drap hann, ok féll þar Sveinn konúngr svíðandi. Í þessi
and killed him and fell there Svein king (the)-Scorcher In this
orrostu féll Ýngvar kvésa, er drepit hafði Plóg svarta. Eptir
battle fell Yngvar Boil who killed had Plog (the)-Black After

Þat lét Valdimarr konúngr taka Þéttleif Eðlarson, ok brjóta
that let Valdimar king take Thettleif Edla's-son and break
í hjóli. Þat sagði Atli Sveinsson, at hann sæi meiðíngar
on wheel That said Atli Svein's-son that he saw (the)-maimings
manns þess, hann var þar þá í Danmörk.
of-man that he was there then in Denmark

CXIX · VALDIMARR SOLE KING

Valdimarr became sole king, and Absalon bishop of Hróiskelda. In the first Wendish campaign, after headwinds at Mön, Absalon taunted the king into sailing; they burned the land on both banks of a river and took sixty shiploads of plunder. In the next Valdimarr beat Mjúklátr at Urk, with Mjúklátr's christened son Friðleifr in his host, and Absalon rode through Wendland to Duke Heinrekr at Brunswick and back.

Eptir orrostu þessa þá fékk Valdimarr konúngr einvald
After battle this then got Valdimar king sole-rule
yfir öllu Danaveldi; var þat þá gjört með ráði allra
over all (the)-Danes'-realm was that then done with counsel of-all
landshöfðíngja; hann var enn vinsælasti konúngr; þá voro 9
land-chieftains he was the most-popular king then were nine
vetr liðnir frá andláti Eiríks konúngs ens spaka, en einn
winters passed from (the)-death of-Eirik king the Wise but one
vetr frá drápi Knúts konúngs eymuna Magnússonar.
winter from (the)-killing of-Knut king Ever-Memorable Magnus's-son
Í þenna tíma andaðist Özur biskup, en Absalon, bróðir
In this time died Ozur bishop but Absalon brother
Ásbjarnar snöru, var vígðr til biskups í stað hans, þvíat
of-Asbjorn Snara was consecrated to bishop in place his because
Absalon var enn bezti klerkr ok vitr maðr, ok varð
Absalon was the best clerk and a-wise man and became

hann síðan hinn mesti höfðingi. Valdimarr konúngr sendi
he afterward the greatest chieftain Valdimar king sent
orð um allt land sitt hinn næsta vetr eptir orrostu á
word through all land his the next winter after (the)-battle on
Graðarheiði, at leiðángr skal úti vera at vári, ok hann
Gradarheid that a-levy shall out be in spring and he
ætlar at fara til Vindlands at kristna landit, ef guð vill þess
intends to go to Wendland to christen the-land if God will that
auðit láta verða. Til þessar ferðar réðust með konúnginum
granted let become To this journey joined with the-king
margir höfðíngjar; þar var enn fyrsti maðr Áskell erkibiskup
many chieftains there was the first man Askel archbishop
ok Absalon biskup af Róiskeldu, er mestr hermaðr hefir
and Absalon bishop of Roskilde who greatest warrior has
fæddr verit einhverr í Danaveldi; þar var Kristofórus, son
born been any in (the)-Danes'-realm there was Kristoforus son
Valdimars konúngs; Gvenmarr Ketilsson, Pétr þenja, Ásbjörn
of-Valdimar king Gvenmar Ketil's-son Petr Thenja Asbjorn
snara, bróðir Absalons biskups, ok Íngimarr. Þessi her kom
Snara brother of-Absalon bishop and Ingimar This host came
allr saman undir ey þeirri, er Mön heitir suðr frá
all together under island that which Mon is-called south from
Sjólandi, þar fengu þeir andviðri mikit, ok lágu því þar
Zealand there got they headwind great and lay therefore there
til þess, at eigi var meirr eptir enn 7 nátta vist öllum
till that that not was more after than seven nights' provision for-all
hernum. Þá kallaði Valdimarr konúngr saman ráðgjafa sína,
the-host Then called Valdimar king together counselors his
ok leitaði ráðs við þá, hvat upp skal taka. Absalon biskup
and sought counsel with them what up shall take Absalon bishop
svaraði ræðu hans: í gær var færiveðr, ok svá hinn
answered speech his in yesterday was sailing-weather and so the

fyrra dag var fullgott veðr at fara, ok lágut þér þá, ok
former day was full-good weather to go and lay you then and
vildut hvergi fara; en ef þér skulut kyrrir vera, þá fært
wished nowhere to-go but if you shall quiet be when passable
er, eðr fara þá at eins, er yðr þykkir blíðast, þá er yðr
is or go then at only when to-you seems blithest then is to-you
ekki hent í slíkum starfa at vera, ok er þá at snúa heim
not fitting in such work to be and is then to turn home
leiðángri þessum. Konúngr reiddist við þetta frýjuorð, ok
levy this (The)-king grew-angry at this taunt-word and
sagði svá: at eigi skal hann aptrsnúa, meðan hann fær vist
said so that not shall he turn-back while he gets provision
til at fæða herinn. Um morguninn eptir sagði konúngr, at
to to feed the-host In the-morning after said (the)-king that
í brott skyldi leggja; reyru þeir þá allmikinn storm, ok var
off away should lay rowed they then very-great storm and was
konúngr á skeið med Áskeli erkibiskupi, ok losnaði hún
(the)-king on a-warship with Askel archbishop and came-loose it
í sundr í storminum, en Valdimarr konúngr fleygði sér
in sunder in the-storm but Valdimar king flung himself
á skip Íngimars, ok með sverði ok merki, ok þótti þat
on ship of-Ingimar and with sword and standard and seemed that
allvel farit; þar varð borgit mönnum, en fé týndist. Þeir
very-well gone there became saved men but wealth was-lost They
fóru til Héðinseyjar. Þá gekk konúngr á skip Absalons
went to Hedinsey Then went (the)-king on ship of-Absalon
biskups, ok lagðist niðr ok svaf; en Gvenmar Ketilsson sendi
bishop and lay down and slept but Gvenmar Ketil's-son sent
hann á njósn um kveldit til lands, ok fékk hann tekit
he on spying in the-evening to land and got he taken
njósnarmenn Vinda, fór síðan aptr, ok mætti konúngi
spies of-(the)-Wends went afterward back and met (the)-king

suðr frá Héðinsey þar á firðinum. Gvenmar sagði konúngi,
south from Hedinsey there on the-fjord Gvenmar told (the)-king
at hann hefði náð njósnarmönnum Vinda. Síðan tóku
that he had reached spies of-(the)-Wends Afterward took
þeir Vindland, ok var þar móða ein; þeir skiptu liðinu
they Wendland and was there river one they divided the-troop
til landgaungu, fór konúngr upp öðrum megin árinnar, en
for landing went (the)-king up (on)-one side of-the-river but
Absalon biskup öðrum megin, ok vissu hvárigir til annara;
Absalon bishop (on)-other side and knew neither of others
brendu þeir þá bygðir víða hvárumtveggja megin árinnar,
burned they then settlements widely on-both sides of-the-river
ok fóru svá til skipa sinna, ok hlóðu 60 skipa af fé,
and went so to ships their and loaded sixty ships with wealth
er þeir höfðu fengit at herfángi. Eptir þat fór Valdimarr
which they had got as war-booty After that went Valdimar
konúngr heim í ríki sitt, ok sat heima þann vetr eptir. En
king home into realm his and sat at-home that winter after But
um várit sendi Íngi konúngr af Noregi Valdimar konúngi
in the-spring sent Ingi king of Norway Valdimar king
dreka einn fríðan. Þat sumar fór Valdimarr konúngr enn
dragon-ship one handsome That summer went Valdimar king again
til Vindlands, ok í þeirri ferð lesti hann drekann, en
to Wendland and on that journey damaged he the-dragon-ship but
konúngr fór upp at Guðakursá, ok átti þar orrostu við
(the)-king went up to Gudakur-river and had there battle with
Vindahöfðíngja, þann er Mjúklátr hét. Friðleifr hét
Wend-chieftain that who Mjuklat was-called Fridleif was-called
son hans, hann varð fánginn af Dönum í hinum fyrra
son his he was captured by (the)-Danes on the former
leiðángri, ok var hann nú með konúngi ok var kristinn. Þeir
levy and was he now with (the)-king and was Christian They

börðust við borg þá, er Urk heitir, Valdimarr konúngr fékk
fought at fort that which Urk is-called Valdimar king got
þar sigr, en Mjúklátr flýði, ok féll síðan. Danir tóku
there victory but Mjuklat fled and fell afterward (The)-Danes took
höfuð hans, ok stegldu við tré eitt þar hjá borginni; fór
head his and set-on-a-stake by tree one there beside the-fort went
Valdimarr konúngr þá til skipa sinna. Þá spurði hann, hverr
Valdimar king then to ships his Then asked he which
höfðíngja hefði hraustleik til at ríða í Brúnsvík, ok bera
of-chieftains had valor to to ride into Brunswick and bear
eyrendi sitt til Heinreks hertuga, sonar Konráðs keisara; hann
errand his to Heinrek duke son of-Konrad emperor he
átti dóttur Heinreks Englakonúngs, ok voru þeirra synir
had (the)-daughter of-Heinrek Englishmen's-king and were their sons
Ottó keisari ok Heinrekr valdsgreifi ok Vilhjálmr digri,
Otto emperor and Heinrek count-palatine and Vilhjalm (the)-Stout
en Geirþrúðr dóttir. Þeirrar ferðar voru menn ófúsir, þvíat
but Geirthrud daughter To-that journey were men unwilling because
þar varð til at fara um Vindland í hendr fjandmönnum
there had to to go through Wendland into hands to-enemies
sínum. Absalon biskup bauð konúngi at fara þessa ferð.
their Absalon bishop offered (the)-king to go this journey
Konúngr játar því. Biskup fór við 60 manna, ok Friðleifr
(The)-king grants that (The)-bishop went with sixty men and Fridleif
Mjúklátssón með honum til leiðsagnar; þeir ríða nú þar hjá
Mjuklat's-son with him for guidance they ride now there beside
borginni, er höfuð Mjúkláts var á staurnum, þá feldi
the-fort where (the)-head of-Mjuklat was on the-stake then shed
Friðleifr tár, er hann sá þat, ok sagði at honum væri
Fridleif tears when he saw that and said that to-him were
þess ván at svá tækist, er hann vildi eigi sönnum guði
that expected that so happened when he wished not true God

þjóna. Þeir komu þá til Heinreks hertuga, ok var þeim þar
to-serve They came then to Heinrek duke and was them there
vel fagnat; dvöldust þeir þar um stund, ok luku eyrendum
well welcomed stayed they there for a-while and finished errands
sínum, ok er þeir fóru í brott, bauð hertoginn þeim lið
their and when they went off away offered the-duke them troop
til fylgðar. Biskup kvað eigi mundu þess þurfa. Riðu þeir
for escort (The)-bishop said not would that need Rode they
af Brúnsvík snemma dags, ok voru allir herklæddir; þeir
from Brunswick early in-day and were all war-clad they
riðu svá fram um völlu nokkura; þeir höfðu grun á, at
rode so forth over fields some they had suspicion on that
liðsafnaðr mundi vera um bygðina. Þá mælti Friðleifr
a-troop-gathering would be through the-settlement Then spoke Fridleif
ok sagði, at þar hefði faðir hans verit drepinn: ok ef þér
and said that there had father his been killed and if you
verðit teknir, þá farit þér Danir slíka för, sem þér létuð
become taken then go you Danes such journey as you let
hann fara, ok er þat nú hverjum manni bezt, at selja sik
him go and is that now to-each man best to sell himself
sem dýrast. Biskup þakkaði honum sín orð, ok sagði slíkt
as dearest (The)-bishop thanked him his words and said such
mælt drengiliga. Þeir riðu um bygðina kveðandi um
spoken manfully They rode through the-settlement singing through
daginn, ok létu ekki mjök finna á sér ótta. En sem
the-day and let not much find on themselves fear But as
landsmenn sáu ferð þeirra, hugðu þeir at hertugans menn
land-men saw journey their thought they that the-duke's men
væri, er svá riðu glaðliga. Komu þeir biskup til skipa
were who so rode gladly Came they (the)-bishop to ships

með heilu ok höldnu; sat Valdimarr konúngr þá ok las
with whole and kept sat Valdimar king then and read
saltara, ok varð feginn biskupi ok hans mönnum.
(the)-psalter and became glad at-(the)-bishop and his men

CXX · THE WENDISH WARS

Valdimarr harried around Svöldr and Straela and beat the Rængar at Arkona; they gave hostages, then broke faith by going under Duke Heinrekr. Reconciled with the duke, Valdimarr took Valagust while the duke, after heavy losses, took Dimin; he betrothed his son Knútr to the duke's daughter Geirþrúðr, made Kassamar his man, and gave Knútr the name of king.

Um morguninn sigldi konúngr austr fyrir Vindland til
In the-morning sailed (the)-king east off Wendland to
Svöldrar, þar lágu fyrir Vindr með miklu liði; þeir flýðu
Svold there lay before (the)-Wends with great troop they fled
þegar, er þeir sáu segl Danakonúngs; lagðist þá á byr;
at-once when they saw (the)-sails of-(the)-Danes'-king lay-itself then on fair-wind
konúngr sendi Kristofórum son sinn til at brenna héraðit á
(the)-king sent Kristoforus son his to to burn the-district in
Vindlandi, er Valúng heitir, ok bað þá eigi fyrr uppríða,
Wendland which Valung is-called and bade them not before ride-up
enn allr herinn kvæmi upp í landit. Þeir Kristofórus voru
than all the-host came up into the-land They Kristoforus were
heldr fljótir í brennunni. Ok er Vindr sáu brennuna,
rather quick in the-burning And when (the)-Wends saw the-burning
þeir er á skipunum voru, ok áðr höfðu flúit, réru þeir
those who on the-ships were and before had fled rowed they
sem skjótazt til, ok ætluðu at koma á úvart Dönum, ok
as quickest to and intended to come on unawares (the)-Danes and

í því sáu þeir, hvar Valdimarr konúngr fór með suman
at that saw they where Valdimar king went with some
herinn, viku þeir þá enn undan sem skjótast, svá at
the-host turned they then again away as quickest so that
Danir gátu eigi náð þeim; lögðu Danir síðan tll hafnar
(the)-Danes could not reach them laid (the)-Danes afterward to harbor
ok tjölduðu; ok er tjaldat var konúngsskipit, kom þar
and pitched-tents and when tented was the-king's-ship came there
Áskell erkibiskup ok sagði svá: alltíðvirkir eru þér, Danir!
Askel archbishop and said so very-quick-working are you Danes
er þér grafið þá, fyrr enn þeir eru dauðir. Konúngr spyrr,
when you bury them before than they are dead (The)-king asks
hví hann mælti svá? Erkibiskup svarar: þvíat ek sé ad vér
why he spoke so (The)-archbishop answers because I see that we
liggjum hér lengi um eyjar ok útsker, áðr vér vinnum hér
lie here long about islands and out-skerries before we win here
jafnmikinn sigr, sem vér létum í þessu bráðræði, ok fylgir
equally-great victory as we lost in this rashness and follows
sjaldan ráð rasi. Síðan fóru þeir til skipa af áeggjan
seldom counsel haste Afterward went they to ships at (the)-egging
erkibiskups, ok réru yfir móðu nokkura, er þar var, ok
of-(the)-archbishop and rowed over river some which there was and
hleyptu þar upp á land hestum, ok brendu þar allt fylki,
let-run there up on land horses and burned there all district
þat er þar liggr fyrir ofan Strælu, ok láu þar um
that which there lies on above Straela and lay there through
nóttina; en um morguninn eptir fóru þeir á Falongi, ok
the-night but in the-morning after went they on Falong and
brendu héraðit, ok ætluðu heim eptir þat. En á enni næstu
burned the-district and intended home after that But in the next
nótt eptir komu Rængjar eptir þeim við Masnes, þeir
night after came (the)-Raengjar after them at Masnes they

byggja þat hérað á Vindlandi, er Re heitir, þat er mikit
inhabit that district in Wendland which Re is-called that is a-great
hérað ok ríki. Dómaburr hét höfðingi þeirra, hann talaði
district and realm Domabur was-called chieftain their he talked
um sættir við Dani, en erkibiskup beiddi þá gánga
about settlements with (the)-Danes but (the)-archbishop asked them go
til handa Valdimar konúngi, ok setja honum gisla. Þá réð
to hands of-Valdimar king and set him hostages Then gave
Dómaburr erkibiskupi ráð, ok sagði svá: þú ert úngr
Domabur to-(the)-archbishop counsel and said so you are a-young
maðr, ok veizt óglögt, hvat verit hefir; kref oss eigi gisla,
man and know unclearly what been has demand of-us not hostages
ok herja eigi land várt; far heldr heim, ok halt jafnan frið
and harry not land our go rather home and hold always peace
við oss, þar til er yður lönd eru jafnvel bygð, sem nú
with us there till when your lands are equally-well settled as now
eru vár lönd, þvíat yður lönd liggja mörg auð ok óbygð;
are our lands because your lands lie many empty and unsettled
hæfir yðr því betr at hafa frið enn ófrið. Þá svaraði
befits you therefore better to have peace than unpeace Then answered
erkibiskup: ek veit at Valdimarr konúngr vill gjarna hafa
(the)-archbishop I know that Valdimar king will gladly have
þitt ráð, ok þat er mér vel at skapi; far nú heim, segir
your counsel and that is to-me well to liking go now home says
erkibiskup, ok seg svá Rængjum, at vér beiðum þá eigi
(the)-archbishop and tell so to-(the)-Raengjar that we ask them not
fyrri gisla, enn þeir bjóða oss. Síðan fór Dómaburr heim,
before hostages than they offer us Afterward went Domabur home
en Valdimarr konúngr lagði her sínum til hafnar þeirrar
but Valdimar king laid host his to harbor that
á Re, er Skaparödd heitir, ok gengu upp með öllu liðinu
in Re which Skaparodd is-called and went up with all the-troop

til þess staðar, er Arkún heitir, þann stað hafði unnit
to that place which Arkona is-called that place had won
Eiríkr eymuni, sem fyrr er ritat í bókinni; þar komu
Eirik Ever-Memorable as before is written in the-book there came
Rængar í móti Valdimar konúngi með ógrynni hers,
(the)-Raengjar in against Valdimar king with countless-number of-host
ok héldu við hann orrostu; í þeirri orrostu fékk Valdimarr
and held with him battle in that battle got Valdimar
konúngr sigr, en af Rængum féllu 300 þúsunda, en
king victory but of (the)-Raengjar fell three-hundred thousands but
þeir flýðu, er eptirlifðu. Danir fóru þá til Héðinseyjar,
they fled who survived (The)-Danes went then to Hedinsey
ok er þeir voru þar, komu Rængar til þeirra, ok settu
and when they were there came (the)-Raengjar to them and set
þeim 4 gisla, ok játuðu því öllu, er þeir beiddu. Eptir
them four hostages and granted that all which they asked After
sigr þenna fór Valdimarr konúngr heim í ríki sitt. En
victory this went Valdimar king home into realm his But
enn næsta leiðángr, er Valdimarr konúngr röri eptir þenna,
the next levy which Valdimar king rowed after this
þá hélt hann til Strælu; þá reið Absalon biskup á land
then held he to Straela then rode Absalon bishop on land
upp, ok átti þíng við bændr, bauð biskup þeim at
up and had an-assembly with farmers offered (the)-bishop them to
fara til Valagust með konúngi ok veita honum lið, ok
go to Valagust with (the)-king and grant him troop and
Rængar gjörðu sem hann bauð, ok fóru með konúngi,
(the)-Raengjar did as he bade and went with (the)-king
ok höfðu mikit lið, ok lögðust í Kúaviz. Þar komu
and had great troop and lay-themselves in Kuaviz There came
þeir af Valagust í móti þeim, ok settu konúngi gisla, ok
they from Valagust in against them and set (the)-king hostages and

játuðu honum hlýðni, ok fór herinn heim aptr síðan. En
granted him obedience and went the-host home back afterward But
ena næstu ferð, er Valdimarr konúngr átti, fór hann til
the next journey which Valdimar king had went he to
Grænasunds, þvíat Rængar vildu þá rjúfa sætt, þá er
Graenasund because (the)-Raengjar wished then to-break settlement that which
fyrr var gjör við Valdimar konúng; en þat bar til þess, at
before was made with Valdimar king but that bore to that that
þeir höfðu á þeirri stundu gengit undir Heinrek hertuga af
they had at that time gone under Heinrek duke of
Brúnsvík, ok sett honum gisla, þvíat Heinrekr kallaði sitt
Brunswick and set him hostages because Heinrek called his
ríki allt um Valagust, hann hafði ok herjat á Rænga.
realm all about Valagust he had also harried on (the)-Raengjar
En er Rængar spurðu at Valdimarr konúngr var kominn
But when (the)-Raengjar learned that Valdimar king was come
til Grænasunds, ok ætlaði at herja á þá, þá fóru þeir til
to Graenasund and intended to harry on them then went they to
konúngs fundar, ok gáfust þá af nýju upp á hans vald,
(the)-king's meeting and gave-themselves then of new up on his power
ok fór Valdimarr konúngr við þat heim. En er þetta spurði
and went Valdimar king at that home But when this learned
Heinrekr hertogi, gaf hann konúngi sakir á, er hann hafði
Heinrek duke gave he (the)-king charges on that he had
tekit gisla af Valagust ok herjat á Rænga, þvíat hann
taken hostages from Valagust and harried on (the)-Raengjar because he
kallaði þá sína menn. Sendi hann þá sína menn á fund
called them his men Sent he then his men to meeting
Valdimars konúngs, ok bað hann bæta þat, er hann hafði
of-Valdimar king and bade him amend that that he had
herjat land hans, en at öðrum kosti lézt hann mundu
harried land his but in other case professed he would

hefna, ok fara með her til Danmerkr. En meðan sendimenn
avenge and go with a-host to Denmark But while messengers
voru í ferðinni, þá höfðu Austrvindr úti her óvígan,
were on the-journey then had (the)-East-Wends out a-host unconquerable
ok fóru á þat ríki, er hertuginn átti í Vindlandi, ok
and went on that realm which the-duke owned in Wendland and
brendu þat, en fólk allt var drepit. Heinrekr hertugi kendi
burned it but folk all was killed Heinrek duke blamed
þessi ráð Absalon biskupi, en hann var þó þess óvaldr;
these counsels on-Absalon bishop but he was yet of-that innocent
en er hertuginn vissi þetta til sanns, þá sendi hann þegar
but when the-duke knew this for true then sent he at-once
menn í annat sinn norðr í Danmörk á fund Valdimars
men for (the)-second time north into Denmark to meeting of-Valdimar
konúngs, ok bað hann þá sætta, ok þat með at hann
king and asked him then settlements and that with that he
skyldi herja með honum til Vindlands. Valdimarr konúngr
should harry with him to Wendland Valdimar king
játaði þessu, þvíat þeir af Valagust höfðu þá enn rofið
granted this because they from Valagust had then again broken
sættina við hann. Þetta vor eptir buðu þeir út leiðángri,
the-settlement with him This spring after called they out a-levy
Valdimarr konúngr af Danmörk ok Heinrekr hertugi af
Valdimar king of Denmark and Heinrek duke of
Saxlandi, ok herjuðu í Vindland, ok kom hertuginn með
Saxony and harried in Wendland and came the-duke with
her sinn þar, sem heitir á Dímin, ok settist þar um borg
host his there where is-called at Dimin and settled there around fort
eina, en landsmenn söfnuðust saman, ok vildu verja land
one but land-men gathered together and wished to-defend land
sitt, ok riðu eina nótt á menn hertugans, ok drápu þar
their and rode one night on men of-the-duke and killed there

um nóttina 2 greifa af hertugarum, hét annar Aðalbrikt,
in the-night two counts of the-duke's-men was-called one Adalbrikt
en annar Heinrekr, ok marga aðra göfga menn; þar féll
but (the)-other Heinrek and many other noble men there fell
hálft fimta hundrað manna af liði hertugans, en margt
half (the)-fifth hundred of-men of troop of-the-duke but many
varð sárt, en allt annat fólk flýði, þat er því kom við.
became wounded but all other folk fled that which to-it came with
Vindr ráku skamt flóttann, ok lögðust á valinn, ok
(The)-Wends drove short the-flight and lay-themselves on the-slain and
raufuðu, ok flettu menn bæði vápnum ok klæðum. En er
robbed and stripped men both of-weapons and of-clothes But when
lýsa tók, ok Suðrmenn sjá, hvat Vindr höfðust at,
to-dawn took and (the)-Southerners see what (the)-Wends busied-themselves at
þá riðu þeir aptr, ok börðust við þá, ok komu þeim á
then rode they back and fought with them and brought them to
flótta. Eptir þat vann Heinrekr hertugi borgina, ok drap
flight After that won Heinrek duke the-fort and killed
þar ótalligt fólk af Vindum. Valdimarr konúngr fór í annan
there countless folk of (the)-Wends Valdimar king went in another
stað með her sinn til Valagust, ok settist þar um borgina,
place with host his to Valagust and settled there around the-fort
en Vindr báðu þá konúnginn sætta, ok gáfust á
but (the)-Wends asked then the-king settlements and gave-themselves into
hans vald, ok settu honum gisla, ok um nóttina eptir
his power and set him hostages and in the-night after
flýðu þeir af borginni, svá at konúngr varð eigi var
fled they from the-fort so that (the)-king became not aware
við. En er Valdimarr konúngr vissi þat, þá skipaði hann
of-it But when Valdimar king knew that then manned he
borgina sínum mönnum, ok fór síðan út að á nokkurri,
the-fort with-his men and went afterward out to river some

ok til brúar þeirrar á ánni, er heitir Dunzarbrú. Um
and to bridge that on the-river which is-called Dunzar-bridge In
morguninn eptir kom Heinrekr hertugi frá Grozum, ok fór
the-morning after came Heinrek duke from Grozum and went
hann þegar á skip með Valdimar konúngi, ok undraðist
he at-once on ship with Valdimar king and wondered
hertuginn hví þeir konúngrinn máttu svá mikit sigla. Þá
the-duke why they the-king could so much sail Then
fór allt með þeim með blíðu, ok þá mælti Valdimarr
went all with them with blitheness and then spoke Valdimar
konúngr til mægðar við hertugann fyrir hönd sonar síns,
king for alliance with the-duke for hand of-son his
ok því játti hertuginn; þá gáfu þeir saman börn sín, er
and that granted the-duke then gave they together children their who
þá lágu í vöggu, hét sveinninn Knútr, son Valdimars
then lay in cradle was-called the-boy Knut son of-Valdimar
konúngs, en mærin frú Geirþrúðr. Um morguninn eptir röri
king but the-maid lady Geirthrud In the-morning after rowed
Valdimarr konúngr til Stólps, en Heinrekr fór til Dímin,
Valdimar king to Stolp but Heinrek went to Dimin
ok braut niðr alla borgina ok brendi. Þá fór Valdimarr
and broke down all the-fort and burned Then went Valdimar
konúngr aptr til brúarinnar, þar kom til hans Kassamar, er
king back to the-bridge there came to him Kassamar who
þá var herra á Vindlandi, ok setti honum gisla, ok gjörðist
then was lord in Wendland and set him hostages and became
hans maðr; en Valdimarr konúngr fékk honum 2 hluti af
his man but Valdimar king gave him two parts of
Valagust at gæta, en þriðjúng fékk hann Rængum. Síðan
Valagust to keep but a-third gave he to-(the)-Raengjar Afterward
fór konúngr til Strælu, ok átti þar tal við lið sitt; þá
went (the)-king to Straela and had there talk with troop his then

gaf hann Knúti syni sínum konúngsnafn með ráði Absalons
gave he to-Knut son his king's-name with counsel of-Absalon
biskups ok annarra höfðíngja, hann var þá vetrgamall. Hann
bishop and of-other chieftains he was then winter-old He
fór þá heim til Danmerkr. En enn næsta leiðángr er
went then home to Denmark But the next levy which
Valdimarr konúngr röri, þá fór hann fyrst til Rænga,
Valdimar king rowed then went he first to (the)-Raengjar
ok þá var brendt Analöng; varð þa enn Absalon biskup
and then was burned Analong became then again Absalon bishop
skjótastr ok Eylendíngar, svá at þeir biðu konúngsins
quickest and (the)-Island-men so that they waited-for the-king
7 nætr við Héðinsey, ok fóru þaðan heim.
seven nights at Hedinsey and went thence home

CXXI · OF ABSALON'S BATTLE

Valdimarr burned Straela and Valung; Absalon beat the Wends at Garðs, losing one man in the fight and two drowned, and the Jutes envied the islanders' plunder. At Asund they killed Dalemarr, and the Rængar sued for mercy.

En er vetrinn leið af, bauð Valdimarr konúngr enn
But when the-winter passed off summoned Valdimar king again
út leiðángri, ok fór til Rænga, ok lögðu upp á Strælu
out a-levy and went to (the)-Raengjar and laid up at Straela
við blótlund einn, er heitir Böku, ok brendu þar allt
by sacrifice-grove one which is-called Boku and burned there all
ok bældu, en tóku fólk ok fé, ok fóru til skipa með;
and laid-low but took folk and wealth and went to ships with
ok þá lögðu þeir upp á annann veg á Valúng, ok brendu
and then laid they up on another way at Valung and burned

þar, ok foru þaðan til Víkr, ok brendu landid allt til torgs
there and went thence to Vik and burned the-land all to market
þeirra. Þaðan réru þeir til Héðinseyjar, ok lágu þar 2 nætr
their Thence rowed they to Hedinsey and lay there two nights
ok hvíldust. Þá bað konúngr Absalon biskup fyrri fara, en
and rested Then bade (the)-king Absalon bishop before go than
konúngr ok Jótar lögðust þá upp við Strælu; en er rökkva
(the)-king and (the)-Jutes lay then up by Straela but when to-darken
tók, röri biskup upp með sínu liði fram um konúnginn
took rowed (the)-bishop up with his troop forth past the-king
til Parez, ok reið síðan upp til borgar þeirrar, er heitir
to Parez and rode afterward up to fort that which is-called
Garðs, enn þar komu Vindr í móti þeim, ok réðu þegar
Gards but there came (the)-Wends in against them and went at-once
til orrostu við biskup, ok börðust við vatn eitt; þar varð
to battle with (the)-bishop and fought by lake one there became
mikil orrosta ok mannfall mikit, ok hafði biskup sigr,
great battle and slaughter great and had (the)-bishop victory
enn þar féll af Vindum 1100 manna, en einn maðr af
but there fell of Wends eleven-hundred men but one man of
biskupi, en tveir menn fórust á kafi af biskupsmönnum,
(the)-bishop but two men perished in deep-water of (the)-bishop's-men
er reyndu sund með sér fyrir kapps sakir. Síðan reið
who tried swimming with themselves for contest's sake Afterward rode
biskup út til skipa sinna, en er þeir hleyptu hestunum
(the)-bishop out to ships his but when they let-run the-horses
út á skipin, þá kom Valdimarr konúngr þar, ok spurði hvat
out on the-ships then came Valdimar king there and asked what
þeir hefði sýslat, en biskup sagði honum. Konúngr þakkaði
they had done but (the)-bishop told him (The)-king thanked
fögrum orðum sigr þenna, ok fara síðan allir samt til
with-fair words victory this and go afterward all together to

Strælu. Eylendíngar höfðu nú fengit hlutskipti mikit, en
Straela (The)-Island-men had now got booty great but
Jótar lögðu þar öfund á, ok sögðu at Eylendíngar fengu
(the)-Jutes laid there envy on and said that (the)-Island-men got
alls, en Jótar mistu, en þeir þorðu þó eigi at mæla þetta,
all but (the)-Jutes lost but they dared yet not to speak this
svá at konúngr heyrði. Eptir þat fór konúngr með herinn
so that (the)-king heard After that went (the)-king with the-host
til Ásund, ok herjaði þar; þar drápu þeir höfðíngja þann,
to Asund and harried there there killed they chieftain that
er Dalemarr hét, ok tóku þar fólk allt ok fé, ok fóru
who Dalemar was-called and took there folk all and wealth and went
síðan til Héðinseyjar. Þar komu Ræingar til móts við
afterward to Hedinsey There came (the)-Raengjar to meeting with
konúng, ok báðu sér myskunnar, ok settu honum gisla,
(the)-king and asked for-themselves mercy and set him hostages
ok gáfu honum skatta slíka, sem hann kvad á, ok játuðu
and gave him tributes such as he declared on and granted
konúngi hlýðni. Fór konúngr heim til Danmerkr eptir þetta.
(the)-king obedience Went (the)-king home to Denmark after this

Valdimarr took Arkona at Whitsun; King Tetizlafr surrendered and the Rængar accepted Christianity. Bishop Sveinn and Sóni Ebbason hewed down the idol Svantaviz, made the Rængar drag it out, and burned it under their kettles; at Karenz they felled Rinvit, Turupið, and Puruvit, and in all five thousand were baptized.

Valdimarr konúngr gaf Kristofóró syni sínum ríki á Jótlandi;
Valdimar king gave Kristoforus son his realm in Jutland
hafði hann hertugadóm í Heiðabæ ok þat ríki sem þar
had he a-dukedom in Hedeby and that realm which there
fylgir; hann var ríkr maðr. Valdimarr konúngr hafði jafnan
follows he was a-powerful man Valdimar king had always
starfsamt, meðan hann réð ríkinu; hann hafði 8 leiðángra
toilsome while he ruled the-realm he had eight levies
til Rænga, áðr hann vann landit. Einn vetr um föstu fór
to (the)-Raengjar before he won the-land One winter in Lent went
Kristofórus hertugi ok Absalon biskup til Svöldrs, ok brendu
Kristoforus duke and Absalon bishop to Svold and burned
þar allt upp til Tribuzis, svá at þat lá audt marga vetr
there all up to Tribuzis so that it lay empty many winters
síðan; þá lágu þeir 20 nætr veðrfastir í ánni Svöldr
afterward then lay they twenty nights weather-bound in the-river Svold
í óveðri miklu, ok fengu síðan byr, ok fóru heim.
in bad-weather great and got afterward fair-wind and went home
Eptir þetta stóð kyrt 3 vetr, áðr Ræingar rufu enn
After this stood quiet three winters before (the)-Raengjar broke again
sætt, þá sem fyrr var gjör. Þá bauð Valdimarr konúngr
settlement that which before was made Then summoned Valdimar king
enn út leiðángri, ok fór til Ræinga, ok kom þar at
again out a-levy and went to (the)-Raengjar and came there on

hvítasunnudegi ok vann borgina Arkún, er fyrr var nefnd.
Whitsunday and won the-fort Arkona which before was named
Þá kom til Valdimars konúngs Tetizlafr, er var konúngr
Then came to Valdimar king Tetizlaf who was king
þeirra, ok Jarmar bróðir hans, ok allir hinir beztu menn
their and Jarmar brother his and all the best men
af Ræingum, ok gáfu þá landit ok sjálfa sik í vald
of (the)-Raengjar and gave then the-land and selves themselves into power
Valdimars konúngs, ok báðu hann gjöra af slíkt, er hann
of-Valdimar king and bade him do of such as he
vildi. Þá bauð konúngr þeim at taka við kristni, þvíat þar
wished Then bade (the)-king them to take with Christianity because there
var jafnan heiðit, síðan þeir köstuðu aptr kristni, þá er
was always heathen since they cast back Christianity then when
Eiríkr konúngr eymuni lét skíra þá, þá er hann vann
Eirik king Ever-Memorable let baptize them then when he won
borgina Arkún, sem fyrr var sagt, þeir sögðust nú gjöra
the-fort Arkona as before was said they said-of-themselves now to-do
vilja, sem konúngr beiddi ok Absalon biskup. Þá kvaddi
to-wish as (the)-king asked and Absalon bishop Then called
konúngr til Sóna Ebbason ok menn með honum, at gánga
(the)-king to Soni Ebbi's-son and men with him to go
í borgina Arkún, ok til hofs þess, er þar var, ok bað
into the-fort Arkona and to temple that which there was and bade
hann höggva niðr goðit, er Svantaviz hét, ok draga þat
him hew down the-god which Svantaviz was-called and drag it
út af borginni, en ræna hofit öllu, því er fémætt var;
out from the-fort but rob the-temple of-all that which valuable was
en þeir er fyrir váru í borginni þorðu ekki at draga hann
but they who before were in the-fort dared not to drag him
út, ok hræddust þeir mjök reiði hans. Þá gekk til Sveinn
out and feared they much (the)-wrath his Then went to Svein

biskup ok Sóni Ebbason, ok hjuggu niðr goðit; síðan lögðu
bishop and Soni Ebbi's-son and hewed down the-god afterward laid
þeir reip um háls honum, ok neyddu Rænga sjálfa
they a-rope about neck his and forced (the)-Raengjar themselves
at draga hann út; en er hann kom út, undruðust allir
to drag him out but when he came out wondered all
heiðíngjar, er hann mátti þá ekki hjálpa sjálfum sér, ok
heathens that he could then not help self himself and
trúðu minnr á hann enn fyrr. Þá gengu menn til, ok klufu
believed less in him than before Then went men to and split
hann í sundr, ok brendu hann undir kötlum sínum; sáu þá
him in sunder and burned him under kettles their saw then
Ræingar at þeir voru sviknir, ok trúðu ekki á hann síðan.
(the)-Raengjar that they were betrayed and believed not in him afterward
En Absalon biskup ok allir lærðir menn kristnuðu fólkit,
But Absalon bishop and all learned men christened the-folk
ok skírðu 1300 einn dag, ok fóru svá þaðan, at þeir
and baptized thirteen-hundred one day and went so thence that they
játuðu konúngi hlýðni ok svá biskupi. En um morguninn
granted (the)-king obedience and so (the)-bishop But in the-morning
eptir fóru þeir konúngr til þess staðar, er Karenz heitir,
after went they (the)-king to that place which Karenz is-called
ok lét hann þar höggva niðr 3 skurðgoð, er svá hétu:
and let he there hew down three idols which so were-called
Rinvit, Turupið, ok Puruvit; en skurðgoð þessi gjörðu svá
Rinvit Turupid and Puruvit but idols these did so
mikil undr, at þegar ef nokkr maðr átti samlag við konu
great wonders that as-soon if any man had intercourse with a-woman
innan borgar, þá loddu þau saman sem hundar, ok eigi
within (the)-fort then stuck they together as dogs and not
losnuðu þau, fyrr enn þau komu út af borginni. En þann
came-loose they before than they came out from the-fort But that

dag, er þessi skurðgoð voru brend, þá kristnuðu þeir
day when these idols were burned then christened they
900, ok vígðu 11 kirkjugarða. Þar tóku þeir mikit
nine-hundred and consecrated eleven churchyards There took they great
fé af goðunum, gull ok silfr, silki ok pell ok guðvef,
wealth from the-gods gold and silver silk and fine-cloth and costly-weave
hjálma ok sverð, brynjur ok allskonar vopn. Eð fimta goð
helmets and swords mail-coats and all-kinds-of weapons The fifth god
hét Pizamarr, hann var á Ásund, svá heitir einn staðr,
was-called Pizamar he was in Asund so is-called one place
hann var ok brendr. Þá hét ok Tjarnaglófi, hann var
he was also burned Then was-called also Tjarnaglofi he was
sigrgoð þeirra, ok fór hann í herfarar með þeim; hann
victory-god their and went he on war-journeys with them he
hafði kanpa af silfri, hann hélzt lengst við, en þó fengu
had mustaches of silver he held longest out but yet got
þeir hann á þriðja vetri þareptir; en þeir kristnuðu alls á
they him in (the)-third winter thereafter but they christened in-all in
landinu 5 þúsundir í þeirri ferð. Eptir þat fór Valdimarr
the-land five thousands on that journey After that went Valdimar
konúngr heim ok Absalon biskup, ok allr herrinn.
king home and Absalon bishop and all the-host

Absalon consecrated eleven churches on Ræng. Over the plunder from Ræng Valdimarr fell out with Duke Heinrekr, who set the East-Wends on Denmark; Kristófórus and Absalon plundered Eyland and caught the Kurlanders at Járnloka and killed all but one ship's crew.

Meðan Valdimarr konúngr lifði, þá voru reistar 11 kirkjur á
While Valdimar king lived then were raised eleven churches on
Ræng, ok vígði Absalon biskup þær. Þar er nú biskupsstóll
Raeng and consecrated Absalon bishop them There is now a-bishop's-see
í þeim stað, er Usna heitir, ok eru nú í því biskupsríki
in that place which Usna is-called and are now in that bishop's-realm
30 kirkna ok 100. En síðan er Ræing var kristnað, þá
thirty of-churches and hundred But since when Raeng was christened then
kom Valdimarr konúngr ekki í leiðángr. En fyrir fé þat,
came Valdimar king not on levy But for wealth that
er Valdimarr konúngr tók af Ræing, varð úsætt milli
which Valdimar king took from Raeng became discord between
Danakonúngs ok Heinreks hertuga, þvíat hann kallaði Ræing
(the)-Danes'-king and Heinrek duke because he called Raeng
sitt land vera, ok hann kallaðist féið eiga. Bauð hann
his land be and he called-himself the-wealth own Bade he
þá Austrvindum at herja á Danmörk. En er Valdimarr
then (the)-East-Wends to harry on Denmark But when Valdimar
konúngr spurði þat, þá bauð hann Kristóforó syni sínum ok
king learned that then bade he Kristoforus son his and
Absalóni biskupi, at þeir skyldu verja landit, en þeir vildu
Absalon bishop that they should defend the-land but they wished
eigi á landinu viðtaka, ok buðu þeir út leiðángri, einu
not on the-land to-receive and called they out a-levy with-one

skipi or hverju héraði í Danmörk. En er þeir voru úti á
ship from each district in Denmark But when they were out on
herskipunum, þá spurðu þeir, at Kúrir höfðu her úti,
the-warships then learned they that (the)-Kurlanders had a-host out
ok herjuðu á Bleikíng; þeir vissu þó eigi víst, hvárt þetta
and harried on Blekinge they knew yet not surely whether this
var með sannleik, ok þótti þeim hér þurfa ráð við at gjöra,
was with truth and seemed to-them here need counsel with to make
ok gjörðu þeir þat ráð, at Kristófórus ok Absalon biskup
and made they that counsel that Kristoforus and Absalon bishop
ok Ásbjörn fóru þángat, ok sigldu til Eylands; þar tóku þeir
and Asbjorn went thither and sailed to Oland there took they
fé mikit ok svá menn; en er þeir komu til skipa sinna,
wealth great and so men but when they came to ships their
þá spurðu þeir at Kúrir voru fyrir innan, þá létu
then learned they that (the)-Kurlanders were on inside then let
þeir laust þat fólk, er þeir höfðu þar tekit, ok héldu þegar
they loose that folk which they had there taken and held at-once
þángat, sem þeir voru, ok fundu þá við eina höfn, er heitir
thither where they were and found them at one harbor which is-called
Járnloka. En er Kúrir vissu at her fór at þeim, drógu
Jarnloka But when (the)-Kurlanders knew that a-host went at them drew
þeir upp skip sín, ok bjuggust við vörn á landi, ok ætluðu
they up ships their and made-ready for defense on land and thought
at Svíar væri. Einn maðr af Kúrum gamall sagði, at
that (the)-Swedes were One man of (the)-Kurlanders old said that
þat voru Danir: ok er ekki ráð at bíða, segir hann. Þá
that were Danes and is not counsel to wait says he Then
röri sá enn gamli maðr braut sínu skipi, en aðrir Kúrir
rowed that the old man away with-his ship but other Kurlanders
lágu eptir á 9 skipum. Þá komu þeir Kristófórus með
lay behind on nine ships Then came they Kristoforus with

sínum her, ok réðu þegar til bardaga við þá, ok féllu þar
his host and went at-once to battle with them and fell there
allir Kúrir, svá at ekki manns barn komst undan, en 2
all (the)-Kurlanders so that not man's child got away but two
menn féllu af Dönum. Síðan tóku Danir þar skip þeirra
men fell of Danes Afterward took (the)-Danes there ships their
ok fé, ok fóru heim með, ok höfðu nú fengit mikinn sigr.
and wealth and went home with and had now got great victory

Tekinn or jörðu enn heilagi Knútr

CXXIV · THE HOLY KNÚTR TAKEN FROM THE EARTH

Knútr lávarðr's relics were raised at Hringstaðir, and Valdimarr's son Knútr was consecrated king. Valdimarr made Erlingr skakki a jarl in the Vík. Trapped in a sound near Steinborg, the Danes blamed Absalon, who broke out and routed the Wends; later Absalon beat nine Wendish ships at Hyljumynni, and the next summer the Danes routed Count Hyrningr at Bramnes.

Þetta sumar, at miðju sumri, var upptekinn úr jörðu
This summer at middle summer was taken-up out-of earth
enn heilagi Knútr lávarðr á Hríngstöðum, faðir Valdimars
the holy Knut Lavard at Hringstadir father of-Valdimar
konúngs, ok urðu þá enn fagrar jarteignir at hans
king and happened then again fair miracles to his
heilagleik. En Knútr konúngr, son Valdimars konúngs, var þá
holiness But Knut king son of-Valdimar king was then
vígðr til konúngs með ráði feðr síns ok samþykki allrar
consecrated to king with counsel of-father his and consent of-all
alþýðu í Danmörku; þá var hann fárra vetra gamall.
(the)-common-people in Denmark then was he of-few winters old
Þá var ok gjör sætt milli Valdimars konúngs ok Magnúss
Then was also made settlement between Valdimar king and Magnus

Erlingssonar, Noregs konúngs. Kom þá til Danmerkr Erlíngr
Erling's-son Norway king Came then to Denmark Erling
skakki, faðir Magnúss konúngs, ok fann Valdimar konúng
(the)-Crooked father of-Magnus king and found Valdimar king
í Randárósi, ok töluðu þeir margt um mál Noregs
in Randaros and talked they much about (the)-matters Norway
konúngs ok Danakonúngs; þóttist Valdimarr konúngr eiga
king and of-(the)-Danes'-king thought-himself Valdimar king to-have
at telja til ríkis í Víkinni í Noregi, þvíat þat höfðu verit
to claim to realm in the-Vik in Norway because that had been
einkamál þeirra Valdimars ok Erlíngs, þá er Valdimarr
private-agreements of-them Valdimar and Erling then when Valdimar
konúngr veitti þeim feðgum styrk til Noregs af sínu
king granted them father-and-son strength to Norway from his
ríki, at hann skyldi eignast Víkina austr; en frændsemi
realm that he should come-to-own the-Vik east but kinship
var mikil með þeim Magnúsi konúngi ok Valdimar konúngi.
was great between them Magnus king and Valdimar king
Móðir Valdimars konúngs var Íngibjörg, dóttir Haralds
Mother of-Valdimar king was Ingibjorg daughter of-Harald
konúngs Valdimarssonar, sem fyrr var sagt, en systir hennar
king Valdimar's-son as before was said but sister her
var Málmfríðr, er átti Sigurðr konúngr jórsalafari, ok var
was Malmfrid whom had Sigurd king Jerusalem-farer and was
þeirra dóttir Kristín, móðir Magnúss konúngs Erlíngssonar,
their daughter Kristin mother of-Magnus king Erling's-son
ok er sagt frá skiptum þeirra Valdimars konúngs ok Noregs
and is told of dealings of-them Valdimar king and Norway
manna í sögum Noregs konúnga. En nú er Erlíngr kom
men in sagas Norway kings But now when Erling came
til Danmerkr á fund Valdimars konúngs, þá gaf Valdimarr
to Denmark to meeting of-Valdimar king then gave Valdimar

konúngr Erlíngi jarldóm ok þat ríki með til forráða, er
king Erling an-earldom and that realm with to rule which
hann þóttist eiga tiltölu til í Noregi; skildu þeir þá
he thought-himself to-have claim to in Norway parted they then
með sætt ok vináttu, ok héldu þat vel, meðan þeir lifðu.
with settlement and friendship and held that well while they lived
Þetta haust bauð Valdimarr konúngr út leiðángri, ok
This autumn summoned Valdimar king out a-levy and
fór til Jómsborgar ok til Steinborgar, þat er austarliga á
went to Jomsborg and to Steinborg that is easterly in
Vindlandi. Konúngr fór í eitt sund lítit, ok ætlaði þar út
Wendland (The)-king went into one sound little and intended there out
at komast, þá sögðu Danir, at þeir þóttust komnir
to get then said (the)-Danes that they thought-themselves come
í einn sekk, ok sögðu at þetta var enn forsjá Absalons
into one sack and said that this was again foresight of-Absalon
biskups ok ráðagjörð, ok kölluðu hann hafa komit sér í
bishop and plotting and called him have brought them into
einn sekk ok í þann stað, er engi þeirra mundi braut
one sack and into that place where none of-them would away
komast: þvíat nú er herr á landi hjá oss, en skipaherr
get because now is a-host on land beside us but a-ship-host
fyrir utan; hefir þetta þó eigi fyrri framkomit enn líkindi
on outside has this yet not before come-forth than likelihood
væri á, er þú hyggr at öngu öðru enn ákafa einum ok
were on when you think of nothing other than zeal alone and
ágæti, ok þikki þér æ sem alla vega muni hlýða; en þóat
glory and seems to-you ever as all ways will do but though
þú sért bardagamaðr mikill ok kenpa, þá er þó eigi víst,
you be a-fighting-man great and champion then is yet not certain
hvárt þú mátt sjálfum þér allt ætla en ekki öðrum, þótt
whether you may to-self yourself all assign but not to-others though

þér hafi svá gengit um hríð. Þá svaraði Absalon biskup
to-you has so gone for a-while Then answered Absalon bishop
allhægliga: með því at ek hefi komit yðr í vándan stað,
very-mildly with that that I have brought you into a-bad place
þá skal ek ok frelsa yðr frá vandanum; en slík ummæli vil
then shall I also free you from the-difficulty but such words will
ek eigi optar heyra; þvíat vér skyldim hafa karlmanns hjarta
I not oftener hear because we should have a-man's heart
enn eigi konu, ok egum vér fyrir því at vera ókvíðnir, ok
but not a-woman's and have we for that to be unfearing and
mælast eigi illa um, þótt eigi þikki jafnan blítt eitt fyrir
speak-ourselves not ill about though not seems always blithe only before
liggja; nú mun ek fyrst fara ok mitt lið, ok mínu ráði
to-lie now will I first go and my troop and my counsel
skolu þér enn fylgja; en ef þér sjáið, at vér komust út
shall you still follow but if you see that we got out
um sundið, þá skulu þér bregða við skjótt, ok hleypa upp
through the-sound then shall you start with quickly and let-run up
hestum á landit, ok ríða með fylktu liði at landhernum,
horses on the-land and ride with drawn-up troop to the-land-host
ok sjám hvat algjörist; ok svá var gjört, sem biskup gaf
and see-we what is-done and so was done as (the)-bishop gave
ráð til. Vindr höfðu mikinn her manns fyrir bæði á
counsel to (The)-Wends had a-great host of-men before both on
landi ok á skipum; en fyrr enn skipaherr Vinda var
land and on ships but before than (the)-ship-host of-(the)-Wends was
viðbúinn, þá röri biskup út at þeim, ok æpti þegar heróp,
prepared then rowed (the)-bishop out at them and shouted at-once war-cry
en allr skipaherrinn flýði, sá er fyrir lá, ok þorðu eigi
but all the-ship-host fled that which before lay and dared not
at berjast við hann; en þeir er á hestunum voru, riðu til
to fight with him but they who on the-horses were rode to

borgarinnar, ok fundu Vindr þar fyrir, ok réðu til bardaga
the-fort and found (the)-Wends there before and went to battle
við þá; kom þá ok til fulltíngs við þá Absalon biskup, er
with them came then also to support with them Absalon bishop when
hann fékk önga viðtöku af skipahernum; snöri þá skjótt
he got no resistance from the-ship-host turned then quickly
mannfalli uppá Vindr, svá at á lítilli stundu drápu þeir
slaughter upon (the)-Wends so that in little while killed they
60 hundraða manna, en annat flýði; þeir tóku þar margt
sixty hundreds of-men but (the)-other fled they took there much
fólk, ok fluttu til skipa sinna. En um morguninn eptir
folk and carried to ships their But in the-morning after
kom einn maðr riðandi til þeirra af landi ofan, ok lézt
came one man riding to them from land down and professed
vildu leita um sættir fyrir hönd landsmanna, en hann
to-wish to-seek about settlements for (the)-hand of-land-men but he
fór raunar með falsi ok svikræðum, ok lét Absalon biskup
went really with falsehood and treacheries and let Absalon bishop
taka hann, ok hafði af honum sannar sögur; síðan var
take him and had from him true stories afterward was
hann í varðhaldi biskups 4 nætr, en þá leysti son hans
he in custody of-(the)-bishop four nights but then released son his
hann út 100 mörkum silfurs. Eptir þat fóru Danir
him out with-hundred marks of-silver After that went (the)-Danes
heim, ok er Absalon biskup sigldi norðr til Eyrarsunds,
home and when Absalon bishop sailed north to Oresund
lá hann í Hyljumynni með 6 skipum; þat var 7 nóttum
lay he in Hyljumynni with six ships that was seven nights
fyrir allra heilagra messu; þeir biskup láu 3 skipum
before of-all saints' mass they (the)-bishop lay with-three ships
við mynnit, en önnur 3 voru uppi fjörut; en í óttu,
by the-river-mouth but other three were up ebbed-dry but at matins

meðan biskup las óttusaung, þá komu þar at þeim 9
while (the)-bishop read matins-song then came there at them nine
Vindaskip, ok öll ærið stór, ok réðu þegar til bardaga við
Wend-ships and all very big and went at-once to battle with
þá, ok er þeir höfðu litla hríð barizt, lögðu Vindr
them and when they had little while fought laid (the)-Wends
á flótta, tóku Danir af þeim eitt skip, en 8 komust
on flight took (the)-Danes from them one ship but eight got
undan. Síðan fór biskup heim, ok kom heim 7 nóttum
away Afterward went (the)-bishop home and came home seven nights
síðar. En at sumri eptir var enn leiðángri útboðit, ok skyldi
later But at summer after was again levy called-out and should
liðit hittast at Grænasundi; þar kom Áskell erkibiskup með
the-troop meet at Graenasund there came Askel archbishop with
Skánúngum, ok þar kom Absalon biskup með Sjólendíngum,
Scanians and there came Absalon bishop with Zealanders
ok Kristófórus með sitt lið; þeir fóru síðan til Bramnes,
and Kristoforus with his troop they went afterward to Bramnes
ok brendu þar allt; þar kom í móti þeim greifi einn, er
and burned there all there came in against them count one who
Hyrníngr hét, til bardaga við þá, ok hafði lið mikit, ok
Hyrning was-called to battle with them and had troop great and
var mikill bardagamaðr, en þó kom hann brátt á flótta, ok
was a-great fighting-man but yet came he soon on flight and
var margt drepit af honum, en sumt handtekit. Síðan fóru
was much killed of him but some seized Afterward went
Danir til skipa, ok fundu Valdimar konúng við Geitisey,
(the)-Danes to ships and found Valdimar king at Geitisey
ok sögðu honum frá ferðum sínum; þá öfunduðu Jótar
and told him of journeys their then envied (the)-Jutes
þetta, ok sögðu at Sjólendíngar fengu fé allt, en þeir
this and said that (the)-Zealanders got wealth all but they

þóttust missa. Þá fór konúngr til Strælu með lið
thought-themselves to-lose Then went (the)-king to Straela with troop
sitt, ok reið þar upp til Tribúzis ok Atripíðen ok brendu
his and rode there up to Tribuzis and Atripiden and burned
víða landit, ok unnu borgina, en drápu fólkið, tóku þar
widely the-land and won the-fort but killed the-folk took there
fé, ok fóru heim síðan.
wealth and went home afterward

Frá Valdimari konúngi

CXXV · OF KING VALDIMARR

Knútr married Geirþrúðr; Kristófórus died. Archbishop Áskell retired to Clairvaux, and Absalon was made archbishop almost by force. Valdimarr harried Wendland and burned three forts, but Duke Heinrekr failed to meet him at Grozvin.

Í þenna tíma bjó Heinrekr hertugi af Brúnsvík ferð
In this time prepared Heinrek duke of Brunswick journey
sína af landi út til Jórsala; en áðr hann færi, þá sendi
his from land out to Jerusalem but before he went then sent
hann orð Absalóni biskupi, at hann skyldi fara í móti frú
he word to-Absalon bishop that he should go in against lady
Geirþrúði dóttur hans, er Knútr, son Valdimars konúngs,
Geirthrud daughter his whom Knut son of-Valdimar king
skyldi fá, en Absalon biskup var þá sjúkr, ok mátti eigi
should get but Absalon bishop was then sick and could not
fara, ok þótti hertuganum þat illa. En um vetrinn móti
go and seemed to-the-duke that ill But in the-winter toward
jólum sendi Heinrekr hertugi hana til Heiðabæjar, ok sendi
Yule sent Heinrek duke her to Hedeby and sent

bréf Absalóni biskupi, ok sagði svá, at öngvum manni
a-letter to-Absalon bishop and said so that in-no man
í Danmörk treystist hann betr enn honum. Síðan sendi
in Denmark trusted he better than in-him Afterward sent
Valdimarr konúngr menn í móti henni, ok tók við henni
Valdimar king men in against her and took with her
sæmiliga. En Heinrekr hertugi fór út til Jórsala, ok heim
seemly But Heinrek duke went out to Jerusalem and home
úr þeirri ferð. En er sá vetr leið af, bauð Valdimarr
from that journey But when that winter passed off summoned Valdimar
konúngr enn liði út, ok fór til Vindlands ok inn á
king again troop out and went to Wendland and in into
Plazmynni að Gorgasjám, ok brendi þar allt. Eptir þat fór
Plaz-mouth to Gorgasjar and burned there all After that went
Valdimarr konúngr til Burstaborgar, ok sat þar um lengi;
Valdimar king to Burstaborg and sat there around long
en þar lauk svá, at borgarmenn gáfust í konúngs
but there ended so that (the)-fort-men gave-themselves into (the)-king's
vald, ok gáfu honum fé til sátta, ok settu honum
power and gave him wealth for settlements and set him
gisla. Fór konúngr heim eptir þetta í ríki sitt. Stóð þá
hostages Went (the)-king home after this into realm his Stood then
kyrt nokkura hríð. Þenna vetr eptir fékk Knútr konúngr
quiet some while This winter after got Knut king
frú Geirþrúðar, dóttur Heinreks hertuga; ok í þenna tíma
lady Geirthrud daughter of-Heinrek duke and in this time
andaðist Kristófórus, son Valdimars konúngs; ok í þann tíma
died Kristoforus son of-Valdimar king and in that time
gaf Áskell erkibiskup upp sitt ríki, ok bað Absalon biskup
gave Askel archbishop up his realm and bade Absalon bishop
taka við erkibiskupsdæminu; en hann vildi fyrir öngan mun
take with the-archbishopric but he wished for no difference

við taka; en síðan tóku þeir Valdimarr konúngr ok Áskell
with to-take but afterward took they Valdimar king and Askel
erkibiskup hann með valdi, ok settu hann nær hálf nauðgan
archbishop him with force and set him nearly half unwilling
í sæti erkibiskups, ok gáfu honum erkibiskups nafn. En
in (the)-seat of-archbishop and gave him archbishop's name But
um várit eptir í föstu þá fór Áskell erkibiskup í þann
in the-spring after in Lent then went Askel archbishop into that
stað, er Klerivás heitir, þat er eitt ríkt múnkaklaustr, hann
place which Clairvaux is-called that is one mighty monks'-cloister he
andaðist múnkr; hann sat nokkura vetr at stóli í Lundi.
died a-monk he sat some winters at see in Lund
Valdimarr konúngr spurði þat, at Vindr gjörðu borgir 2
Valdimar king learned that that (the)-Wends made forts two
í Flatzmynni, meðan þeir voru sáttir, ok friðr stóð með
in Flatz-mouth while they were reconciled and peace stood with
þeim, þetta ángraði mjök konúnginn ok alla Dani, þvíat
them this grieved much the-king and all Danes because
þeir þóttust þá skilja, at Vindr vildu þá enn
they thought-themselves then to-understand that (the)-Wends wished then again
rjúfa sættina. Fóru þá sendimenn millum þeirra Valdimars
to-break the-settlement Went then messengers between them Valdimar
konúngs ok Heinreks hertuga af Brúnsvík, at þeir skyldu
king and Heinrek duke of Brunswick that they should
hafa her úti, ok fara til Vindlands, ok finnast þar; fór
have a-host out and go to Wendland and meet there went
hertuginn með sinn her til Dímin. Valdimarr konúngr bauð
the-duke with his host to Dimin Valdimar king summoned
enn liði út af Danmörk, ok fór um Valagust til Fúznon,
again troop out from Denmark and went through Valagust to Fuznon
ok herjaði, en fólkið flýði allt undan; en hann brendi 3
and harried but the-folk fled all away but he burned three

borgir Fúznon ok Vinborg ok Fúir. Þá fóru enn sendimenn
forts Fuznon and Vinborg and Fuir Then went again messengers
í millum Valdimars konúngs ok Heinreks hertuga, at þeir
in between Valdimar king and Heinrek duke that they
skyldi finnast á Grozvin, þar kom Valdimarr konúngr, ok
should meet at Grozvin there came Valdimar king and
hélt stefnustað, þann er þeir höfðu mælt með sér, en
kept meeting-place that which they had spoken with themselves but
hertuginn kom eigi. Síðan lagðist Valdimarr konúngr um
the-duke came not Afterward laid-himself Valdimar king around
borgina, er heitir Kotskógaborg, hann lá um borgina
the-fort which is-called Kotskogaborg he lay around the-fort
um nóttina, en brendi hana um nóttina eptir, ok fór
through the-night but burned it in the-night after and went
síðan til skipa sinna, ok skildist þar við ófrið. Síðan fór
afterward to ships his and parted there with unpeace Afterward went
Valdimarr konúngr til Flatzmynnis, ok fór þar út. En borgir
Valdimar king to Flatz-mouth and went there out But forts
þær 2, er Vindr höfðu gjört, þá hafði flóð tekit þær
those two which (the)-Wends had made then had (the)-flood taken them
um vetrinn, ok brotið allar. Fór konúngr heim eptir þetta.
through the-winter and broken all Went (the)-king home after this

Orðsendíng páfa

CXXVI · THE POPE'S MESSAGE

Pope Alexander sent Absalon the pallium and a legation over the North. Valdimarr, unwilling to go himself, sent Knútr and Absalon against the Wends; Búrizláfr and Kassamar sued for peace and paid two thousand marks.

Þenna vetr eptir sendir Alexander pávi Absalóni erkibiskupi
This winter after sends Alexander pope to-Absalon archbishop
pallium ok legationem yfir Danmörk ok Svíþjóð ok yfir allt
(the)-pallium and legation over Denmark and Sweden and over all
Gautland hvárttveggja, kom honum þat fyrir utan fé, en
Gautland both came to-him that for without wealth but
öngum kom fyrr, ok var hann vígðr um föstu. En er sá
to-none came before and was he consecrated in Lent But when that
vetr var liðinn, þá bauð Valdimarr konúngr leiðángri út
winter was passed then summoned Valdimar king a-levy out
af allri Danmörk, ok kom liðið saman í Grænasundi. Þá
from all Denmark and came the-troop together in Graenasund Then
vildi Valdimarr konúngr eigi fara lengra sjálfr, en bauð liðinu,
wished Valdimar king not to-go further himself but bade the-troop
at menn skyldi vera hlýðnir Knúti konúngi, syni hans ok,
that men should be obedient to-Knut king son his and
Absalóni erkibiskupi, ok setti þá höfðíngja yfir herinn, en
to-Absalon archbishop and set them chieftains over the-host but
hann vildi eigi or landi fara. Síðan fóru þeir til Valagust,
he wished not out-of land to-go Afterward went they to Valagust
ok brendu þar allt upp; þaðan fóru þeir til Usnu, ok brendu
and burned there all up thence went they to Usna and burned
þar allt upp, ok svá borgina sjálfa ok allt, þat er bygt var;
there all up and so the-fort itself and all that which settled was

þá komu þeir Búrizleifr ok Kassamarr, er hertugi var austr
then came they Burizlaf and Kassamar who duke was east
á Vindlandi, á fund þeirra Knúts konúngs ok Absalons
in Wendland to meeting of-them Knut king and Absalon
erkibiskups, ok báðu þá miskunnar, ok settu þeim gisla af
archbishop and asked them mercy and set them hostages from
öllum sínum löndum, ok gáfú konúngi 1500 marka, en
all their lands and gave (the)-king fifteen-hundred marks but
biskupi 500 marka til þess, at sú sætt skyldi standa,
(the)-bishop five-hundred marks to that that that settlement should stand
er fyrr var gjör við Vindr af hendi Valdimars konúngs,
which before was made with (the)-Wends on behalf of-Valdimar king
ok Vindr höfðu síðan sjálfir rofit; játuðu þeir þá friði
and (the)-Wends had afterward themselves broken granted they then peace
öllum löndum þeim, er konúngr vildi eigi at þeir herjaði;
to-all lands those which (the)-king wished not that they harried
ok komu aptr á níunda degi, frá því er þeir höfðu
and came back on (the)-ninth day from that when they had
á brott farit, ok fundu konúng á Mön. Hann undraði
off away gone and found (the)-king on Mon He wondered
því þeir hefði svá skjótt farit; en þeir sögðu honum þau
why they had so quickly gone but they told him those
tíðendi, er gjörzt höfðu í þeirra ferð, ok færðu honum
tidings which happened had on their journey and brought him
fé heim ok gisla; en konúngr þakkaði þeim sína ferð.
wealth home and hostages but (the)-king thanked them their journey

Andlát Valdimars

CXXVII · THE DEATH OF VALDIMARR

After five winters of peace the Wends built forts; Valdimarr fell sick at the muster and died, having fought twenty-eight battles in heathen lands. His children and their marriages are named, among them Valdimarr the Old, from whom Óláfr Þórðarson learned much lore.

Eptir þetta liðu 5 vetr, svá at leiðángri var eigi útboðit; en
After this passed five winters so that a-levy was not called-out but
í þeim friði, er þá var, gjörðu Vindr borgir ok kastala,
in that peace which then was made (the)-Wends forts and castles
ok gjörðu mörg virki í landi sínu, þau er til landvarnar
and made many strongholds in land their those which for land-defense
þyrfti. En er Valdimarr konúngr spurði þetta, þá vissi
were-needed But when Valdimar king learned this then knew
hann, at Vindr vildu eigi betr halda þessa sætt enn
he that (the)-Wends wished not better to-hold this settlement than
enar fyrri, bauð hann þá út leiðángri snemma um várit;
the former summoned he then out a-levy early in the-spring
en er liðit kom saman í Grænasundi, þá tók Valdimarr
but when the-troop came together in Graenasund then took Valdimar
konúngr sótt, hann átti þá tal við lið sitt, ok bauð þeim at
king sickness he had then talk with troop his and bade them to
halda fram ferðinni sem áðr, ok setti enn Knút konúng, son
hold forth the-journey as before and set again Knut king son
sinn, höfðingja yfir herinn ok Absalon erkibiskup, en þeir
his chieftain over the-host and Absalon archbishop but they
vildu eigi við hann skiljast, fyrr enn þeir vissu, hversu sótt
wished not from him to-part before than they knew how sickness
hans skipaðist. Gaf Knútr konúngr þá heimleyfi öllu liðinu
his turned Gave Knut king then home-leave to-all the-troop

með ráði Absalons erkibiskups. Valdimarr konúngr andaðist af
with counsel of-Absalon archbishop Valdimar king died of
sótt þessi 2 nónas maji, hann var færðr til Hríngstaða;
sickness this (the)-second nones of-May he was carried to Hringstadir
ok þar jarðaðr, ok var mjök harmdauði alþýðu um
and there buried and was much lamented by-(the)-common-people through
alla Danmörk. Þá hafði hann verit einvaldskonúngr að allri
all Denmark Then had he been sole-king over all
Danmörk 6 vetr ok 20, en hann hafði átt 8 ok 20
Denmark six winters and twenty but he had had eight and twenty
orrostur, á heiðnum löndum, ok brauzt æ við heiðinn lýð
battles in heathen lands and contended ever with heathen people
meðan hann lifði, ok vildi efla guðs kristni. Börn
while he lived and wished to-strengthen God's Christendom Children
Valdimars konúngs ok Súffíu drotníngar voru þau Knútr
of-Valdimar king and of-Suffia queen were they Knut
konúngr ok Valdimarr gamli, er síðan var konúngr í
king and Valdimar (the)-Old who afterward was king in
Danmörk, er einnhverr hefir verit ágætastr konúngr híngat
Denmark who one has been most-excellent king hither
á Norðrlönd; með honum var Ólafr Þórðarson, ok nam at
in (the)-Northlands with him was Olaf Thord's-son and learned from
honum marga fræði, ok hafði hann margar ágætligar frásagnir
him much lore and had he many excellent accounts
frá honum. Engilborg var ok dóttir Valdimars konúngs
from him Engilborg was also daughter of-Valdimar king
Knútssonar, er átti Filippus Frakkakonúngr, faðir Löðves
Knut's-son whom had Filippus Franks'-king father of-Lodvi
Frakkakonúngs, er vann Damíað. Önnur dóttir Valdimars
Franks'-king who won Damietta (The)-second daughter of-Valdimar
konúngs var Rikiz, er átti Eiríkr Svíakonúngr Knútsson:
king was Rikiza whom had Eirik Swedes'-king Knut's-son

þeirra börn voru Firíkr Svíakonúngr ok Engilborg, er
their children were Eirik Swedes'-king and Engilborg whom
átti Birgir jarl í Svíþjóðu: þeirra börn voru þau Valdimarr
had Birgir earl in Sweden their children were they Valdimar
Svíakonúngr ok Eiríkr ok Rikiz, er átti Hokon úngi
Swedes'-king and Eirik and Rikiza whom had Hakon (the)-Young
Noregs konúngr. Þriðju dóttur Valdimars konúngs átti
Norway king (The)-third daughter of-Valdimar king had
Vilhjálmr digri, son Heinreks hertuga af Brúnsvík, bróðir
Vilhjalm (the)-Stout son of-Heinrek duke of Brunswick brother
Ottu keisara. Kristófórus hertugi var ok son Valdimars konúngs
of-Otto emperor Kristoforus duke was also son of-Valdimar king
ok Tófu, sem fyrr var sagt, hann var laungetinn; hann
and of-Tofa as before was said he was born-out-of-wedlock he
andaðist 10 vetrum fyrr enn Valdimarr konúngr faðir hans.
died ten winters before than Valdimar king father his

Knútr tók konúngdóm

CXXVIII · KNÚTR TOOK THE KINGSHIP

Emperor Friðrekr demanded that Knútr hold Denmark from him; Knútr refused. Búrizláfr promised the emperor to make Knútr his man and set out against the Rængar, but Absalon beat his fleet of five hundred ships.

Eptir andlát Valdimars konúngs Knútssonar tók Knútr son
After (the)-death of-Valdimar king Knut's-son took Knut son
hans ríki yfir allt Danaveldi, ok þjónuðu honum allir
his realm over all (the)-Danes'-realm and served him all
Danir. En er Friðrekr keisari spurði andlát Valdimars
Danes But when Fridrek emperor learned (the)-death of-Valdimar

konúngs, þá sendi hann þegar menn til Knúts konúngs,
king then sent he at-once men to Knut king
bað hann vera sinn mann, ok halda af honum Danaríki.
bade him be his man and hold from him (the)-Danes'-realm
Þá ræddi Knútr konúngr þetta við Absalon erkibiskup,
Then discussed Knut king this with Absalon archbishop
hverju hann skyldi um svara, ok við aðra ráðgjafa sína; en
how he should about answer and with other counselors his but
þeir réðu honum, at hann skyldi svara vægiliga, ok segja
they counseled him that he should answer gently and say
svá: at keisarinn mætti vel gefa honum svá mikit vald,
so that the-emperor might well give him so great power
at hann yrði hans maðr, en fyrir Danmörk þyrfti hann
that he became his man but for Denmark needed he
ekki hans maðr at verða. Fóru þá sendimenn keisarans
not his man to become Went then messengers of-the-emperor
heim með þessum svörum Knúts konúngs. En meðan þessir
home with these answers of-Knut king But while these
menn voru í ferðinni, þá sendi Búrizláfr af Vindlandi sinn
men were on the-journey then sent Burizlaf of Wendland his
mann, er Príða hét, til keisarans, ok sagði honum kveðju
man who Prida was-called to the-emperor and told him greeting
sína, ok sagði, at hann mundi þat skjótt gjöra, at Knútr
his and said that he would that quickly do that Knut
konúngr af Danmörk yrði maðr keisarans, eigi síðar enn
king of Denmark became man of-the-emperor not later than
fyrir jafn leingð. Keisarinn þakkaði honum orð sín, ok kysti
at equal length The-emperor thanked him words his and kissed
sendimann, ok gaf honum hest góðan ok brynju, skjöld ok
(the)-messenger and gave him a-horse good and mail shield and
hjálm, ok öll vönduð hervápn; hann gaf honum skinn góð,
helmet and all choice war-weapons he gave him furs good

ok klæddi hann vel, lét hann síðan heim fara, ok bað hann
and clothed him well let he afterward home go and bade him
segja hertuga Búrizláf, sínum enum kærasta manni, at hann
tell duke Burizlaf his the dearest man that he
héldi þat vel, sem hann hafði heitit keisaranum. Eptir þetta
held that well which he had promised the-emperor After this
bauð Búrizláfr út her miklum, ok vildi fara til Ræinga,
summoned Burizlaf out a-host great and wished to-go to (the)-Raengjar
ok vinna þat ríki undir sik. En er Rængar spyrja þetta,
and win that realm under himself But when (the)-Raengjar learn this
þá sendi Jarizmarr menn til Absalons erkibiskups, at segja
then sent Jarizmar men to Absalon archbishop to tell
honum, at Austrvindr voru úti með her miklum, ok biðu
him that (the)-East-Wends were out with host great and waited
Vestrvinda, ok ætluðu at herja á þá; bað hann erkibiskup
for-(the)-West-Wends and intended to harry on them bade he (the)-archbishop
hjálpa þeim, ef hann vildi halda landinu. Erkibiskup bað
help them if he wished to-hold the-land (The)-archbishop bade
þá verða við hraustliga, ok sagðist koma mundu at veita
them become with bravely and said-of-himself come would to aid
þeim. Eptir þetta bauð erkibiskup út liði, ok sigldi til
them After this summoned (the)-archbishop out troop and sailed to
Vindlands í mót Búrizláfi. Búrizleifr hafði 500 skipa,
Wendland in against Burizlaf Burizlaf had five-hundred ships
ok beið þá enn Vestrvinda. En er erkibiskup kom til
and waited then still for-(the)-West-Wends But when (the)-archbishop came to
móts við Búrizleif, tókst þar harðr bardagi, ok lauk svá,
meeting with Burizlaf began there hard fight and ended so
at Búrizleifr flýði undan með 50 skipa, en þeir erkibiskup
that Burizlaf fled away with fifty ships but they (the)-archbishop
tóku öll önnur, en sumt liðit komst á land, en sumt
took all others but some the-troop got on land but some

druknaði, en mestr hluti var drepinn. Þessi bardagi var
drowned but greatest part was killed This fight was
um várit um Piskis daga. Síðan skiptu Danir fé því
in the-spring at Piskis days Afterward divided (the)-Danes wealth that
öllu, er þeir höfðu fengit, ok fóru heim.
all which they had got and went home

Frá leiðángri Knúts

CXXIX · OF KNÚTR'S LEVY

Knútr and Absalon harried Wendland; Búrizláfr's treacherous meeting failed, Knútr's siege of his fort failed for want of food, and they burned the land around Tribuðiz and Steinborg. At last Búrizláfr surrendered, gave hostages, and paid ransom, and Knútr took all Wendland under his rule.

Þetta hit sama sumar bauð Knútr konúngr út leiðángri
This the same summer summoned Knut king out a-levy
af Danmörk, ok fór fyrst til Ræinga, ok bauð þeim at
from Denmark and went first to (the)-Raengjar and bade them to
fara með þeim til Valagust; þaðan hafði Knútr konúngr lið
go with them to Valagust thence had Knut king troop
mikit, ok fór síðan til Valagust, ok herjaði þar, ok lét þar
great and went afterward to Valagust and harried there and let there
brenna allt. Þeir lágu lengi um borgina; Absalon erkibiskup
burn all They lay long around the-fort Absalon archbishop
fór á land upp með sitt lið; hann brendi 2 borgir, þær
went on land up with his troop he burned two forts those
er settar voru við veginn þeirra í Flatsmynni; en er
which set were by the-way their in Flats-mouth but when
þær voru brendar, þá fór hann aptr til konúngs. Þá kom
they were burned then went he back to (the)-king Then came

Búrizleifr á landit; hann sendi menn til erkibiskups ok lagði
Burizlaf on the-land he sent men to (the)-archbishop and laid
við hann stefnu, þá var erkibiskup á skipum, en Búrizleifr
with him a-meeting then was (the)-archbishop on ships but Burizlaf
ætlaði at svíkja erkibiskup á þessi stefnu, ok þótti þá unnit
intended to betray (the)-archbishop at this meeting and seemed then won
allt, ef hann yrði afráðinn; hann bað erkibiskup fara á
all if he became done-for he bade (the)-archbishop go on
land upp, ok talast þar við, ok kallaðist mjök mundu hans
land up and talk there with and called-himself much would his
forsjá hlíta um sætt þeirra Knúts konúngs; en erkibiskup
foresight trust about settlement their of-Knut king but (the)-archbishop
vildi eigi á land gánga, þvíat hann grunaði þat, sem var, at
wished not on land to-go because he suspected that which was that
Búrizleifr mundi um svik búa, ok varð ekki tal þeirra.
Burizlaf would about treachery prepare and became nothing talk their
En Búrizleifr hafði svá hólpit borg sinni, at hann lét flytja
But Burizlaf had so helped fort his that he let carry
til vist, meðan stefnan stóð við Dani. Pétrsmessudag sótti
to provision while the-meeting stood with Danes Peter's-mass-day attacked
Knútr konúngr at borginni, ok barðist, ok fékk eigi þar
Knut king at the-fort and fought and got not there
unnit hana, ok lá þar síðan 6 daga kyrr, en fór síðan
won it and lay there afterward six days quiet but went afterward
í braut, þvíat þá var mjök lokit vistum; en Vindr lögðu
off away because then was much finished provisions but (the)-Wends laid
eptir, ok drápu 60 manna af Dönum. Síðan fór Knútr
after and killed sixty men of Danes Afterward went Knut
konúngr heim með allt lið sitt. Þetta haust bauð Knútr
king home with all troop his This autumn summoned Knut
konúngr út leiðángri, 7 nóttum fyrir Mikjálsmessu, ok fór
king out a-levy seven nights before Michaelmas and went

til Rænga, ok hafði þaðan lið mikit, ok fór þaðan til
to (the)-Raengjar and had thence troop great and went thence to
Tribuðiz ok svá upp á Tripipen, ok herjaði þar, ok brendi
Tribudiz and so up to Tripipen and harried there and burned
landit allt, hann reið til kaupstaðar þeirra ok brendi hann.
the-land all he rode to market-town their and burned it
Þá mættist þar allt lið Knúts konúngs, ok láu þar
Then met there all (the)-troop of-Knut king and lay there
3 nætr, en skip þeirra láu við Strælu; en um morguninn
three nights but ships their lay at Straela but in the-morning
eptir fóru þeir til Tíkareyjar, ok vildu brenna upp Voztrósu,
after went they to Tikarey and wished to-burn up Voztrosa
en veðr var í móti, ok máttu þeir því eigi brenna.
but weather was in against and could they therefore not burn
Búrizleifr spurði þetta, ok fór til með 2 skipum, ok vildi
Burizlaf learned this and went to with two ships and wished
gjöra sætt við Knút konúng, en þar bjuggu raunar svik
to-make settlement with Knut king but there dwelt really treachery
undir. Þá hafði Knútr konúngr eigi vist til at fæða
under Then had Knut king not provision to to feed
lið sitt, ok fór síðan heim til Danmerkr. En at vári
troop his and went afterward home to Denmark But at spring
bauð Knútr konúngr út leiðángri af Danmörku, þar var
summoned Knut king out a-levy from Denmark there was
þá enn í liði Absalon erkibiskup ok Ásbjörn biskup ok
then again in troop Absalon archbishop and Asbjorn bishop and
margir aðrir ríkir menn; þeir höfðu mikinn her, ok fóru
many other powerful men they had great host and went
til Valagust, ok brendu tveimmegin árinnar, ok fóru svá
to Valagust and burned on-two-sides of-the-river and went so
fram til Steinborgar, ok brendu landit allt; en Búrizleifr
forth to Steinborg and burned the-land all but Burizlaf

komst nauðnliga undan; hann kastaði sér af hestsbaki
got narrowly away he cast himself from horse-back
yfir einn garð, ok komst svá í borgina; þá kom at
over one fence and got so into the-fort then came at
ríðandi Knútr konúngr ok Absalon erkibiskup, en Búrizleifr
riding Knut king and Absalon archbishop but Burizlaf
báknaði þá til þeirra, ok bað sér friðar, ok beiddist
beckoned then to them and asked for-himself peace and asked
at tala við þá, en þeir báðu hann senda menn til þeirra
to talk with them but they bade him send men to them
með eyrindum sínum, slíkum sem hann vildi flytja láta. Ok
with errands his such as he wished bring to-let And
er sendimenn hans komu til Ásbjarnar biskups, báðu þeir
when messengers his came to Asbjorn bishop asked they
hann flytja mál Búrizleifs við konúng ok erkibiskup, at
him plead (the)-case of-Burizlaf with (the)-king and archbishop that
þeir gæfi honum leyfi til at gánga út af borginni at tala
they gave him leave to to go out from the-fort to talk
við þá; þeir sögðust vildu tala við hann með trú, ok
with them they said-of-themselves to-wish talk with him with faith and
sögðust eigi vera svá ótrúir sem hann. Búrizleifr segir,
said-of-themselves not to-be so faithless as he Burizlaf says
at hann vill gjarna halda trú við þá, ok bað taka stefnu
that he will gladly hold faith with them and bade take a-meeting
meðal konúngs ok hans, ok kveðst mundu koma á
between (the)-king and him and says-of-himself would come at
þriggja nátta fresti á fund Knúts konúngs. Knútr konúngr
three nights' delay to meeting of-Knut king Knut king
sagði, at hann vill þá stefnu setja honum, en þó vill hann
said that he will that meeting set him but yet will he
brenna landit á meðan, eptir því sem hann hefir áðr ætlat,
burn the-land in meanwhile after that which he has before intended

ok bæ þann, er stóð fyrir borginni. Búrizláfr bað konúng
and town that which stood before the-fort Burizlaf bade (the)-king
brenna þat, er hann vildi, en hann sagðist þó vilja
burn that which he wished but he said-of-himself yet to-wish
koma á konúngs fund, en bað konúng gefa frið bæjum
come to (the)-king's meeting but bade (the)-king give peace to-towns
þeirra ok musterum, þeim er þar voru. Þá komu konur
their and to-minsters those which there were Then came women
af bæjum, ok féllu til fóta konúnginum, ok báðu at hann
from towns and fell to feet of-the-king and bade that he
léti eigi brenna bæina, ok þat veitti konúngr þeim. Eptir
let not burn the-towns and that granted (the)-king them After
þetta fór konúngr á land upp at brenna, ok var á landi
this went (the)-king on land up to burn and was on land
uppi um nóttina, ok brendi þar víða; en um morguninn
up through the-night and burned there widely but in the-morning
eptir fór konúngr til skipa; þá kom Búrizláfr á fund
after went (the)-king to ships then came Burizlaf to meeting
Knúts konúngs ok erkibiskups, ok bað þá miskunnar, ok
of-Knut king and of-(the)-archbishop and asked them mercy and
setti þá konúngi gisla, enna beztu manna sonu, er á voru
set then (the)-king hostages the best men's sons who in were
landinu, ok gaf konúngi 300 marka, en erkibiskupi
the-land and gave (the)-king three-hundred marks but (the)-archbishop
800 marka. Tók þá Knútr konúngr vald ok gæzlu yfir
eight-hundred marks Took then Knut king power and keeping over
öllu Vindlandi, ok fór síðan heim til Danmerkr.
all Wendland and went afterward home to Denmark

Andlát Búrizláfs

CXXX · THE DEATH OF BÚRIZLÁFR

Búrizláfr spent Easter with Knútr at Hróiskelda, bearing his sword. Dying, he commended his sons to Knútr, who divided the land between them. Wendland now lay under the Danes, won chiefly by Archbishop Absalon, very nearly the greatest warrior the North has known; here ends the tale of the Danish kings.

En um várit fyrir páska, þá kom Búrizláfr á fund Knúts
But in the-spring before Easter then came Burizlaf to meeting of-Knut
konúngs í Róiskeldu, ok var með honum um páskana í
king in Roskilde and was with him over Easter in
allmiklum kærleikum, ok bar sverð fyrir konúnginum. En
very-great love and bore sword before the-king But
er Búrizláfr fór heim, gaf Knútr konúngr honum góðar
when Burizlaf went home gave Knut king him good
gjafir; skildu þeir með vináttu. En annat vár eptir um
gifts parted they with friendship But (the)-second spring after in
föstu tók Búrizláfr sótt, þá sendi hann orð ráðgjöfum
Lent took Burizlaf sickness then sent he word to-counselors
sínum, ok átti tal við þá, ok sagði, ef hann risi upp úr
his and had talk with them and said if he rose up from
þeirri sótt, at hann vildi finna Knút konúng, en ef þess
that sickness that he wished to-find Knut king but if that
yrði eigi auðit, þá bað hann konúnginn skipa landinu,
became not granted then bade he the-king arrange the-land
eptir því sem hann vildi; hann bað ok konúnginn fyrir
after that which he wished he bade also the-king for
guðs sakir veita börnum sínum vináttu, ok skipta öllu þeirra
God's sake grant children his friendship and divide all them
í millum, eptir því sem hann vill, þvíat hann sá at
in between after that which he wishes because he saw that

Jarizmarr bróðir hans hafði þess atnotit, at hann var jafnan
Jarizmar brother his had that enjoyed that he was always
trúr Knúti konúngi. Af þessi sömu sótt andaðist Búrizláfr
true to-Knut king Of this same sickness died Burizlaf
hertugi um föstu. Eptir þetta fóru menn Búrizláfs á fund
duke in Lent After this went men of-Burizlaf to meeting
Knúts konúngs, ok sögðu honum andlát Búrizláfs, ok þær
of-Knut king and told him (the)-death of-Burizlaf and those
orðsendíngar, er hann hafði sendt til Knúts konúngs, ok
messages which he had sent to Knut king and
báðu konúng hjálpa sonum hans, ok skipta svá öllu þeirra
asked (the)-king help sons his and divide so all them
í milli, sem hann vildi. Síðan tóku þeir stefnu í milli
in between as he wished Afterward took they a-meeting in between
sín við Vorðúngaborg, kom þar þá Nikulás ok Heinrekr,
themselves at Vordungaborg came there then Nikulas and Heinrek
synir Búrizláfs, ok skipti Knútr konúngr þá landinu meðal
sons of-Burizlaf and divided Knut king then the-land among
þeirra, ok setti til gæzlu menn með þeim. Hafði nú Knútr
them and set to keeping men with them Had now Knut
konúngr sett sína gæzlu ok forsjá yfir allt Vindland með
king set his keeping and foresight over all Wendland with
ráði Absalons erkibiskups, ok er nú landit allt undir þeirra
counsel of-Absalon archbishop and is now the-land all under their
valdi. En í þeim bardögum öllum, er þeir áttu við Vindr,
power But in those fights all which they had with (the)-Wends
síðan Valdimarr konúngr Knútsson lézt, þá var Absalon
since Valdimar king Knut's-son died then was Absalon
erkibiskup formaðr ok ráðgjafi Knúts konúngs, ok eigi hefði
archbishop leader and counselor of-Knut king and not had
þeir þvílíkan sigr unnit, ef eigi hefði hann við varit, þvíat
they such-like victory won if not had he with been because

hann hefir mestr hermaðr verit náliga ok bardagamaðr hingað
he has greatest warrior been nearly and fighting-man hither
á Norðrlönd. Nú lýkr hér at segja frá Danakonúngum.
in (the)-Northlands Now ends here to tell of Danes'-kings
