

# Beowulf

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## 1 Introduction

There seems to be no convenient one-volume pdf edition of Beowulf, so I made this one, using [pdfLATEX](#) with the [OE fonts](#) designed by Peter Baker of the University of Virginia. I converted the OE fonts for use with [pdfLATEX](#) with my own method described [here](#). I did all this on a [linux](#) system. This file uses the junimrg font and does not include vowel length marks. In the index,  $\mathfrak{æ}$  is sorted under ae, and  $\mathfrak{ð}$  and  $\mathfrak{þ}$  are both sorted under th.

## 2 Beowulf

Hwæt! We Gardena in geardagum  
þeodcyniga þrym gefrunon.  
hu ða æþelingas ellen fremedon.  
Oft Scyld Scefing sceáþena þreatum  
5 monegum mægþum meodosetla ofteah.  
egsode Eorle syððan ærest wearð  
feasceaft funden he þæs frofre gebad.  
weox under wolcnum. weorðmyndum þah  
oð þæt him æghwylc þara ymbstendra  
10 ofer hronrade hyran scolde,  
gomban gyldan. þæt wæs god cyning.  
Ðæm eafera wæs æfter cenned  
geong in geardum þone god sende  
folce to frofre. fyrenðearfe ongeat.  
15 þæt hie ær drugon aldorlease  
lange hwile. him þæs liffreā  
wuldres wealdend woroldare forgeaf:  
Beowulf wæs breme --blæd wide sprang--  
Scyldes eafera Scedelandum in.  
20 Swa sceal geong guma gode gewyrcean  
fromum feohgiftum on fæder bearme  
þæt hine on ylide eft gewunigen  
wilgesiþas þonne wig cume.  
leode gelæsten: lofdædum sceal  
25 in mægþa gehwære man geþeōn.  
Him ða Scyld gewat to gescæphwile  
felahrer feran on frean wäre.  
hi hyne þa ætbæreron to brimes faroðe  
swæse gesiþas swa he selfa bæd  
30 þenden wordum weold wine Scyldinga  
leof landfruma lange ahte.

þær æt hyðe stod hringedstefna  
isig ond utfus æþelinges fær.  
aledon þa leofne þeoden

35 beaga bryttan on bearm scipes  
mærne be mæste. þær wæs madma fela  
of feorwegum frætwa gelæded.  
ne hyrde ic cymlicor ceol gegyrwan  
hildewæpnum ond heaðowædum

40 billum ond byrnum. him on bearme læg  
madma mænigo þa him mid scoldon  
on flodes æht feor gewitan.  
nalæs hi hine læssan lacum teodan  
þeodgestreonum þonne þa dydon

45 þe hine æt frumsceafte forð onsendon  
ænne ofer yðe umborwesende.  
þa gyt hie him asetton segen gyldenne  
heah ofer heafod. leton holm beran.  
geafon on garsecg. him wæs geomor sefa

50 murnende mod. men ne cunnon  
secgan to soðe selerædenne  
hæleð under heofenum hwa þæm hlæste onfeng.  
Ða wæs on burgum Beowulf Scyldinga  
leof leodcyning longe þrage

55 folcum gefræge --fæder ellor hwearf  
aldor of earde-- oþ þæt him eft onwoc  
heah Healfdene heold þenden lifde  
gamol ond guðreouw glæde Scyldingas.  
ðæm feower bearn forðgerimed

60 in worold wocun weoroda ræswan:  
Heorogar ond Hroðgar ond Halga til.  
hyrde ic þæt Yrse wæs Onelan cwen  
Heaðo-Scilfingas healsgebedda.  
þa wæs Hroðgare herespæd gyfen

65 wiges weorðmynd þat him his winemagas  
georne hyrdon oðð þat seo geogoð geweoxt  
magodriht micel. him on mod bearn  
þat healreced hatan wolde  
medoærn micel men gewyrcean

70 þone yldo bearn æfre gefrunon  
ond þær on innan eall gedælan  
geongum ond ealdum swylc him god sealde  
buton folcscare ond feorum gumena.  
ða ic wide gefrægn weorc gebannan

75 manigre mægþe geond þisne middangeard.  
folcstede frætwan. Him on fyrste gelomp  
ædre mid yldum þat hit wearð ealgearo  
healærna mæst. scop him Heort naman  
se þe his wordes geweald wide hæfde.

80 he beot ne aleh. beagas dælde  
sinc æt symle. Sele hlifade  
heah ond horngeap. heaðowylma bad  
laðan liges. ne wæs hit lenge þa gen  
þat se ecghete aþumsweoran

85 æfter wælniðe wæcnan scolde.  
Ða se ellengæst earfoðlice  
þrage gebolode se þe in þystrum bad  
þat he dogora gehwam dream gehyrde  
hludne in healle. þær wæs hearpan sweg

90 swutol sang scopes. sægde se þe cuþe  
frumsceaft fira feorran reccan.  
cwæð þat se ælmihtiga eorðan worhte  
wlitebeorhtne wang swa wæter bebuȝeð.  
gesette sigehreþig sunnan ond monan

95 leoman to leohte land-buendum  
ond gefrætwade foldan sceatas  
leomum ond leafum. lif eac gesceop

cynna gehwylcum þara ðe cwice hwyrfaþ.  
Swa ða drihtguman dreamum lifdon  
100 eadiglice oð ðæt an ongan  
fyrene fremman feond on helle.  
wæs se grimma gæst Grendel haten  
mære mearcstapa se þe moras heold  
fen ond fæsten. fifelcynnes eard  
105 wonsæli wer weardode hwile  
sibðan him scyppend forscrifen hæfde  
in Caines cynne þone cwealm gewræc  
ece drihten þas þe he Abel slog.  
ne gefeah he þære fæhðe ac he hine feor forwræc  
110 metod for þy mane mancynne fram.  
þanon untydras ealle onwocon  
eotenas ond ylfe ond orcneās  
swylce gigantas þa wið gode wunnon  
lange þrage. he him ðæs lean forgeald.  
115 Gewat ða neosian syþðan niht becom  
heān huses. hu hit Hring-Dene  
æfter beorþege gebun hæfdon.  
fand þa ðær inne æþelinga gedriht  
swefan æfter symble. sorge ne cuðon  
120 wonsceaft wera. wiht unhælo  
grim ond grædig gearo sona wæs  
reoc ond reþe ond on ræste genam  
þritig þegna. þanon eft gewat  
huðe hremig to ham faran  
125 mid þære wælfylle wica neosan.  
Ða wæs on uhtan mid ærdæge  
Grendles guðcræft gumum undyrne.  
þa wæs æfter wiste wop up ahafen  
micel morgensweg. Mære þeoden  
130 æþeling ærgod unblíðe sæt.

þolode ðryðswyð þegnsorge dreah  
syðþan hie þæs laðan last sceawedon,  
wergan gastes. wæs þæt gewin to strang  
lað ond longsum. Næs hit lengra fyrst  
135 ac ymb ane niht eft gefremede  
morðbeala mare ond no mearn fore,  
fæhðe ond fyrene. wæs to fæst on þam.  
Þa wæs eaðfynde þe him elles hwær  
gerumlicor ræste sohte  
140 bed æfter burum ða him gebeacnod wæs  
gesægd soðlice sweotolan tacne  
healðegnes hete. heold hyne syðþan  
fyr ond fæstor se þæm feonde ætwand.  
Swa rixode ond wið rihte wan  
145 ana wið eallum oð þæt idel stod  
husa selest. wæs seo hwil micel,  
twelf wintra tid torn geþolode  
wine Scyldenda, weana gehwalcne  
sidra sorga. forðam secgum wearð  
150 ylda bearnum undyrne cuð,  
gyddum geomore þætte Grendel wan  
hwile wið Hroðgar. heteniðas wæg  
fyrene ond fæhðe fela missera,  
singale sæce. sibbe ne wolde  
155 wið manna hwone mægenes Deniga,  
feorhbealo feorran, fea þingian  
ne þær nænig witena wenan þorfte  
beorhtre bote to banan folmum  
ac se æglæca ehtende wæs  
160 deorc deaþscua duguþe ond geogoþe  
seomade ond syrede. sinnihte heold  
mistige moras. men ne cunnon  
hwyder helrunan hwyrftum scriþað.

- 165      Swa fela fyrena      feond mancynnes  
 atol angengea      oft gefremede,  
 heardra hynða.      Heorot eardode  
 sincfage sel      sweartum nihtum  
 --no he þone gifstol      gretan moste,  
 maþðum for metode,      ne his myne wisse--  
 170      Þæt wæs wræc micel      wine Scyldinga,  
 modes brecða.      Monig oft gesæt  
 rice to rune.      ræd eahtedon.  
 hwæt swiðferhðum      selest wäre  
 wið færgryrum      to gefremmanne.  
 175      hwilum hie geheton      æt hærgtrafum  
 wigweorþunga.      wordum bædon  
 þæt him gastbona      geoce gefremede  
 wið þeodþreaum.      swylc wæs þeaw hyra.  
 hæfenra hyht.      helle gemundon  
 180      in modsefan.      metod hie ne cuþon  
 dæda demend.      ne wiston hie drihten god  
 ne hie huru heofena helm      herian ne cuþon  
 wuldres waldend.      Wa bið þæm ðe sceal  
 þurh sliðne nið      sawle bescufan  
 185      in fyres fæþm,      frofre ne wenan,  
 wihte gewandan.      wel bið þæm þe mot  
 æfter deaðdæge      drihten secean  
 ond to fæder fæþmum      freoðo wilnian.  
 Swa ða mælceare      maga Healfdenes  
 190      singala seað.      ne mihte snotor hæleð  
 wean onwendan.      wæs þæt gewin to swyð  
 laþ ond longsum      þe on ða leode becom,  
 nydwracu niþgrim      nihtbealwa mæst.  
 Þæt fram ham gefrægn      Higelaces þegn  
 195      god mid Geatum,      Grendles dæda.  
 se wæs moncynnes      mægenes strengest

on þæm dæge þysses lifes  
æþele ond eacen. het him yðlidan  
godne gegyrwan. cwæð: he guðcyning  
200 ofer swanrade secean wolde  
mærne þeoden þa him wæs manna þearf.  
ðone siðfæt him snotere ceorlas  
lyt hwon logon þeah he him leof wære  
hwetton higerofne. hæl sceawedon.  
205 Hæfde se goda Geata leoda  
cempa gecorone þara þe he cenoste  
findan mihte. fiftyna sum  
sundwudu sohte. secg wisade  
lagucræftig mon landgemycu.  
210 Fyrst forð gewat. flota wæs on yðum  
bat under beorge. beornas gearwe  
on stefn stigon --streamas wundon,  
sund wið sande-- secgas bæron  
on bearm nacan beorhte frætwe  
215 guðsearo geatolic. guman ut scufon  
weras on wilsið wudu bundenne.  
Gewat þa ofer wægholm winde gefyzed  
flota famiheals fugle gelicost  
oð þæt ymb antid oþres dogores  
220 wundenstefna gewaden hæfde  
þæt ða liðende land gesawon,  
brimclifu blican, beorgas steape  
side sænæssas. þa wæs sund liden  
eoletes æt ende. Þanon up hraðe  
225 Wedera leode on wang stigon.  
sæwudu sældon. syrcan hrysedon  
guðgewædo. gode þancedon  
þæs þe him yþlade eaðe wurdon.  
Þa of wealle geseah weard Scildinga

- 230 se þe holmclifu healdan scolde.  
 beran ofer bolcan beorhte randas  
 fyrdsearu fuslicu. hine fyrwyt bræc  
 modgehygdum hwæt þa men wæron.  
 gewat him þa to waroðe wicge ridan  
 235 þegen Hroðgares. þrymmum cwehte  
 mægenwudu mundum. meþelwordum frægn:  
 'Hwæt syndon ge searohæbbendra  
 byrnum werede þe þus brontne ceol  
 ofer lagustræte lædan cwomon  
 240 hidre ofer holmas?'  
 He wæs endesæta. ægwearde heold  
 þe on land Dena laðra nænig  
 mid scipherge sceðþan ne meahte.  
 'No her cuðlicor cuman ongunnon  
 245 lindhæbbende ne ge leafnesword  
 guðfremmendra gearwe ne wisson  
 maga gemedu. næfre ic maran geseah  
 eorla ofer eorþan ðonne is eower sum,  
 secg on searwum. nis þæt seldguma  
 250 wærnum geweorðad. næfne him his wlite leoge,  
 ænlic ansyn! Nu ic eower sceal  
 frumcyn witan ær ge fyr heonan  
 leassceaweras on land Dena  
 furþur feran. Nu ge feorbuend  
 255 mereliðende minne gehyrað  
 anfealdne geþoht: ofost is selest  
 to gecyðanne hwanan eowre cyme syndon.'  
 Him se yldesta andswarode.  
 werodes wisa wordhord onleac:  
 260 'We synt gumcynnes Geata leode  
 ond Higelaces heorðgeneatas.  
 wæs min fæder folcum gecyþed

- æþele ordfruma Ecgþeow haten.  
 gebad wintra worn ær he on weg hwurfe  
 265 gamol of geardum. hine gearwe geman  
 witena welhwylc wide geond eorþan.  
 We þurh holdne hige hlaford þinne  
 sunu Healfdenes secean cwomon  
 leodgebyrgean. wes þu us larena god.  
 270 habbað we to þæm mæran micel ærende  
 Deniga freān. ne sceal þær dyrne sum  
 wesan þas ic wene. Þu wast gif hit is  
 swa we soþlice secgan hyrdon  
 þæt mid Scyldingum sceadona ic nat hwylc  
 275 deogol dædhata deorcum nihtum  
 eaweð þurh egasan uncuðne nið  
 hynðu ond hrafyl. Ic þas Hroðgar mæg  
 þurh rumne sefan ræd gelærان.  
 hu he frod ond god, feond oferswyðeþ--  
 280 gyf him edwendan æfre scolde  
 bealuwa bisigu bot eft cuman--  
 ond þa cearwylmas colran wurðaþ  
 oððe a syþðan earfoðþrage  
 þreanyd þolað þenden þær wunað  
 285 on heahstede husa selest.'  
 Weard maþelode ðær on wicge sæt  
 ombeht unforht: 'AEghwæþres sceal  
 scearp scyldwiga gescad witan  
 worda ond worca se þe wel þenceð.  
 290 Ic þæt gehyre. þæt þis is hold weorod  
 frean Scyldinga. gewitaþ forð beran  
 wæpen ond gewædu. ic eow wisige.  
 swylce ic maguþegnas mine hate  
 wið feonda gehwone flotan eowerne  
 295 niwtirwydne nacan on sande

arum healdan      oþ ðæt eft byreð  
of er lagustreamas      leofne mannan  
wudu wundenhals      to Wedermearce.  
godfremmendra      swylcum gifeþe bið  
300      þæt þone hilderæs      hal gedigeð.'  
Gewiton him þa feran      --flota stille bad.  
seomode on sole      sidfæþmed scip  
on ancre fæst--      eoforlic scionon  
of er hleorberan      gehroden golde.  
305      fah ond fyrheard      ferhwearde heold.  
guþmod grummon.      guman onetton.  
sigon ætsomne      oþ þæt hy sæltimbred  
geatolic ond goldfah      ongyton mihton.  
þæt wæs foremærost      foldbuendum  
310      receda under roderum      on þæm se rica bad.  
lixte se leoma      ofer landa fela.  
Him þa hildedeor      hof modigra  
torht getæhte      þæt hie him to mihton  
gegnum gangan.      guðbeorna sum  
315      wicg gewende.      word æfter cwæð:  
'Mæl is me to feran.      Fæder alwald  
mid arstafum      eowic gehealde  
siða gesunde!      Ic to sæ wille  
wið wrað werod      wearde healdan.'  
320      Stræt wæs stanfah.      stig wisode  
gumum ætgædere.      guðbyrne scan  
heard hondlocen      hringiren scir  
song in searwum.      þa hie to sele furðum  
in hyra gryregeatwum      gangan cwomon.  
325      setton sæmeþe      side scyldas  
rondas regnhearde      wið þæs recedes weal.  
bugon þa to bence.      byrnan hringdon  
guðsearo gumena.      garas stodon

- s̄emanna searo samod ætgædere  
 330 æscholt ufan græg. wæs se irenbreat  
 wæpnum gewurþad. þa ðær wlone hæleð  
 oretmecgas æfter hæleþum frægn:  
 'Hwanon ferigeað ge fætte scyldas  
 græge syrcan ond grimhelmas  
 335 heresceafta heap? Ic eom Hroðgares  
 ar ond ombiht. ne seah ic elþeodige  
 þus manige men modiglicran.  
 wen' ic þat ge for wlenco nalles for wræcsiðum  
 ac for higeþrymmum Hroðgar sohton.'
- 340 Him þa ellenrof andswarode  
 wlanc Wedera leod word æfter spræc  
 heard under helme: 'We synt Higelaces  
 beodgeneatas. Beowulf is min nama.  
 wille ic asecgan sunu Healfdenes  
 345 mærum þeodne min ærende  
 aldre þinum gif he us geunnan wile  
 þat we hine swa godne gretan moton.'  
 Wulfgar maþelode --þat wæs Wendla leod.  
 wæs his modsefa manegum gecyðed  
 350 wig ond wisdom--: 'Ic þæs wine Deniga  
 frean Scildinga frinan wille  
 beaga bryttan. swa þu bena eart.  
 þeoden mærne ymb þinne sið  
 ond þe þa andswire ædre gecyðan  
 355 ðe me se goda agifan þenceð.'  
 Hwearf þa hrædlice þær Hroðgar sæt  
 eald ond anhar mid his eorla gedriht.  
 eode ellenrof þat he for eaxlum gestod  
 Deniga freān: cuþe he duguðe þeaw.  
 360 Wulfgar maþelode to his winedrihtne:

'Her syndon geferede feorran cumene  
ofer geofenes begang Geata leode.  
þone yldestan oretmecgas  
Beowulf nemnað. hy benan synt  
365 þæt hie, þeoden min, wið þe moton  
wordum wrixlan. no ðu him wearne geteoh  
ðinra gegncwida, glædman Hroðgar.  
hy on wiggetawum wyrðe þinceað  
eorla geæhtlan. huru se aldon deah  
370 se þær heaðorincum hider wisade.'  
Hroðgar mæfelode helm Scyldinga:  
'Ic hine cuðe cnihtwesende.  
wæs his ealdfæder Ecgþeo haten  
ðæm to ham forgeaf Hreþel Geata  
375 angan dohtor. is his eaforan nu  
heard her cumen. sohte holdne wine.  
Ðonne sægdon þæt sælibende  
þa ðe gifsceattas Geata fyredon  
þyder to þance. þæt he þritiges  
380 manna mægencræft on his mundgripe  
heafþorof hæbbe. hine halig god  
for arstafum us onsende  
to West-Denum. þæs ic wen hæbbe.  
wið Grendles gryre. ic þær godan sceal  
385 for his modþræce madmas beodan.  
Beo ðu on ofeste. hat in gaān  
seon sibbegedriht samod ætgædere.  
gesaga him eac wordum þæt hie sint wilcuman  
Deniga leodum.'

390 Word inne abead:  
'Eow het secgan sigedrihten min  
aldor East-Dena þæt he eower æþelu can  
ond ge him syndon ofer sæwylmas

- heardhicgende hider wilcuman.  
 395 nu ge moton gangan in eowrum guðgeatawum  
 under heregriman Hroðgar geseon.  
 lætað hildebord her onbidan,  
 wuduwaelsceaftas, worda geþinges.'  
 Aras þa se rica, ymb hine rinc manig  
 400 þryðlic þegna heap. sume þær bidon.  
 heaðoreaf heoldon swa him se hearda bebead.  
 snyredon ætsomne. þa secg wisode  
 under Heorotes hrof.  
 heard under helme þæt he on heoðe gestod.  
 405 Beowulf maðelode --on him byrne scan  
 searonet seowed smiðes orþancum--:  
 'Wæs þu, Hroðgar, hal. Ic eom Higelaces  
 mæg ond magoðeign. hæbbe ic mærða fela  
 ongunnen on geogoþe. me wearð Grendles þing  
 410 on minre eþeltyrf undyrne cuð:  
 secgað sæliðend þæt þæs sele stande  
 reced selesta rinca gehwylcum  
 idel ond unnyt siððan æfenleoht  
 under heofenes hador beholen weorþeð.  
 415 Þa me þæt gelærdon leode mine  
 þa selestan snotere ceorlas,  
 þeoden Hroðgar, þæt ic þe sohte  
 for þan hie mægenes cræft mine cuþon.  
 selfe ofersawon ða ic of searwum cwom  
 420 fah from feondum þær ic fife geband.  
 yðde eotena cyn ond on yðum slog  
 niceras nihtes. nearoþearfe dreah.  
 wræc Wedera nið --wean ahsodon--  
 forgrand gramum ond nu wið Grendel sceal  
 425 wið þam aglæcan ana gehegan  
 ðing wið þyrse. Ic þe nu ða,

brego Beorht-Dena, biddan wille,  
eodor Scyldinga, anre bene:  
þæt ðu me ne forwyrne, wigendra hleo  
430 freowine folca, nu ic þus feorran com.  
þæt ic mote ana, minra eorla gedryht  
ond þes hearda heap, Heorot fælsian.  
hæbbe ic eac ge-ahsod þæt se æglæca  
for his wonhydum wæpna ne recceð.  
435 ic þæt þonne forhicge --swa me Higelac sie  
min mondrihten modes bliðe--  
þæt ic sveord bere oþðe sidne scyld  
geolorand to guþe ac ic mid grape sceal  
fon wið feonde ond ymb feorh sacan,  
440 lað wið laþum. ðær gelyfan sceal  
dryhtnes dome se þe hine deað nimeð.  
wen' ic þæt he wille gif he wealdan mot  
in þæm guðsele Geotena leode  
etan unforhte swa he oft dyde,  
445 mægenhreð manna. Na þu minne þearft  
hafalan hydan ac he me habban wile  
deore fahne gif mec deað nimeð  
byreð blodig wæl. byrgean þenceð.  
eteð angenga unmurnlice.  
450 mearcað morhopu. no ðu ymb mines ne þearft  
lices feorme leng sorgian.  
Onsend Higelace gif mec hild nime  
beaduscruða betst þæt mine breost wereð,  
hrægla selest. þæt is Hrædlan laf  
455 Welandes geweorc. Gæð a wyrd swa hio scel.'  
Hroðgar maþelode helm Scyldinga:  
'Fere fyhtum, þu, wine min Beowulf,  
ond for arstafum usic sohtest.  
Gesloh þin fæder fæhðe mæste:

- 460 wearþ he Heaþolafe to handbonan  
 mid Wilfingum. ða hine gara cyn  
 for herebrogan habban ne mihte.  
 þanon he gesohte Suð-Dena folc  
 ofer yða gewealc, Ar-Scyldinga.  
 465 ða ic furþum weold folce Deninga  
 ond on geogoðe heold gimmerice  
 hordburh hæleþa. ða wæs Heregar dead  
 min yldra mæg unlifigende  
 bearn Healfdenes. se wæs betera ðonne ic.  
 470 Siððan þa fæhðe feo þingode.  
 sende ic Wylfingum ofer wæteres hrycg  
 ealde madmas. he me aþas swor.  
 Sorh is me to secganne on sefan minum  
 gumena ængum hwæt me Grendel hafað  
 475 hynðo on Heorote mid his heteþancum  
 færniða gefremed. is min fletwerod  
 wigheap gewanod. hie wyrd forsweop  
 on Grendles gryre. god eaþe mæg  
 þone dolsceaðan dæda getwæfan.  
 480 Ful oft gebeotedon beore druncne  
 ofer ealowæge oretmecgas  
 þæt hie in beorsele bidan woldon  
 Grendles guþe mid gryrum ecga.  
 Donne wæs þeos medoheal on morgentid  
 485 drihtsele dreorfah þonne dæg lixte,  
 eal bencþelu blode bestymed  
 heall heoru-dreore. ahte ic holdra þy læs,  
 deorre duguðe þe þa deað fornam.  
 Site nu to symle ond onsæl meoto  
 490 sigehreð secgum swa þin sefa hwette.'  
 Þa wæs Geatmæcgum geador ætsomne  
 on beorsele benc gerymed

- 495      þær swiðferhþe      sittan eodon  
           þryðum dealle      þegen nyttē beheold  
 se þe on handa bær      hroden ealowæge  
           scencte scir wered.      scop hwilum sang  
           hador on Heorote.      þær wæs hæleða dream,  
           duguð unlytel      Dena ond Wedera.  
 Hunferð maþelode      Ecglafes bearn  
 500      þe æt fotum sæt      frean Scyldinga.  
           onband beadurune      --wæs him Beowulfes sið  
           modges merefaran      micel æþþunca  
           forþon þe he ne uþe      þæt ænig oðer man  
           æfre mærða þon ma      middangeardes  
 505      gehedde under heofenum      þonne he sylfa--:  
           'Eart þu se Beowulf      se þe wið Breca wunne  
           on sidne sæ      ymb sund flite?  
 Ðær git for wlence      wada cunnedon  
           ond for dolgilpe      on deop wæter  
 510      aldrum neþdon      ne inc ænig mon  
           ne leof ne lað      belean mihte  
           sorhfullne sið      þa git on sund reōn.  
           þær git eagorstream      earmum þehton.  
           mæton merestræta      mundum brugdon.  
 515      glidon ofer garsecg.      geofon yþum  
           weol wintrys wylm.      git on wæteres æht  
           seofon niht swuncon.      he þe æt sunde oferflat.  
           hæfde mare mægen.      Þa hine on morgentid  
           on Heaþo-Ræmes      holm up ætbær.  
 520      ðonon he gesohte      swæsne eðel,  
           leof his leodum,      lond Brondinga  
           freoðoburh fægere      þær he folc ahte  
           burh ond beagas.      beot eal wið þe  
           sunu Beanstanes      soðe gelæste.  
 525      Donne wene ic to þe      wyrsan geþingea

- ðeah þu heaðoræsa gehwær dohte  
 grimre guðe gif þu Grendles dearst  
 nihtlongne fyrst neān bidan.'
- Beowulf mæfelode bearн Ecgþeowes:  
 530 'Hwæт, þu worn fela, wine min Hunferð,  
 beore druncen ymb Brecaп spræce.  
 sægdest from his siðe. Soð ic talige  
 þæt ic merestrengo maran ahte  
 earfeþo on yþum ðonne ænig oþer man.  
 535 wit þæt gecwædon cnihtwesende  
 ond gebeotedon --wæron begen þa git  
 on geogoðfeore-- þæt wit on garsecg ut  
 aldrum neðdon ond þæt geæfndon swa.  
 Hæfdon swurd nacod þa wit on sund reōn
- 540 heard on handa: wit unc wið hronfixas  
 werian þohton. no he wiht fram me  
 flodyþum feor fleotan meahte  
 hraþor on holme. no ic fram him wolde.  
 545 ða wit ætsomne on sæ wæron  
 fif nihta fyrst oþ þæt unc flod todraf  
 wado weallende wedera cealdost  
 nipende niht ond norþanwind  
 heaðogrim ondhwearf. hreo wæron yþa.  
 wæs merefixa mod onhrered.
- 550 þær me wið laðum licsyrce min  
 heard hondlocen helpe gefremede.  
 beadohraegl broden on breostum læg  
 golde gegyrwed. me to grunde teah  
 fah feondscaða. fæste hæfde
- 555 grim on grape. hwæþre me gyfeþe wearð  
 þæt ic aglæcan orde geræhte  
 hildebille. heaþoræs fornam  
 mihtig meredeor þurh mine hand.

- 560    Swa mec gelome      laðgeteonan  
       þreatedon þearle.      ic him þenode  
       deoran sweorde      swa hit gedefe wæs.  
       næs hie ðære fylle      gefean hæfdon  
       manfordædlan      þæt hie me þegon.  
       symbol ymbsæton      sægrunde neah
- 565    ac on mergenne      mecum wunde  
       be yðlafe      uppe lægon  
       sweordum aswefede      þæt syðþan na  
       ymb brontne ford      brimliðende  
       lade ne letton.      Leoht eastan com  
 570    beorht beacen godes.      brimu swaþredon  
       þæt ic sænæssas      geseon mihte  
       windige weallas.      Wyrd oft nereð  
       unfægne eorl      þonne his ellen deah.  
       Hwæþere me gesælde      þæt ic mid sweorde ofsloh
- 575    niceras nigene.      no ic on niht gefrægn  
       under heofones hwealf      heardran feohtan  
       ne on egstreamum      earmran mannon.  
       hwaþere ic fara feng      feore gedigde  
       siþes werig.      ða mec sæ oþbær
- 580    flod æfter faroðe      on Finna land  
       wudu weallendu.      No ic wiht fram þe  
       swylcra searoniða      secgan hyrde  
       billa brogan.      Breca næfre git  
       æt heaðolace      ne gehwæþer incer
- 585    swa deorlice      dæd gefremede  
       fagum sweordum      --no ic þæs gylpe--  
       þeah þu þinum broðrum      to banan wurde  
       heafodmægum.      þæs þu in helle scealt  
       werhðo dreogan      þeah þin wit duge.
- 590    secge ic þe to soðe,      sunu Ecglafes,  
       þæt næfre Grendel swa fela      gryra gefremede

atol æglæca ealdre þinum,  
hynðo on Heorote gif þin hige wære  
sefa swa searogrim swa þu self talast  
595 ac he hafað onfunden þæt he þa fæhðe ne þearf  
atole ecgþræce eower leode  
swiðe onsittan Sige-Scyldinga.  
nymeð nydbade. nænegum arað  
leode Deniga ac he lust wigeð.  
600 swefeð ond sendeþ. secce ne weneþ  
to Gar-Denum. Ac ic him Geata sceal  
eafoð ond ellen ungeara nu  
guþe gebeodan. gæþ eft, se þe mot  
to medo modig siþban morgenleoht  
605 ofer ylda bearn oþres dogores  
sunne sweglwered suþan scineð.'  
Þa wæs on salum sincest brytta  
gamolfeax ond guðrof geoce gelyfde  
brego Beorht-Dena gehyrde on Beowulfe  
610 folces hyrde fæstrædne geþoht.  
ðær wæs hæleþa hleahtor. hlyn swynsode.  
word wæron wynsume. Eode Wealhþeow forð  
cwen Hroðgares cynna gemyndig  
grette goldhroden guman on healle  
615 ond þa freolic wif ful gesealde  
ærest East-Dena eþelwearde.  
bæd hine bliðne æt þære beorþege  
leodum leofne. he on lust geþeah  
symbol ond seleful sigerof kyning.  
620 ymb-eode þa ides Helminga  
duguþe ond geogoþe dæl æghwylcne.  
sincfato sealde oþ þæt sæl alamp  
þæt hio Beowulfe, beaghroden cwen  
mode geþungen medoful ætbær.

- 625 grette Geata leod. gode þancode  
 wisfæst wordum þæs ðe hire se willa gelamp  
 þæt heo on ænigne eorl gelyfde  
 fyrena frofre. He þæt ful geþeah  
 wælreow wiga æt Wealhþeōn  
 630 ond þa gyddode guþe gefyzed.  
 Beowulf mæbelode bearн Ecgþeowes:  
 'Ic þæt hogode. þa ic on holm gestah.  
 sæbat gesæt mid minra secga gedriht.  
 þæt ic anunga eowra leoda  
 635 willan geworhte oþðe on wæl crunge  
 feondgrapum fæst. ic gefremman sceal  
 eorlic ellen oþðe endedæg  
 on þisse meoduhealle minne gebidan.'  
 Ðam wife þa word wel licodon  
 640 gilpcwide Geates. eode goldhroden  
 freolicu folccwen to hire frean sittan.  
 Þa wæs eft swaær inne on healle  
 þryðword sprecen, ðeod on sælum,  
 sigefolca sweg oþ þæt semninga  
 645 sunu Healfdenes secean wolde  
 æfenræste. wiste þæm ahlæcan  
 to þæm heahsele hilde geþinged  
 siððan hie sunnan leoht geseon meahton  
 oþðe nipende niht ofer ealle  
 650 scaduhelma gesceapu scriðan cwoman  
 wan under wolcnum. Werod eall aras.  
 gegrette þa guma guman oþerne  
 Hroðgar Beowulf ond him hæl abead  
 winærnes geweald ond þæt word acwæð:  
 655 'Næfre ic ænegum men ær alyfde.  
 siþðan ic hond ond rond hebban mihte.  
 ðryþærн Dena buton þe nu ða.

- hafa nu ond geheald      husa selest.  
 gemyne mærþo.      mægenellen cyð.  
 660 waca wið wraþum.      ne bið þe wilna gad  
     gif þu þæt ellenweorc      aldre gedigest.'  
     Ða him Hroþgar gewat      mid his hæleþa gedryht  
     eodur Scyldinga      ut of healle.  
     wolde wigfruma      Wealhþeo secan  
 665 cwen to gebeddan.      hæfde kyningwuldor  
     Grendle togeanes.      swa guman gefrungon.  
     seleweard aseted:      sundornytte beheold  
     ymb aldor Dena.      eotonweard' abead.  
     Huru Geata leod      georne truwode  
 670 modgan mægnes,      metodes hyldo  
     ða he him of dyde      isernbyrnan  
     helm of hafelan.      sealde his hyrsted sweord  
     irena cyst      ombihtþegne  
     ond gehealdan het      hildegeatwe.  
 675 gespræc þa se goda      gylpworda sum  
     Beowulf Geata      ær he on bed stige:  
     'No ic me an herewæsmun      hnagran talige  
     guþgeweorca      þonne Grendel hine.  
     forþan ic hine sweorde      swebban nelle,  
 680 aldre beneotan      þeah ic eal mæge.  
     nat he þara goda      þæt he me ongean sleā.  
     rand geheawe      þeah ðe he rof sie  
     niþgeweorca      ac wit on niht sculon  
     secge ofersittan      gif he gesecean dear  
 685 wig ofer wæpen      ond siþðan witig god  
     on swa hwæþere hond      halig dryhten  
     mærðo deme      swa him gemet þince.'  
     Hylde hine þa heaþodeor      --hleorbolster onfeng  
     eorles andwlitan--      ond hine ymb monig

- 690 snellic særinc selereste gebeah.  
 nænig heora þohte þæt he þanon scolde  
 eft eardlufan æfre gesecean  
 folc oþðe freoburh þær he afeded wæs  
 ac hie hæfdon gefrunen þæt hie ær to fela micles  
 695 in þæm winsele wældeað fornam  
 Denigea leode. Ac him dryhten forgeaf  
 wigspeda gewiofu Wedera leodum  
 frofor ond fultum þæt hie feond heora  
 ðurh anes cræft ealle ofercomon  
 700 selfes mihtum. soð is gecyþed,  
 þæt mihtig god manna cynnes  
 weold wideferhð. Com on wanre niht  
 scriðan sceadugenga. sceotend swæfon  
 þa þæt hornreced healdan scoldon  
 705 ealle buton anum --þæt wæs yldum cuþ  
 þæt hie ne moste. þa metod nolde.  
 se synscaþa under sceadu bregdan--  
 ac he wæccende wraþum on andan  
 bad bolgenmod beadwa geþinges.  
 710 Ða com of more under misthleoþum  
 Grendel gongan. godes yrre bær.  
 mynte se manscaða manna cynnes  
 sumne besyrwan in sele þam hean.  
 wod under wolcnum to þæs þe he winreced  
 715 goldsele gumena gearwost wisse  
 fættum fahne. ne wæs þæt forma sið  
 þæt he Hroþgares ham gesohte.  
 næfre he on aldordagum ær ne siþðan  
 heardran hæle healðegnas fand.  
 720 Com þa to recede rinc siðian  
 dreamum bedæled. duru sona onarn  
 fyrbendum fæst syþðan he hire folmum æthran

onbræd þa bealohydig    ða he gebolgen wæs,  
recedes muþan.    rāþe æfter þon  
725    on fagne flor    feond treddode.  
eode yrremod.    him of eagum stod  
ligge gelicost    leoht unfæger.  
geseah he in recede    rinca manige  
swefan sibbegedriht    samod ætgædere  
730    magorinca heap.    þa his mod ahlog:  
mynte þæt he gedælde    ær þon dæg cwome  
atol aglæca    anra gehwylces  
lif wið lice    þa him alumpen wæs  
wistfylle wen.    Ne wæs þæt wyrd þa gen  
735    þæt he ma moste    manna cynnes  
ðicgean ofer þa niht.    þryðswyð beheold  
mæg Higelaces    hu se manscāða  
under færgripum    gefaran wolde.  
Ne þæt se aglæca    yldan þohte  
740    ac he gefeng hraðe    forman siðe  
slæpendne rinc    slat unwearnum.  
bat banlocan.    blod edrum dranc.  
synsnædum swealh.    sona hæfde  
unlyfigendes    ealgefeormod  
745    fet ond folma.    forð near ætstop.  
nam þa mid handa    higeþihtigne  
rinc on ræste.    ræhte ongean  
feond mid folme.    he onfeng hraþe  
inwitþancum    ond wið earm gesæt.  
750    Sona þæt onfunde    fyrena hyrde.  
þæt he ne mette    middangeardes  
eorþan sceatta    on elran men  
mundgripe maran.    he on mode wearð  
forht on ferhðe.    no þy ær fram meahte.  
755    hyge wæs him hinfus.    wolde on heolster fleon,

secan deofla gedræg. ne wæs his drohtoð þær  
swylce he on ealderdagum ær gemette.  
Gemunde þa se goda mæg Higelaces  
æfenspræce. uplang astod  
760 ond him fæste wiðfeng. fingras burston.  
eoten wæs utweard. eorl furþur stop.  
Mynte se mæra hwær he meahte swa  
widre gewindan ond on weg þanon  
fleon on fenhopu. wiste his fingra geweald  
765 on grames grapum. þæt he wæs geocorsið  
þæt se hearmscaþa to Heorute ateah.  
Dryhtsele dynede. Denum eallum wearð  
ceasterbuendum cenra gehwylcum  
eorlum ealuscerwen. yrre wæron begen  
770 reþe renweardas. reced hlynsole.  
þa wæs wundor micel þæt se winsele  
wiðhæfde heaþodeorum. þæt he on hrusan ne  
feol  
fæger foldbold ac he þæs fæste wæs  
innan ond utan irenbendum  
775 searoþoncum besmiþod. þær fram sylle abeag  
medubenc monig mine gefræge  
golde geregnad þær þa graman wunnon.  
þæs ne wendon ær witan Scyldinga.  
þæt hit a mid gemete manna ænig  
780 betlic ond banfag tobrecan meahte,  
listum tolucan nymþe liges fæþm  
swulge on swaþule. Sweg up astag  
niwe geneahhe. Norð-Denum stod  
atelic egesa anra gehwylcum  
785 þara þe of wealle wop gehyrdon,  
gryreleoð galan godes andsacan  
sigeleasne sang, sar wanigean

helle hæftan. heold hine fæste  
se þe manna wæs mægene strengest  
790 on þæm dæge þysses lifes.  
sydaudio Nolde eorla hleo ænige þinga  
þone cwealmcumān cwicne forlætan  
ne his lifdagas leoda ænigum  
nytte tealde. Þær genehost brægd  
795 eorl Beowulfes ealde lafe.  
wolde freadrihtnes feorh ealgian  
mæres þeodnes ðær hie meahton swa.  
hie þæt ne wiston þa hie gewin drugon  
heardhicgende hildemecgas  
800 ond on healfa gehwone heawan þohton,  
sawle secan: þone synscaðan  
ænig ofer eorþan irennā cyst  
guðbilla nan gretan nolde  
ac he sigewæpnum forsworen hæfde  
805 ecga gehwylcre. Scolde his aldorgedal  
on ðæm dæge þysses lifes  
earmlic wurðan ond se ellorgast  
on feonda geweald feor siðian.  
ða þæt onfunde se þe fela æror  
810 modes myrðe manna cynne  
fyrene gefremede --he, fag wið god--  
þæt him se lichoma læstan nolde  
ac hine se modega mæg Hygelaces  
hæfde be honda. wæs gehwæþer oðrum  
815 lifigende lað. licsar gebad  
atol æglæca. him on eaxle wearð  
syndolh sweotol. seonowe onsprungon.  
burston banlocan. Beowulf wearð  
guðhreð gyfeþe. scolde Grendel þonan  
820 feorhseoc fleōn under fenhleoðu,

secean wynleas wic.      wiste þe geornor  
þæt his aldres wæs      ende gegongen  
dogera dægrim.      Denum eallum wearð  
æfter þam wælræse      willa gelumpen:  
825      hæfde þa gefælsod      se þe ær feorran com  
snotor ond swyðferhð      sele Hroðgares,  
genered wið niðe.      nihtweorce gefeh  
ellenmærþum.      hæfde East-Denum  
Geatmecga leod      gilp gelæsted.  
830      swylce oncyþðe      ealle gebette  
inwidsorge      þe hie ær drugon  
ond for þreanydum      þolian scoldon  
torn unlytel.      þæt wæs tacen sweotol  
syþðan hildedeor      hond alegde  
835      earm ond eaxle      --þær wæs eal geador  
Grendles grape--      under geapne hrof.  
Ða wæs on morgen      mine gefræge  
ymb þa gifhealle      guðrinc monig  
ferdon folctogan      feorran ond neān  
840      geond widwegas      wundor sceawian  
laþes lastas.      no his lifgedal  
sarlic þuhte      secga ænegum  
þara þe tirleases      trode sceawode.  
hu he werigmود      on weg þanon  
845      niða ofercumen      on nicera mere  
fæge ond geflymed      feorhlastas bær.  
Ðær wæs on blode      brim weallende,  
atol yða geswing      eal gemenged  
haton heolfre      heorodreore weol.  
850      deaðfæge deog      siððan dreama leas  
in fenfreoðo      feorh alegde  
haþene sawle.      þær him hel onfeng.  
Þanon eft gewiton      ealdgesiðas

swylce geong manig of gomenwaþe  
855 fram mere modge mearum ridan  
beornas on blancum. ðær wæs Beowulfes  
mærðo mæned. monig oft gecwæð  
þætte suð ne norð be sām tweonum  
ofer eormengrund oþer nænig  
860 under swegles begong selra nære  
rondhæbbendra, rices wyrðra.  
ne hie huru winedrihten wiht ne logon  
glædne Hroðgar ac þæt wæs god cyning.  
Hwilum heaþorofe hleapan leton  
865 on geflit faran fealwe mearas  
ðær him foldwegas fægere þuhton  
cystum cuðe. Hwilum cyninges þegn  
guma gilphlæden gidda gemyndig  
se ðe ealfela ealdgesegena  
870 worn gemunde word oþer fand  
soðe gebunden. secg eft ongan  
sið Beowulfes snyttrum styrian  
ond on sped wrecan spel gerade,  
wordum wrixlan. welhwylc gecwæð  
875 þæt he fram Sigemunde secgan hyrde  
ellendædum: uncuþes fela  
Wælsinges gewin wide siðas  
þara þe gumena bearн gearwe ne wiston  
fæhðe ond fyrena buton Fitela mid hine,  
880 þonne he swulces hwæt secgan wolde  
eām his nefan swa hie a wæron  
æt niða gehwam nydgesteallan.  
hæfdon ealfela eotena cynnes  
sweordum gesæged. Sigemunde gesprong  
885 æfter deaðdæge dom unlytel  
syþðan wiges heard wyrm acwealde

hordes hyrde. he under harne stan  
æþelinges bearн ana geneðde  
frecne dæde ne wæs him Fitela mid.  
890 hwæþre him gesælde ðæt þæt swurd þurhwod  
wrætlicne wyrm þæt hit on wealle ætstod  
dryhtlic iren. draca morðre swealt.  
hæfde aglæca elne gegongen  
þæt he beahordes brucan moste  
895 selfes dome. sæbat gehleod.  
bær on bearm scipes beorhte frætwa  
Wælses eafera --wyrm hat gemealt--  
se wæs wreccena wide mærost  
ofer werþeode wigendra hleo  
900 ellendædum --he þæs ær onðah--  
siððan Heremodes hild sweðrode,  
earfoð ond ellen. he mid eotenum wearð  
on feonda geweald forð forlacen  
snude forsended. hine sorhwylmas  
905 lemede to lange. he his leodum wearð  
eallum æþellingum to aldorceare.  
swylce oft bemearn ærran mælum  
swiðferhþes sið snotor ceorl monig  
se þe him bealwa to bote gelyfde  
910 þæt þæt ðeodnes bearн geþeon scolde,  
fæderæþelum onfon, folc gehealdan  
hord ond hleoburh hæleþa rice  
eðel Scyldinga. he þær eallum wearð  
mæg Higelaces manna cynne  
915 freondum gefægra. hine fyren onwod.  
Hwilum flitende fealwe stræte  
mearum mæton. Da wæs morgenleoht  
scofen ond scynded. eode scealc monig  
swiðhicgende to sele þam hean

- 920 searowundor seon. swylce self cyning  
 of brydbure beahhorda weard  
 tryddode tirfæst getrume micle  
 cystum gecyþed ond his cwen mid him  
 medostigge mæt mægþa hose.  
 925 Hroðgar maþelode --he to healle geong.  
 stod on stapole. geseah steapne hrof  
 golde fahne ond Grendles hond--:  
 'Disse ansyne alwealdan þanc  
 lungre gelimpe! Fela ic laþes gebad,  
 930 grynnna æt Grendle. a mæg god wyrca  
 wunder æfter wundre, wuldres hyrde.  
 Ðæt wæs ungeara þæt ic ænigra me  
 weana ne wende to widan feore  
 bote gebidan þonne blode fah  
 935 husa selest heorodreorig stod:  
 wea widscoven witenā gehwylcne  
 ðara þe ne wendon þæt hie wideferhð  
 leoda landgeweorc laþum beweredon  
 scuccum ond scinnum. na scealc hafað  
 940 þurh drihtnes miht dæd gefremede  
 ðe we ealle ær ne meahton  
 snyttrum besyrwan. hwæt, þæt secgan mæg  
 efne swa hwylc mægþa swa ðone magan cende  
 æfter gumcynnum gyf heo gyt lyfað  
 945 þæt hyre ealdmetod este wäre  
 bearngebyrdo. Nu ic, Beowulf, þec,  
 secg betosta, me for sunu wylle  
 freogan on ferhþe. heald forð tela  
 niwe sibbe. ne bið þe ænigre gad  
 950 worolde wilna þe ic geweald hæbbe.  
 ful oft ic for læssan lean teohhode  
 hordweorþunge hnahrān rince

sæmran æt sæcce. þu þe self hafast  
dædum gefremed þæt þin dom lyfað  
955 awa to aldre. alwalda þec  
gode forgylde swa he nu gyt dyde!’  
Beowulf mælode bearн Ecgþeowes:  
'We þæt ellenweorc estum miclum  
feohtan fremedon. frecne geneðdon  
960 eafod uncuþes. Uþe ic swiþor  
þæt ðu hine selfne geseon moste  
feond on frætewum fylwerigne.  
ic him hrædlice heardan clammum  
on wælbedde wriþan þohte  
965 þæt he for handgripe minum scolde  
licgean lifbysig butan his lic swice.  
ic hine ne mihte þa metod nolde  
ganges getwæman. no ic him þæs georne ætfealh  
feorhgeniðlan. wæs to foremihtig  
970 feond on feþe. hwæþere, he his folme forlet  
to lifwraþe last weardian,  
earm ond eaxle. no þær ænige swa þeah  
feasceaft gumा frofre gebohte.  
no þy leng leofað laðgeteona  
975 synnum geswenced ac hyne sar hafað  
in niðgripe nearwe befongen  
balwon bendum ðær abidan sceal  
maga mane fah miclan domes.  
hu him scir metod scrifan wille.’  
980 Da wæs swigra secg sunu Ecglafes  
on gylpspræce guðgeweorca  
síþan æþelingas eorles cræfte  
ofer heanne hrof hand sceawedon  
feondes fingras. foran æghwylc wæs  
985 steda nægla gehwylc style gelicost

hæþenes handsporu hilderinces  
egl unheoru. æghwylc gecwæð  
þæt him heardra nan hrinan wolde  
iren ærgod, þæt ðæs ahlæcan  
990 blodge beadufolme onberan wolde.  
Ða wæs haten hreþe Heort innanweard  
folmum gefrætwod. fela þæra wæs  
wera ond wifa þe þæt winreced  
gestsele gyredon. goldfag scinon  
995 web æfter wagum wundorsiona fela  
secga gehwylcum þara þe on swylc starað.  
wæs þæt beorhte bold tobrocen swiðe  
eal inneweard irenbendum fæst,  
heorras tohlidene. hrof ana genæs  
1000 ealles ansund þe se aglæca  
fyrendædum fag on fleam gewand  
aldres orwena. No þæt yðe byð  
to befleōnne --fremme se þe wille--  
ac gesacan sceal sawlberendra  
1005 nyde genyddde, niþða bearna  
grundbuendra gearwe stowe  
þær his lichoma legerbedde fæst  
swefeb æfter symle. Þa wæs sael ond mæl  
þæt to healle gang Healfdenes sunu.  
1010 wolde self cyning symbol þicgan.  
ne gefrægen ic þa mægþe maran weorode  
ymb hyra sincgyfan sel gebærان.  
bugon þa to bence blædagande  
fylle gefægon. fægere geþægon  
1015 medoful manig magas þara  
swiðhicgende on sele þam hean  
Hroðgar ond Hroðulf. Heorot innan wæs

- freondum afylléd. nállés facenstafas  
 Þeod-Scyldingas þénden fremedon.  
 1020 Forgeaf þá Beowulfé brand Healfdenes  
     segen gyldenne sigores to leane  
     hroden hiltecumbor, helm ond byrnán.  
     mære maðþumsweord manige gesawon  
     beforan beorn beran. Beowulf geþah  
 1025 ful on flette. no he þáre feohgyfte  
     for scotenum scamigan ðorfte.  
     ne gefrægn ic freondlicor feower madmas  
     golde gegyrede gummanná fela  
     in ealobence oðrum gesellan.  
 1030 ymb þás helmes hrof heafodbeorge  
     wirum bewunden walán utan heold  
     þæt him fela laf frecne ne meahton  
     scurheard sceþðan þonne scyldfreca  
     ongean gramum gangan scolde.  
 1035 Heht ða eorla hleo eahta mearas  
     fætedhleore on flet teōn  
     in under eoderas. þara anum stod  
     sadol searwum fah since gewurþad.  
     þæt wæs hildesetl heahcyninges  
 1040 ðonne sweorda gelac sunu Healfdenes  
     efnan wolde. næfre on ore læg  
     widcuþes wig ðonne walu feollon.  
     ond ða Beowulfé bega gehwæþres  
     eodor Ingwina onweald geteah  
 1045 wicga ond wæpna. het hine wel brucan.  
     swa manlice mære þeoden  
     hordweard hæleþa heaþoræsas geald  
     mearum ond madnum swa hy næfre man lyhð  
     se þe secgan wile soð æfter rihte.  
 1050 Ða gyt æghwylcum eorla drihten

þara þe mid Beowulfe      brimleade teah  
on þære medubence      maþðum gesealde  
yrfelafe      ond þone ænne heht  
golde forgyldan      þone ðe Grendel ær  
1055      mane acwealde      swa he hyra ma wolde  
nefne him witig god      wyrd forstode  
ond ðæs mannes mod.      Metod eallum weold  
gumena cynnes,      swa he nu git deęð.  
forþan bið andgit      æghwær selest  
1060      ferhðes foreþanc.      fela sceal gebidan  
leofes ond laþes      se þe longe her  
on ðyssum windagum      worolde bruceð.  
Þær wæs sang ond sweg      samod ætgædere  
fore Healfdenes      hildewisan,  
1065      gomenwudu greted,      gid oft wrecen  
ðonne healgamen      Hroþgares scop  
æfter medobence      mænan scolde:  
Finnes eaferum      ða hie se fær begeat  
hæleð Healfdena.      Hnæf Scyldinga  
1070      in Freswæle      feallan scolde.  
Ne huru Hildeburh      herian þorfte  
eotena treowe.      unsynnum wearð  
beloren leofum      æt þam hildplegan  
bearnum ond broðrum.      hie on gebyrd hruron  
1075      gare wunde.      þæt wæs geomuru ides.  
Nalles holinga      Hoces dohtar  
meotodsceaft bemearn      syþðan morgen com  
ða heo under swegle      geseon meahte  
morþorbealo maga      þær he ær mæste heold  
1080      worolde wynne.      wig ealle fornam  
Finnes þegnas      nemne feaum anum  
þæt he ne mehte      on þæm meðelstede  
wig Hengeste      wiht gefeohtan

- ne þa wealafe      wige forþringan  
 1085    þeodnes ðegne      ac hig him geþingo budon:  
         þæt hie him oðer flet      eal gerymdon  
         healle ond heahsetl      þæt hie healfre geweald  
         wið eotena bearn      agan moston  
         ond æt feohgyftum      Folcwaldan sunu  
 1090    dogra gehwylce      Dene weorþode.  
         Hengestes heap      hringum wenede  
         efne swa swiðe      sincgestreonum  
         fættan goldes      swa he Fresena cyn  
         on beorsele      byldan wolde.  
 1095    Ða hie getruwedon      on twa healfa  
         fæste fríoðuwære.      Fin Hengeste  
         elne unflitme      aðum benemde  
         þæt he þa wealafe      weotena dome  
         arum heolde      þæt ðær ænig mon  
 1100    wordum ne worcum      wære ne bræce  
         ne þurh inwitsearo      æfre gemænden  
         ðeah hie hira beaggyfan      banan folgedon  
         ðeodenlease,      þa him swa geþearfod wæs.  
         gyf þonne Frysna hwylc      frecnen spræce  
 1105    ðæs morþorhetes      myndgiend wære  
         þonne hit sweordes ecg      syððan scolde.  
         Ad wæs geæfned      ond incge gold  
         ahæfen of horde.      Here-Scyldinga  
         betst beadorinca      wæs on bæl gearu.  
 1110    æt þæm ade wæs      eþgesyne  
         swatfah syrce      swyn ealgylden  
         eofer irenheard      æþeling manig  
         wundum awyrded.      sume on wæle crungon.  
         het ða Hildeburh      æt Hnæfes ade  
 1115    hire selfre sunu      sweoloðe befæstan,  
         banfatu bærnan      ond on bæl doōn

- earme on eaxle. ides gnornode.  
 geomrode giddum. guðrinc astah.  
 wand to wolcnum wælfyra mæst  
 1120 hlynoden for hlawe. hafelan multon.  
 bengeato burston ðonne blod ætspranc,  
 laðbite lices. lig ealle forswalig,  
 gæsta gifrost, þara ðe þær guð fornam  
 bega folces. wæs hira blæd scacen.
- 1125 Gewiton him ða wigend wica neosian  
 freondum befeallen, Frysland geseon,  
 hamas ond heaburh. Hengest ða gyt  
 wælfagne winter wunode mid Finn  
 eal unhlitone. eard gemunde
- 1130 þeah þe ne meahte on mere drifan  
 hringedstefnan: holm storme weol.  
 won wið winde. winter yþe beleac  
 isgebinde of ðæt oþer com  
 gear in geardas swa nu gyt deęd.
- 1135 þa ðe syngales sele bewitiað  
 wuldortorhtan weder. Da wæs winter scacen,  
 fæger foldan bearm. fundode wrecca  
 gist of geardum. he to gyrnwræce  
 swiðor þohte þonne to sälade.
- 1140 gif he torngemot þurhþon mihte  
 þæt he eotena bearn inne gemunde.  
 swa he ne forwyrnde woroldrædenne  
 þonne him Hunlafing, hildeleoman  
 billa selest on bearm dyde.
- 1145 þæs wæron mid eotenum ecge cuðe.  
 Swylce ferhðfrecan Fin eft begeat  
 sveordbealo sliðen æt his selfes ham  
 siðan grimne gripe Guðlaf ond Oslaf  
 æfter sæsiðe sorge mændon.

- 1150 ætwiton weana dæl. ne meahte wæfre mod  
 forhabban in hreþre. ða wæs heal hroden  
 feonda feorum. swilce Fin slægen  
 cyning on corþre ond seo cwen numen.  
 sceotend Scyldinga to scypon feredon  
 1155 eal ingesteald eorðcyninges.  
 swylce hie æt Finnes ham findan meahton  
 sigla searogimma. hie on sälade  
 drihtlice wif to Denum feredon.  
 læddon to leodum. Leoð wæs asungen  
 1160 gleomannes gyd. gamen eft astah.  
 beorhtode bencsweg. byrelas sealdon  
 win of wunderfatum. þa cwom Wealhþeo forð  
 gan under gyldnum beage þær þa godan twegen  
 sæton suhtergefæderan þa gyt wæs hiera sib æt-  
 gædere,  
 1165 æghwylc oðrum trywe. swylce þær Hunferþ þyle  
 æt fotum sæt frean Scyldinga. gehwylc hiora his  
 ferhþe treowde  
 þær he hæfde mod micel þeah þe he his magum  
 nære arfæst æt ecga gelacum. spræc ða ides Scyldinga:  
 'Onfoh þissem fulle, freodrihten min,  
 1170 since brytta. þu on sälum wes,  
 goldwine gumena, ond to Geatum spræc  
 mildum wordum swa sceal man doōn.  
 beo wið Geatas glæd, geofena gemyndig  
 nean ond feorran þu nu hafast.  
 1175 me man sægde þær þu ðe for sunu wolde  
 hereric habban. Heorot is gefælsod  
 beahsele beorhta. bruc þenden þu mote  
 manigra medo ond þinum magum læf  
 folc ond rice þonne ðu forð scyle

- 1180 metodsceaft seōn. ic minne can  
     glædne Hroþulf. þæt he þa geogoðe wile  
     arum healdan gyf þu ær þonne he,  
     wine Scildinga, worold oflætest  
     wene ic þæt he mid gode gyldan wille  
 1185 uncran eaferan gif he þæt eal gemon.  
     hwæt wit to willan ond to worðmyndum  
     umborwesendum ær arna gefremedon.'  
     Hwearf þa bi bence þær hyre byre wæron  
     Hreðric ond Hroðmund ond hæleþa bearn  
     Hrethrīc and Hrothmund,  
 1190 giogoð æt gædere. þær se goda sæt  
     Beowulf Geata be þæm gebroðrum twæm.  
     Him wæs ful boren ond freondlaþu  
     wordum bewægned ond wundengold  
     estum geeawed: earmreade twa  
 1195 hrægl ond hringas, healsbeaga mæst  
     þara þe ic on foldan gefrægen hæbbe.  
     nænigne ic under swegle selran hyrde  
     hordmadmum hæleþa syðan Hama ætwæg  
     to herebyrhtan byrig Brosinga mene  
 1200 sigle ond sincfæt. searoniðas fealh  
     Eormenrices. geceas ecne ræd.  
     þone hring hæfde Higelac Geata  
     nefa Swertinges nyhstan siðe  
     siðþan he under segne sinc ealgode.  
 1205 wælleaf werede. hyne wyrd fornam  
     syðan he for wlenco wean ahsode  
     fæhðe to Frysum. he þa frætwe wæg  
     eorclanstanas ofer yða ful  
     rice þeoden. he under rande gecranc.  
 1210 Gehwearf þa in Francna fæjm feorh cyninges  
     breostgewædu ond se beah somod.

- wyrsan wigfrecan      wæl reafeden  
 æfter guðsceare.      Geata leode  
 hrawic heoldon.      Heal swege onfeng.
- 1215 Wealhðeo maþelode.      heo fore þæm werede  
 spræc:  
 'Bruc ðisses beages,      Beowulf leofa  
 hyse, mid hæle      ond þisses hrægles neot  
 þeod gestreona      ond geþeoh tela.  
 cen þec mid cræfte      ond þyssum cnyhtum wes
- 1220 lara liðe.      ic þe þæs lean geman.  
 hafast þu gefered      þæt ðe feor ond neah  
 ealne wideferhþ      weras ehtigað  
 efne swa side      swa sæ bebuȝeð,  
 windgeard, weallas.      wes þenden þu lifige,
- 1225 æþeling, eadig.      ic þe an tela  
 sincgestreona.      beo þu suna minum  
 dædum gedefe,      dreamhealdende.  
 her is æghwylc eorl      oþrum getrywe  
 modes milde      mandrihtne hleo.
- 1230 þegnas syndon geþwære      þeod ealgearo  
 druncne dryhtguman      doð swa ic bidde.'  
 Eode þa to setle.      þær wæs symbla cyst.  
 druncon win weras.      wyrd ne cuþon  
 geosceaft grimme      swa hit agangen wearð
- 1235 eorla manegum      syþðan æfen cwom  
 ond him Hroðgar gewat      to hofe sinum  
 rice to ræste      reced weardode  
 unrim eorla      swa hie oft ær dydon  
 bencþelu beredon.      hit geondbræded wearð
- 1240 beddum ond bolstrum.      beorscealca sum  
 fus ond fæge      fletræste gebeag.  
 setton him to heafdon      hilderandas  
 bordwudu beorhtan.      þær on bence wæs

- ofer æbelinge yþgesene  
 1245 heaþosteapa helm hringed byrne  
 þrecwudu þrymllic. wæs þeaw hyra  
 þæt hie oft wæron an wig gearwe  
 ge æt ham ge on herge ge gehwæþer þara  
 efne swylce mæla swylce hira mandryhtne  
 1250 þearf gesælde. wæs seo þeod tilu.  
 Sigon þa to slæpe. sum sare angeald  
 æfenræste swa him ful oft gelamp  
 siþðan goldsele Grendel warode.  
 unriht æfnede oþ þæt ende becwom,  
 1255 swylt æfter synnum. Þæt gesyne wearþ  
 widcuþ werum þætte wrecend þa gyt  
 lifde æfter laþum lange þrage  
 æfter guðceare Grendles modor  
 ides aglæcwif yrmþe gemunde  
 1260 se þe wæteregesan wunian scolde  
 cealde streamas siþðan camp him wearð  
 to ecgbanan angan breþer  
 fæderenmæge. he þa fag gewat  
 morþre gemearcod mandream fleōn.  
 1265 westen warode. Þanon woc fela  
 geosceaftgasta. wæs þæra Grendel sum,  
 heorowearh hetelic. se æt Heorote fand  
 wæccendne wer wiges bidan.  
 þær him aglæca ætgæpe wearð.  
 1270 hwæþre he gemunde mægenes strenge  
 gimfæste gife ðe him god sealde  
 ond him to anwaldan are gelyfde  
 frofre ond fultum. ðy he þone feond ofercwom.  
 gehnægde helle gast. þa he hean gewat  
 1275 dreame bedæled deaþwic seōn,  
 mancynnes feond. Ond his modor þa gyt

gifre ond galmod    gegan wolde  
sorhfulne sið,    sunu deoð wrecan.  
com þa to Heorote    ðær Hring-Dene  
1280 geond þæt sæld swæfun.    þa ðær sona wearð  
edhwyrft eorlum    siþðan inne fealh  
Grendles modor.    wæs se gryre læssa  
efne swa micle    swa bið mægþa cræft  
wiggryre wifes    bewæpned men  
1285 þonne heoru bunden    hamere geþuren  
sweord swate fah    swin ofer helme  
ecgum dyhtig    andweard scireð.  
Þa wæs on healle    heardecg togen  
sweord ofer setlum,    sidrand manig  
1290 hafen handa fæst.    helm ne gemunde  
byrnan side    þa hine se broga angeat.  
heo wæs on ofste.    wolde ut þanon,  
feore beorgan    þa heo onfunden wæs.  
hraðe heo æþelinga    anne hæfde  
1295 fæste befangen.    þa heo to fenne gang.  
se wæs Hroðgare    hæleþa leofost  
on gesiðes had    be säm tweonum  
rice randwiga    þone ðe heo on ræste abreast  
blædfæstne beorn    --næs Beowulf ðær  
1300 ac wæs ofer in    ær geteohhod  
æfter maþðumgife    mærum Geate--  
hream wearð in Heorote.    heo under heolfre  
genam  
cuþe folme.    cearu wæs geniwod,  
geworden in wicun.    ne wæs þæt gewrixle til  
1305 þæt hie on ba healfa    bicgan scoldon  
freonda feorum.    þa wæs frod cyning  
har hilderinc    on hreonmode  
syððan he aldorþegn    unlyfigendne

- þone deorestan deadne wisse.  
 1310 Hraþe wæs to bure Beowulf fetod  
       sigoreadig secg. samod ærdæge  
       eode eorla sum æþele cempa  
       self mid gesiðum þær se snotera bad  
       hwæþre him Alfwalda æfre wille  
 1315 æfter weaspelle wyrpe gefremman.  
       gang ða æfter flore fyrdwyrðe man  
       mid his handscale --healwudu dynede--  
       þæt he þone wisan wordum hnægde  
       frean Ingwina. frægn gif him wäre  
 1320 æfter neodlaðu niht getæse.  
       Hroðgar mæbelode helm Scyldinga:  
       'Ne frin þu æfter sælum. sorh is geniwod  
       Denigea leodum. dead is Æschere  
       Yrmenlafes yldra broþor  
 1325 min runwita ond min rædbora  
       eaxlgestealla ðonne we on orlege  
       hafelan weredon þonne hniton feþan  
       eoferas cnysedan. swylc eorl scolde  
       wesan ærgod swylc Æschere wæs.  
 1330 Wearð him on Heorote to handbanan  
       wælgæst wæfre. ic ne wat hwæþer  
       atol æse wlanc eftsiðas teah  
       fylle gefrægnod. heo þa fæhðe wræc  
       þe þu gystran niht Grendel cwealdest  
 1335 þurh hæstne had heardum clammum  
       forþan he to lange leode mine  
       wanode ond wyrde he æt wige gecrang  
       ealdres scyldig ond nu oþer cwom  
       mihtig manscaða. wolde hyre mæg wrecan.  
 1340 ge feor hafað fæhðe gestæled  
       þæs þe þincean mæg þegne monegum

- se þe æfter sincgyfan      on sefan greoteþ:  
 hreþerbealo hearde.      nu seo hand ligeð  
 se þe eow welhwylcra      wilna dohte.  
 1345 Ic þæt londbuend      leode mine  
       selerædende      secgan hyrde  
       þæt hie gesawon      swylce twegen  
       micle mearcstapan      moras healdan,  
       ellorgæstas.      Ðæra oðer wæs  
 1350 þæs þe hie gewislicost      gewitan meahton  
       idese onlicnæs.      oðer earm sceapen  
       on weres wæstmum      wræclastas træd  
       næfne he wæs mara      þonne ænig man oðer.  
       þone on geardagum      Grendel nemdon  
 1355 foldbuende.      no hie fæder cunnon.  
       hwæþer him ænig wæs      ær acenned  
       dyrnra gasta.      Hie dygel lond  
       warigeað wulfhleoþu      windige næssas  
       frecne fengelad      Ðær fyrgenstream  
 1360 under næssa genipu      niþer gewiteð  
       flod under foldan.      nis þæt feor heanon  
       milgемearces      þæt se mere standeð.  
       ofer þæm hongiað      hrimge bearwas.  
       wudu wyrtum fæst      wæter oferhelmað.  
 1365 þær mæg nihta gehwæm      niðwundor seon  
       fyr on flode.      no þæs frod leofað  
       gumena bearna      þæt þone grund wite.  
       Ðeah þe hæðstapa      hundum geswenced  
       heorot hornum trum      holtwudu sece  
 1370 feorran geflymed.      ær he feorh seleð  
       aldor on ofre      ær he in wille  
       hafelan helan.      nis þæt heoru stow.  
       þonon yðgeblond      up astigeð  
       won to wolcnum      þonne wind styreþ

- 1375 lað gewidru oð þæt lyft drysmaþ.  
 roderas reotað. Nu is se ræd gelang  
 eft æt þe anum. eard git ne const  
 frecne stowe ðær þu findan miht  
 felasinnigne secg. sec gif þu dyrre.
- 1380 ic þe þa fæhðe feo leanige  
 ealdgestreonum swa ic ær dyde,  
 wundungolde gyf þu on weg cymest.'  
 Beowulf maþelode bearn Ecgþeowes:  
 'Ne sorga, snotor guma. selre bið æghwæm
- 1385 þæt he his freond wrece þonne he fela murne.  
 ure æghwylc sceal ende gebidan  
 worolde lifes: wyrce se þe mote  
 domes ær deaþe. þæt bið drihtguman,  
 unlifendum æfter selest.
- 1390 Aris, rices weard, uton hraþe feran  
 Grendles magan gang sceawigan.  
 ic hit þe gehate: no he on helm losaþ  
 ne on foldan fæþm ne on fyrgenholt  
 ne on gyfenes grund. ga þær he wille.
- 1395 ðys dogor þu geþyld hafa  
 weana gehwylces swa ic þe wene to.'  
 Ahleop ða se gomela, gode þancode  
 mihtigan drihtne þæs se man gespræc.  
 þa wæs Hroðgare hors gebæted
- 1400 wicg wundenfeax. wisa fengel  
 geatolic gende. gumfeþa stop  
 lindhæbbendra. lastas wæron  
 æfter waldswaþum wide gesyne,  
 gang ofer grundas gegnum for
- 1405 ofer myrcan mor magoþegna bær  
 þone selestan sawolleasne  
 þara þe mid Hroðgare ham eahtode.

- Ofereode þa æþelinga bearн  
 steep stanhliðo stige nearwe  
 1410 enge anpaðas uncuð gelad  
 neowle næssas nicorhusa fela.  
 he feara sum beforan gengde  
 wisra monna wong sceawian  
 of þæt he færinga fyrgenbeamas
- 1415 ofer harne stan hleonian funde  
 wynleasne wudu. wæter under stod  
 dreorig ond gedrefed. Denum eallum wæs  
 winum Scyldinga wærce on mode  
 to geþolianne, ðegne monegum
- 1420 oncyð eorla gehwæm syððan Æscheres  
 on þam holmclife hafelan metton.  
 Flod blode weol --folc to sægon--  
 hatan heolfre. horn stundum song  
 fuslic forðleoð. feþa eal gesæt.
- 1425 gesawon ða æfter wætere wyrmcynnes fela  
 sellice sædracan sund cunnian,  
 swylce on næshleoðum nicras licgean  
 ða on undernmæl oft bewitigað  
 sorhfulne sið on seglrade,
- 1430 wyrmas ond wildeor. hie on weg hruron  
 bitere ond gebolgne. bearhtm ongeaton  
 guðhorn galan. sumne Geata leod  
 of flanbogan feores getwæfde  
 yðgewinnes þæt him on aldre stod
- 1435 herestræl hearda. he on holme wæs  
 sundes þe sänra ðe hyne swylt fornam.  
 hræþe wearð on yðum mid eoferspreotum  
 heorohocyhtum hearde geneawod,  
 niða genæged ond on næs togen
- 1440 wundorlic wægbora. weras sceawedon

- gryrelicne gist. Gyrede hine Beowulf  
 eorlgewædum. nalles for ealdre mearn.  
 scolde herebyrne hondum gebroden  
 sid ond searofah sund cunnian  
 seo ðe bancfan beorgan cuþe  
 1445 þæt him hildegrap hreþre ne mihte  
       eordes inwitfeng aldre gesceþðan  
       ac se hwita helm hafelan werede  
       se þe meregrundas mengan scolde,  
 secan sundgeblad since geweorðad  
       befongen freawrasnum swa hine fyrndagum  
       worhte wæpna smið wundrum teode.  
       besette swinlicum þæt hine syðþan no  
       brond ne beadomecas bitan ne meahton.  
 1450 Næs þæt þonne mætost mægenfultuma  
       þæt him on ðearfe lah ðyle Hroðgares  
       --wæs þæm hæftmece Hrunting nama--  
       þæt wæs an foran ealdgestreona.  
       ecg wæs iren atertanum fah
- 1455 ahyrded heaþoswate. næfre hit æt hilde ne swac  
       manna ængum þara þe hit mid mundum bewand  
       se ðe gryresiðas gegan dorste  
       folcstede fara. næs þæt forma sið  
       þæt hit ellenweorc æfnan scolde.
- 1460 Huru ne gemunde mago Ecglafes  
       eafoþes cræftig þæt he ær gespræc  
       wine druncen þa he þæs wæpnes onlah  
       selran sweordfrecan selfa ne dorste  
       under yða gewin aldre geneþan,
- 1465 drihtscype dreogan. þær he dome forleas  
       ellenmærðum. ne wæs þæm oðrum swa  
       syðþan he hine to guðe gegyred hæfde.  
       Beowulf maðelode bearne Ecgþeowes:

- 1475      'Geþenc nu, se mæra      maga Healfdenes  
 snottra fengel.      nu ic eom siðes fus.  
 goldwine gumena,      hwæt wit geo spræcon:  
 gif ic æt þearfe      þinre scolde  
 aldre linnan.      þæt ðu me a wære  
 forðgewitenum      on fæder stæle.
- 1480      wes þu mundbora minum      magoþegnum  
 hondgesellum      gif mec hild nime  
 swylce þu ða madmas,      þe þu me sealdest,  
 Hroðgar leofa,      Higelace onsend.  
 mæg þonne on þæm golde ongitan      Geata dry-  
 hten,
- 1485      geseon sunu Hrædles      þonne he on þæt sinc starad  
 þæt ic gumcystum      godne funde  
 beaga bryttan      breac þonne moste.  
 Ond þu Hunferð læt      ealde lafe  
 wræticl wægsweord      widcuðne man
- 1490      heardecg habban.      ic me mid Hruntinge  
 dom gewyrce      oþðe mec deað nimeð.'  
 Æfter þæm wordum      Weder-Geata leod  
 efste mid elne.      nalað andsware  
 bidan wolde.      brimwylm onfeng
- 1495      hilderince.      Da wæs hwil dæges,  
 ær he þone grundwong      ongytan mehte  
 sona þæt onfunde      se ðe floda begong  
 heorogifre beheold      hund missera  
 grim ond grædig      þæt þær gumena sum
- 1500      ælwıhta eard      ufan cunnode.  
 grap þa togeanes.      guðrinc gefeng  
 atolan clommum.      no þy ær in gescod  
 halan lice.      hring utan ymbbearh  
 þæt heo þone fyrdhom      ðurhfon ne mihte  
 locene leoðosyrcan      laþan fingrum.

Bær þa seo brimwylf    þa heo to botme com  
hringa þengel    to hofe sinum  
swa he ne mihte    --no he þæs modig wæs--  
wæpna gewealdan    ac hine wundra þæs fela  
1510 swecte on sunde.    sædeor monig  
hildetuxum    heresyrcan bræc.  
ehton aglæcan.    Ða se eorl ongeat  
þæt he niðsele    nathwylcum wæs  
þær him nænig wæter    wihte ne sceþede  
1515 ne him for hrofsele    hrinan ne mehte  
færgripe flodes.    fyrleoht geseah,  
blacne leoman    beorhte scinan.  
ongeat þa se goda    grundwyrgenne  
merewif mihtig.    mægenræs forgeaf  
1520 hildebille.    hondswenge ne ofteah  
þæt hire on hafelan    hringmæl agol  
grædig guðleoð.    Ða se gist onfand  
þæt se beadoleoma    bitan nolde,  
aldre sceþðan    ac seo ecg geswac  
1525 ðeodne æt þearfe.    Ðolode ær fela  
hondgemota.    helm oft gescær  
fæges fyrdhrægl.    Ða wæs forma sið  
deorum madme    þæt his dom alæg.  
Eft wæs anræd,    nalas elnes læt  
1530 mærða gemyndig    mæg Hyglaces  
wearp ða wundenmæl    wrættum gebunden  
yrre oretta    þæt hit on eorðan læg  
stið ond stylecg.    strenge getruwode,  
mundgripe mægenes.    swa sceal man doōn  
1535 þonne he æt guðe    gegan þenceð  
longsumne lof.    na ymb his lif cearað.  
sydaudioGefeng þa be eaxle    --nalas for fæhðe

mearn--

- Guð-Geata leod, Grendles modor.  
 brægd þa beadwe heard    þa he gebolgen wæs  
 1540 feorhgeniðlan    þæt heo on flet gebeah.  
                       heo him eft hraþe    handlean forgeald  
                       grimman grapum    ond him togeanes feng.  
                       oferwearp þa werigmod    wigena strongest  
                       feþecempa    þæt he on fylle wearð.  
 1545   ofsæt þa þone selegyst    ond hyre sexa geteah  
                       brad ond brunecg.    wolde hire bearn wrecan  
                       angan eaferan.    him on eaxle læg  
                       breostnet broden;    þæt gebearh feore  
                       wið ord ond wið ecge    ingang forstod.  
 1550 Hæfde ða forsiðod    sunu Ecgþeowes  
                       under gynne grund    Geata cempa  
                       nemne him heaðobyrne    helpe gefremede  
                       herenet hearde--    ond halig god  
                       geweold wigsigor.    witig drihten  
 1555   rodera rædend    hit on ryht gesced  
                       yðelice    syþðan he eft astod.  
                       Geseah ða on searwum    sigeedig bil  
                       ealdsweord eotenisc ecgum þyhtig  
                       wigena weorðmynd.    þæt wæs wæpna cyst  
 1560 buton hit wæs mare ðonne ænig mon oðer  
                       to beadulace ætberan meahthe  
                       god ond geatolic giganta geweorc.  
                       he gefeng þa fetelhilt. freca Scyldinga  
                       hreoh ond heorogrim hringmæl gebrægd  
 1565   aldres orwena. yrringa sloh  
                       þæt hire wið halse heard grapode.  
                       banhringas bræc. bil eal ðurhwod  
                       fægne flæschoman. heo on flet gecrong.  
                       sweord wæs swatig. secg weorce gefeh.  
 1570 Lixte se leoma. leoht inne stod

- efne swa of hefene hadre scineð  
 rodores candel. he æfter recede wlat.  
 hwearf þa be wealle. wæpen hafenade  
 heard be hiltum Higelaces ðegn  
 1575 yrre ond anræd. næs seo ecg fracod  
     hilderince ac he hraþe wolde  
     Grendle forgyldan guðræsa fela  
     ðara þe he geworhte to West-Denum  
     oftor micle   ðonne on ænne sið  
 1580 þonne he Hroðgares   heorðgeneatas  
     sloh on sweofote. slæpende fræt  
     folces Denigea fyftyne men  
     ond oðer swylc ut offerede  
     laðlicu lac. sydaudio   he him þæs lean forgeald  
 1585 reþe cempa to ðæs þe he on ræste geseah  
     guðwerigne   Grendel licgan  
     aldorleasne swa him ær gescod  
     hild æt Heorote --hra wide sprong  
     syþðan he æfter deaðe   drepe þrowade  
 1590 heorosweng heardne-- ond hine þa heafde becearf.  
     Sona þæt gesawon   snottre ceorlas  
     þa ðe mid Hroðgare on holm wliton.  
     þæt wæs yðgeblond eal gemenged  
     brim blode fah. blondenfeaxe  
 1595 gomele ymb godne ongeador spræcon  
     þæt hig þæs æðelinges   eft ne wendon.  
     þæt he sigehreðig   secean come  
     mærne þeoden. þa ðæs monige gewearð  
     þæt hine seo brimwylf abreoten hæfde.  
 1600 Da com non dæges. næs ofgeafon  
     hwate Scyldingas. gewat him ham þonon  
     goldwine gumena. gistas secan  
     modes seoce ond on mere staredon.

- wiston, ond ne wendon þæt hie heora winedrihten  
1605 selfne gesawon. Þa þæt sweord ongan  
æfter heaþoswate hildgicelum  
wigbil wanian. þæt wæs wundra sum  
þæt hit eal gemealt ise gelicost  
ðonne forstes bend fæder onlæteð.
- 1610 onwinded wælrapas se geweald hafað  
sæla ond mæla. þæt is soð metod.  
Ne nom he in þæm wicum Weder-Geata leod  
maðmæhta ma þeh he þær monige geseah  
buton þone hafelan ond þa hilt somod
- 1615 since fage. sweord ær gemealt.  
forbarn brodenmæl. wæs þæt blod to þæs hat,  
ættren ellorgæst se þær inne swealt.  
Sona wæs on sunde se þe ær æt sækce gebad  
wighryre wraðra wæter up þurhdeaf.
- 1620 wærон yðgeblānd eal gefælsod  
eacne eardas þa se ellorgast  
oflet lifdagas ond þas länan gesceaft.  
com þa to lande lidmanna helm  
swiðmod swymman. sälace gefeah
- 1625 mægenbyrþenne, þara þe he him mid hæfde.  
Eodon him þa togeanes. gode þancodon  
ðryðlic þegna heap þeodnes gefegon  
þæs þe hi hyne gesundne geseon moston.  
ða wæs of þæm hroran helm ond byrne
- 1630 lungre alysed --lagu drusade,  
wæter under wolcnum wældreore fag--  
ferdon forð þonon feþelastum  
ferhþum fægne. foldweg mæton  
cuþe stræte. cyningbalde men
- 1635 from þæm holmclife hafelan bæron  
earfoðlice heora æghwæþrum

- felamodigra --feower scoldon  
 on þæm wælstenge værcum geferian  
 to þæm goldsele Grendles heafod--  
 1640 oþ ðæt semninga to sele comon  
 frome fyrdhwate feowertyne  
 Geata gongan gumdryhten mid.  
 modig on gemonge meadowongas træd.  
 Da com in gaān ealdor ȝegna  
 1645 dædcene mon dome gewurþad  
 hæle hildedeor Hroðgar gretan.  
 þa wæs be feaxe on flet boren  
 Grendles heafod þær guman druncon,  
 egeslic for eorlum ond þære idese mid,  
 1650 whiteseon wrætic. weras onsawon.  
 Beowulf mæfelode bearн Ecgþeowes:  
 'Hwæt, we þe þas sälac, sunu Healfdenes  
 leod Scyldinga, lustum brohton  
 tires to tacne þe þu her to locast.  
 1655 Ic þæt unsofte ealdre gedigde  
 wigge under wætere. weorc geneþde  
 earfoðlice. ætrihte wæs  
 guð getwæfednymðe mec god scylde.  
 ne meahste ic æt hilde mid Hruntinge  
 1660 wiht gewyrcan þeah þæt wæpen duge  
 ac me geuðe ylda waldend  
 þæt ic on wage geseah wlitig hangian  
 ealdsweord eacen --oftost wisode  
 winigea leasum-- þæt ic ȝy wæpne gebræd.  
 1665 ofslöh ða æt þære sækce þa me säl ageald  
 huses hyrdas. þa þæt hildebil  
 forbarn brogdenmæl swa þæt blod gesprang  
 hatost heaþoswata. ic þæt hilt þanan  
 feondum ætferede. fyrendæda wræc

- 1670 deaðcwealm Denigea swa hit gedefe wæs.  
 Ic hit þe þonne gehate þæt þu on Heorote most  
 sorhleas swefan mid þinra secga gedryht  
 ond þegna gehwylc þinra leoda  
 duguðe ond iogoþe.      þæt þu him ondrædan ne  
 þearft,
- 1675 þeoden Scyldinga, on þa healfē  
 aldurbealu eorlum swa þu ær dydest.'  
 Ða wæs gyldenhilt gamelum rince  
 harum hildfruman on hand gyfen  
 enta ærgeweorc. hit on æht gehwearf
- 1680 æfter deofla hryre Denigea freān  
 wundorsmiþa geweorc ond þa þas worold ofgeaf  
 gromheort guma godes andsaca  
 morðres scyldig ond his modor eac  
 on geweald gehwearf woroldcyninga
- 1685 ðæm selestan    be sām tweonum  
 ðara þe on Scedenigge sceattas dælde.  
 Hroðgar maðelode. hylt sceawode  
 ealde lafe. on ðæm wæs or writen  
 fyrrgewinnes syðþan flod ofsloh
- 1690 gifen geotende giganta cyn--  
 frecne geferdon. þæt wæs fremde þeod  
 ecean dryhtne. him þæs endelean  
 þurh wæteres wylm waldend sealde--  
 swa wæs on ðæm scennum sciran goldes
- 1695 þurh runstafas rihte gemearcod  
 geseted ond gesæd hwam þæt sweord geworht  
 irena cyst ærest wäre  
 wreōþenhilt ond wyrmfah. ða se wisa spræc  
 sunu Healfdenes    swigedon ealle:
- 1700 'Þæt, la, mæg secgan    se þe soð ond riht  
 fremeð on folce. feor eal gemon,

eald eðel weard. þæt ðes eorl wære  
geboren betera. blæd is aræred  
geond widwegas, wine min Beowulf,  
1705 ðin ofer þeoda gehwylce. eal þu hit geþyldum  
healdest,  
mægen mid modes snyttrum. ic þe sceal mine  
gelæstan  
freoðe swa wit furðum spræcon. ðu scealt to frofre  
weorþan

eal langtwidig leodum þinum  
hæleðum to helpe. Ne wearð Heremod swa  
1710 eaforum Ecgwelan Ar-Scyldingum.  
ne geweoxt he him to willan ac to wælfalle  
ond to deaðcwalum Deniga leodum.  
breat bolgenmod beodgeneatas  
eaxlgesteallan oþ þæt he ana hwearf  
1715 mære þeoden mondreamum from  
ðeah þe hine mihtig god mægenes wynnum  
eafeþum stepte ofer ealle men  
forð gefremede hwæþere him on ferhþe greow  
breosthord blodreow. nallas beagas geaf  
1720 Denum æfter dome. dreamleas gebad  
þæt he þæs gewinnes wærc þrowade  
leodbealo longsum. Ðu þe lær be þon.  
gumcyste ongit. ic þis gid be þe  
awræc wintrum frod. Wundor is to secganne  
1725 hu mihtig god manna cynne  
þurh sidne sefan snyttru bryttað  
eard ond eorlscipe. he ah ealra geweald.  
hwilum he on lufan læteð hworfian  
monnes modgeþonc mæran cynnes  
1730 seleð him on eþle eorþan wynne  
to healdanne hleoburh wera.

- gedeð him swa gewealdene      worolde dælas  
 side rice þæt he his selfa ne mæg  
 for his unsnyttrum ende geþencean.  
 1735 wunað he on wiste. no hine wiht dweleð  
     adl ne yldo ne him inwitsorh  
     on sefan sweorceð ne gesacu ohwær  
     ecghete eoweð ac him eal worold  
     wendeð on willan. he þæt wyrse ne con.  
 1740 Oð þæt him on innan oferhygda dæl  
     weaxeð ond wridað þonne se weard swefeð  
     sawele hyrde. bið se slæp to fæst,  
     bisgum gebunden, bona swiðe neah  
     sa þe of flanbogan fyrenum sceoteð.  
 1745 þonne bið on hreþre under helm drepen  
     biteran stræle --him bebeorgan ne con--  
     wom wundorbebodum wergan gastes.  
     þinceð him to lytel      þæt he to lange heold.  
     gytsað gromhydig. nallas on gylp seleð  
 1750 fædde beagas ond he þa forðgesceaft  
     forgyteð ond forgymeð þæs þe him ær god sealde,  
     wuldres waldend, weorðmynda dæl.  
     hit on endestæf eft gelimpeð  
     þæt se lichoma læne gedreoseð.  
 1755 fæge gefealleð. fehð oþer to  
     se þe unmurnlice madmas dæleþ  
     eorles ærgestreon. egesan ne gymeð.  
     Bebeorh þe ðone bealonið, Beowulf leofa  
     secg betosta, ond þe þæt selre geceos  
 1760 ece rædas. oferhyda ne gym,  
     mære cempa. nu is þines mægnes blæd  
     ane hwile. eft sona bið  
     þæt þec adl oððe ecg      eaføþes getwæfeð  
     oððe fyres feng oððe flodes wylm

- 1765 oððe gripe meces oððe gares fliht  
     oððe atol yldo. oððe eagna bearhtm  
     forsiteð ond forsworceð. semninga bið  
     þæt ðec, dryhtguma, deað oferswyðeð.  
     Swa ic Hring-Dena hund missera
- 1770 weold under wolcnum ond hig wigge beleac  
     manigum mægþa geond þysne middangeard  
     æscum ond ecgum þæt ic me ænigne  
     under swegles begong gesacan ne tealde.  
     Hwæt, me þæs on eble edwendan cwom,
- 1775 gyrn æfter gomene seoþðan Grendel wearð  
     ealdgewinna ingenga min  
     ic þære socne singales wæg  
     modceare micle. þæs sig metode þanc  
     ecean dryhtne þæs ðe ic on aldre gebad
- 1780 þæt ic on þone hafelan heorodreorigne  
     ofer eald gewin eagum starige!  
     Ga nu to settle. symbolwynne dreoh  
     wiggeweorþad. unc sceal worn fela  
     maþma gemænra siþðan morgen bið.'
- 1785 Geat wæs glædmod. geong sona to  
     setles neosan swa se snottra heft.  
     þa wæs eft swa ær ellenrofum  
     fletsittendum fægere gereorded  
     niowan stefne. nihthelm geswearc
- 1790 deorc ofer dryhtgumum. duguð eal aras.  
     wolde blondenfeax beddes neosan,  
     gamelia Scylding. Geat unigmetes wel  
     rofne randwigan restan lyste.  
     sona him seleþegen siðes wergum
- 1795 feorrancundum orð wisade  
     se for andrysnum ealle beweotede  
     þegnes þearfe swylce þy dogore

- heaþoliðende habban scoldon.  
 reste hine þa rumheort. reced hliuade  
 1800 geap ond goldfah. gæst inne swæf  
 of þæt hrefn blaca heofones wynne  
 bliðheort bodode. Ða com beorht scacan  
 scaþan onetton.  
 wærон æþelingas eft to leodum  
 1805 fuse to farenne. wolde feor þanon  
 cuma collenferhð ceoles neosan.  
 Heht þa se hearda Hrunting beran  
 sunu Ecglafes. heht his sveord niman  
 leoflic iren. sægde him þæs leanes þanc.  
 1810 cwað: he þone guðwine godne tealde  
 wigcræftigne. nales wordum log  
 meces ecge. þæt wæs modig secg.  
 Ond þa siðfrome, searwum gearwe  
 wigend wærон eode weord Denum  
 1815 æþeling to yppan þær se oþer wæs  
 hæle hildedeor Hroðgar grette.  
 Beowulf mæfelode bearн Ecgþeowes:  
 'Nu we sæliðend secgan wyllað  
 feorrان cumene þæt we fundiaþ  
 1820 Higelac secan. wærон her tela  
 willum bewenede. þu us wel dohtest.  
 Gif ic þonne on eorþan owihte mæg  
 þinre modlufan maran tilian,  
 gumena dryhten, ðonne ic gyt dyde,  
 1825 guðgeweorca ic beo gearo sona  
 gif ic þæt gefricge ofer floda begang  
 þæt þec ymbsittend egesan þywað  
 swa þec hetende hwilum dydon  
 ic ðe þusenda þegna bringe  
 1830 hæleþa to helpe. Ic on Higelace wat,

- Geata dryhten þeah ðe he geong sy<sup>Æ</sup>  
folces hyrde. þæt he mec fremman wile  
weordum ond worcum þæt ic þe wel herige  
ond þe to geoce garholt bere
- 1835 mægenes fultum þær ðe bið manna þearf.  
Gif him þonne Hreþprinc to hofum Geata  
geþingeð þeodnes bearn he mæg þær fela  
freonda findan. feorcyþðe beoð  
selran gesohte þæm þe him selfa deah.'
- 1840 Hroðgar mæfelode him on andsware:  
'Þe þa wordcwydas wiktig drihten  
on sefan sende. ne hyrde ic snotorlicor  
on swa geongum feore guman þingian.  
þu eart mægenes strang ond on mode frod
- 1845 wis wordcwida. wen ic talige  
gif þæt gegangeð þæt ðe gar nymeð  
hild heorugrimme Hreþles eaferan,  
adl oþðe iren ealdor ðinne  
folces hyrde ond þu þin feorh hafast
- 1850 þæt þe Sæ-Geatas selran næbban  
to geceosenne cyning ænigne  
hordweard hæleþa gyf þu healdan wylt  
maga rice. me þin modsefa  
licað leng swa wel, leofa Beowulf.
- 1855 hafast þu gefered þæt þam folcum sceal  
Geata leodum ond Gar-Denum  
sib gemænum ond sacu restan,  
inwitniþas, þe hie ær drugon,  
wesan þenden ic wealde widan rices
- 1860 maþmas gemæne, manig oþerne  
godum gegrettan ofer ganotes bæð.  
sceal hringnaca ofer heaþu bringan

- lac ond luftacen. ic þa leode wat  
 ge wið feond ge wið freond fæste geworhte  
 1865 æghwæs untæle ealde wisan.'  
 Da git him eorla hleo hine gesealde  
 mago Healfdenes māþmas twelf.  
 het inne mid þām lacum leode swāse  
 secean on gesyntum, snude eft cuman.  
 1870 gecyste þa cyning æþelum god,  
 þeoden Scyldinga ðegn betostan  
 ond be healse genam. hruron him tearas  
 blondenfeaxum. him wæs bega wen  
 ealdum infroðum, oþres swiðor.  
 1875 þæt hie seoððan geseon moston  
 modige on meþle. wæs him se man to þon leof  
 þæt he þone breostwylm forberan ne mehte  
 ac him on hreþre hygebendum fæst  
 æfter deorum men dyrne langað  
 1880 beorn wið blode. Him Beowulf þanan  
 guðrinc goldwlanc græsmoldan træd  
 since hremig. sægenga bad  
 agedfreān, se þe on ancre rad.  
 þa wæs on gange gifu Hroðgares  
 1885 oft geæhted. þæt wæs an cyning,  
 æghwæs orleahtre oþ þæt hine yldo benam  
 mægenes wynnum se þe oft manegum scod.  
 Cwom þa to flode fela modigra  
 hægstealdra. hringnet bæron  
 1890 locene leoðosyrcan. landweard onfand  
 eftsið eorla, swa he ær dyde.  
 no he mid hearme of hliðes nosan  
 gæstas grette ac him togeanes rad.  
 cwæð þæt wilcuman Wedera leodium  
 1895 scaþan scirhame to scipe foron.

- þa wæs on sande sægeap naca  
 hladen herewædum hringedstefna  
 mearum ond maðmum. mæst hlifade  
 ofer Hroðgares hordgestreonum.  
 1900 he þæm batwearde bunden golde  
 swurd gesealde þæt he syðþan wæs  
 on meodubence maþma þy weorþre  
 yrfeſafe. Gewat him on nacan  
 drefan deop wæter. Dena land ofgeaf.  
 1905 þa wæs be mæſte merehrægla sum  
 segl sale fæſt. sundwudu þunede.  
 no þær wegflotan wind ofer yðum  
 siðes getwæfde. sægenga for.  
 float famigheals forð ofer yðe  
 1910 bundenstefna ofer brimstreamas  
 þæt hie Geata clifu ongitan meahton  
 cuþe næſſas. ceol up geþrang  
 lyftgeswenced. on lande stod.  
 Hraþe wæs æt holme hyðweard geara  
 1915 se þe ær lange tid leofra manna  
 fus æt faroðe feor wlatode.  
 sælde to sande sidfæþme scip  
 oncearbendum fæſt þy læs hym yþa ðrym  
 wudu wynsuman forwrecan meahte.  
 1920 het þa up beran æþelinga gestreon  
 frætwe ond fætgold. næſ him feor þanon  
 to gesecanne sinceſ bryttan  
 Higelac Hreþling þær æt ham wunað  
 selfa mid gesiðum sæwealle neah.  
 1925 Bold wæs betlic, bregorof cyning  
 heāhealle, Hygd swiðe geong  
 wiſ welþungen þeah ðe wintra lyt  
 under burhlocan gebiden hæbbe

- Hæreþes dohtor      næs hio hnah swa þeah  
 1930 ne to gneað gifia Geata leodum  
               maþmgestreona. Mod þryðo wæg  
               fremu folces cwen, firen' ondrysne.  
               næníg þæt dorste deor geneþan  
               swæsra gesiða, nefne sinfreā.  
 1935 þæt hire an dæges eagum starede  
               ac him wælbende weotode tealde  
               handgewriþene.    hraþe seoþðan wæs  
               æfter mundgripe mece geþinged  
               þæt hit sceadenmæl    scyran moste,  
 1940 cwealmbealu cyðan. ne bið swylc cwenlic þeaw  
               idese to efnanne þeah ðe hio ænlicu sy.  
               þætte freoðuwebbe feores onsæce  
               æfter ligetorne leofne mannan.  
               Huru þæt on hoh snod    Hemninges mæg.  
 1945 ealodrincende oðer sædan.  
               þæt hio leodbealewa    læs gefremede  
               inwitniða    syððan ærest wearð  
               gyfen goldhroden geongum cempan  
               æðelum diore syððan hio Offan flet  
 1950 ofer fealone flod be fæder lare  
               siðe gesohte ðær hio syððan well  
               in gumstole gode mære  
               lifgesceafta lifigende breac.  
               hiold heahlufan wið hæleþa brego,  
 1955 ealles moncynnes mine gefræge  
               þæs selestan bi sæm tweonum  
               eormencynnes.    Forðam Offa wæs  
               geofum ond guðum garcene man  
               wide geweorðod. wisdome heold  
 1960 eðel sinne. þonon ongeomor woc  
               hæleðum to helpe Heminges mæg

- nefā Garmundes niða cræftig.  
 Gewat him ða se hearda mid his hondscole  
 sylf æfter sande sæwong tredan  
 1965 wide waroðas. woruldcandel scan  
     sigel suðan fus. hi sið drugon.  
     elne geeodon, to ðæs ðe eorla hleo  
     bonan Ongenþeoēs burgum in innan,  
     geongne guðcyning godne gefrunon  
 1970 hringas dælan. Higelace wæs  
     sið Beowulfes snude gecyðed.  
     þæt ðær on worðig      wigendra hleo  
     lindgestealla lifigende cwom  
     heaðolaces hal to hofe gongan.  
 1975 hraðe wæs gerymed swa se rica bebead  
     feðegestum flet innanweard.  
     gesæt þa wið sylfne      se ða sækce genæs,  
     mæg wið mæge syððan mandryhten  
     þurh hleoðorcwyde holdne gegrette  
 1980 meaglum wordum meoduscencum  
     hwearf geond þæt side reced Hæreðes dohtor  
     lufode ða leode. liðwæge bær  
     hæum to handa. Higelac ongan  
     sinne geseldan in sele þam hean  
 1985 fægre fricgcean. hyne fyrwet bræc  
     hwylce Sæ-Geata siðas wæron:  
     'Hu lomp eow on lade,      leofa Biowulf,  
     þa ðu færinga feorr gehogodest  
     sækce secean ofer sealt wæter  
 1990 hilde to Hiorote? Ac ðu Hroðgare  
     widcuðne wean wihte gebetttest  
     mærum ðeodne? Ic ðæs modceare  
     sorhwylmum seað. siðe ne truwode  
     leofes mannes. ic ðe lange bæd

- 1995 þæt þu þone wælgæst wihte ne grette.  
 lete Suð-Dene sylfe geweorðan  
 guðe wið Grendel. gode ic þanc secge  
 þæs ðe ic ðe gesundne geseon moste.'  
 Biowulf maðelode bearн Ecgðioes:
- 2000 'Þæt is undyrne, dryhten Higelac,  
 micel gemeting monegum fira.  
 hwylc orleghwil uncer Grendles  
 wearð on ðam wange þær he worna fela  
 Sige-Scyldingum sorge gefremede
- 2005 yrmðe to aldre. ic ðæt eall gewræc  
 swa begylpan þearf Grendeles maga  
 yfel ofer eorðan uhthlem þone  
 se ðe lengest leofað laðan cynnes  
 faecne bifongen. Ic ðær furðum cwom
- 2010 to ðam hringsele Hroðgar gretan.  
 sona me se mæra mago Healfdenes  
 syððan he modsefan minne cuðe  
 wið his sylfes sunu setl getæhte.
- weorod wæs on wynne. ne seah ic widan feorh
- 2015 under heofones hwealf healsittendra  
 medudream maran. Hwilum mæru cwen  
 friðusibb folca flet eall geondhwearf.  
 bædde byre geonge. oft hio beahwriðan  
 secge sealde ær hie to setle geong.
- 2020 hwilum for duguðe dohtor Hroðgares  
 eorlum on ende ealuwæge bær  
 þa ic Freaware fletsittende  
 nemnan hyrde þær hio nægled sinc  
 hæleðum sealde Sio gehaten is
- 2025 geong goldhroden, gladum suna Frodan.  
 hafað þæs geworden wine Scyldinga  
 rices hyrde ond þæt ræd talað

- þæt he mid ðy wife    wælfæhða dæl  
 sæcca gesette. Oft seldan hwær  
 2030 æfter leodhryre lytle hwile  
 bongar bugeð þeah seo bryd duge.  
 Mæg þæs þonne ofþyncan ðeoden Heaðo-Beardna  
 ond þegna gehwam þara leoda  
 þonne he mid fæmnan on flett gaëð:  
 2035 dryhtbearn Dena duguða biwenede,  
 on him gladiað gomelra lafe  
 heard ond hringmæl Heaða-Bearna gestreon  
 þenden hie ðam wæpnum wealdan moston.  
 Oð ðæt hie forlæddan to ðam lindplegan  
 2040 swæse gesiðas ond hyra sylfra feorh.  
 Þonne cwið æt beore    se ðe beahgesyhð  
 eald æscwiga se ðe eall geman  
 garcwealm gumena --him bið grim sefa--  
 onginneð geomormod geongum cempan  
 2045 þurh hreðra gehygd higes cunnian,  
 wigbealu weccean ond þæt word acwyð:  
 "Meaht ðu, min wine,    mece gecnawan  
 þone þin fæder to gefeohte bær  
 under heregriman hindeman siðe,  
 2050 dyre iren, þær hyne Dene slogan.  
 weoldon wælstowe syððan wiðergyld læg  
 æfter hæleþa hryre hwate Scyldungas?  
 Nu her þara banena byre nathwylces  
 frætwum hremig on flet gaëð.  
 2055 morðres gylpeð ond þone maðþum byreð  
 þone þe ðu mid rihte rædan sceoldest."  
 Manað swa ond myndgað    mæla gehwylce  
 sarum wordum oð ðæt säl cymeð  
 þæt se fæmnan þegn fore fæder dædum

- 2060 æfter billes bite blodfag swefeð  
 ealdres scyldig, him se oðer þonan  
 losað lifigende. con him land geare.  
 Þonne bioð brocene on ba healfe  
 aðsweorð eorla. syððan Ingelde
- 2065 weallað wælniðas ond him wiflufan  
 æfter cearwælmum colran weorðað.  
 þy ic Heaðo-Beardna hyldo ne telge  
 dryhtsibbe dæl Denum unfæcne,  
 freondscipe fæstne. Ic sceal forð sprecan
- 2070 gen ymbe Grendel þat ðu geare cunne,  
 since brytta, to hwan syððan wearð  
 hondræs hæleða syððan heofones gim  
 glad ofer grundas gæst yrre cwom  
 eatol æfengrom user neosan
- 2075 ðær we gesunde sæl weardodon  
 þær wæs Hondsciō hilde onsæge  
 feorhbealu fægum. he fyrmost læg  
 gyrded cempa. him Grendel wearð  
 mærum maguþegne to muðbonan.
- 2080 leofes mannes lic eall forswealg.  
 no ðy ær ut ða gen idelhende  
 bona blodigtoð bealewa gemyndig  
 of ðam goldsele gongan wolde  
 ac he mægnes rof min costode.
- 2085 grapode gearofolm. glof hangode  
 sid ond syllic searobendum fæst  
 sio wæs orðoncum eall gegyrwed  
 deofles cræftum ond dracan fellum.  
 he mec þær on innan unsynnigne
- 2090 dior dædfruma gedon wolde  
 manigra sumne. hyt ne mihte swa  
 syððan ic on yrre upprihte astod.

- To lang ys to reccenne hu ic ðam leodsceaðan  
yfla gehwylces hondlean forgeald
- 2095 þær ic, þeoden min, þine leode  
weorðode weorcum. he on weg losade  
lytle hwile lifwynna breac.  
hwæþre him sio swiðre swaðe weardade  
hand on Hiorte ond he hean ðonan
- 2100 modes geomor meregrund gefeoll.  
Me þone wælræs wine Scildunga  
fættan golde fela leanode  
manegum maðmum syððan mergen com  
ond we to symble geseten hæfdon
- 2105 þær wæs gidd ond gleo: gomela Scilding  
felafricgende feorran rehte.  
hwilum hildedeor hearpan wynne  
gomelwudu grette. hwilum gyd awræc  
soð ond sarlic. hwilum syllic spell
- 2110 rehte æfter rihte rumheort cyning.  
hwilum eft ongan eldo gebunden  
gomel guðwiga gioguðe cwiðan  
hilstestrengo. hreðer inne weoll  
þonne he wintrum frod, worn gemunde.
- 2115 Swa we þær inne andlangne dæg  
niode naman oð ðæt niht becwom  
oðer to yldum. Þa wæs eft hraðe  
gearo gynnwræce Grendeles modor  
siðode sorhfull. sunu deað fornam,
- 2120 wighete Wedra. wif unhyre  
hyre bearн gewræc. beorn acwealde  
ellenlice. þær wæs Æschere  
froðan fyrnwitan feorh uðgenge.  
Noðer hy hine ne moston syððan mergen cwom
- 2125 deaðwerigne Denia leode

- bronde forbærnan ne on bæl hladan  
 leofne mannan. hio þæt lic ætbær  
 feondes fæðme under firgenstream.  
 2130    þæt wæs Hroðgare    hreowa tornost  
 þara þe leodfruman lange begeate.  
 Þa se ðeoden mec    ðine life  
 healsode hreohmod þæt ic on holma geþring  
 eorlscipe efnde. ealdre geneðde.  
 mærðo fremede. he me mede gehet.  
 2135    Ic ða ðæs wælmes þe is wide cuð  
 grimme gryrelicne grundhyrde fond.  
 þær unc hwile wæs hand gemæne.  
 holm heolfre weoll ond ic heafde becearf  
 in ðam grundsele Grendeles modor  
 2140    eacnum ecgum. unsofte þonan  
 feorh oðferede. næs ic fæge þa gyt  
 ac me eorla hleo eft gesealde  
 maðma menigeo maga Healfdenes.'  
 Swa se ðeodkynning þeawum lyfde.  
 2145    nealles ic ðam leanum forloren hæfde  
 mægnes mede ac he me maðma geaf  
 sunu Healfdenes on minne sylfes dom  
 ða ic ðe, beorncyning, bringan wylle,  
 estum geywan. gen is eall æt ðe  
 2150    lissa gelong. ic lYT hafo  
 heafodmaga    nefne, Hygelac, ðec.'  
 Het ða in beran eafor heafodsegn  
 heaðosteapne helm hare byrnan  
 guðsweord geatolic. gyd æfter wræc:  
 2155    'Me ðis hildesceorp    Hroðgar sealde  
 snotra fengel. sume worde het  
 þæt ic his ærest ðe    est gesægde.  
 cwæð þæt hyt hæfde    Hiorogar cyning

- leod Scyldunga lange hwile.  
 2160 no ðy ær suna sinum syllan wolde  
     hwatum Heorowearde þeah he him hold wære  
     breostgewædu. Bruc ealles well.'  
     Hyrde ic þæt þam frætwum feower mearas  
     lungre gelice last weardode  
 2165 æppelfealuwe. he him est geteah  
     meara ond maðma. Swa sceal mæg dōn:  
     nealles inwitnet oðrum bregdon  
     dyrnum cræfte deað renian  
     hondgesteallan. Hygelace wæs  
 2170 niða heardum nefä swyðe hold  
     ond gehwæðer oðrum hroþra gemyndig.  
     hyrde ic þæt he ðone healsbeah Hygde gesealde  
     wrætlicne wundurmaððum ðone þe him Wealhðeo  
 geaf  
     ðeodnes dohtor þrio wicg somod  
 2175 swancor ond sadolbeorht. hyre syððan wæs  
     æfter beahðege breost geweorðod.  
     Swa bealdode bearn Ecgðeowes  
     guma guðum cuð godum dædum.  
     dreah æfter dome. nealles druncne slog  
 2180 heorðgeneatas. næs him hreoh sefa  
     ac he mancynnes mæste cræfte  
     ginfæstan gife þe him god sealde  
     heold hildedeor. Hean wæs lange  
     swa hyne Geata bearn godne ne tealdon  
 2185 ne hyne on medobence micles wyrðne  
     drihten wereda gedon wolde.  
     swyðe sægdon þæt he sleac wære  
     æðeling unfrom. edwenden cwom  
     tireadigum menn torna gehwylces.

- 2190 Het ða eorla hleo in gefetian,  
heaðorof cyning, Hreðles lafe  
golde gegyrede. næs mid Geatum ða  
sincmaðþum selra on sweordes had.  
þæt he on Biowulfes bearm alegde
- 2195 ond him gesealde seofan þusendo,  
bold ond bregostol. Him wæs bam samod  
on ðam leodscipe lond gecynde  
eard eðelriht, oðrum swiðor  
side rice þam ðær selra wæs.
- 2200 Eft þæt geiode ufaran dogrum  
hildehlæmmum. syððan Hygelac læg  
ond Heardrede hildemeceas  
under bordhreoðan to bonan wurdon  
ða hyne gesohtan on sigeþeode
- 2205 hearde hildefrecan Heaðo-Scilfingas.  
niða genægdan nefan Hererices.  
syððan Beowulfe bræde rice  
on hand gehwearf. he geheold tela  
fiftig wintra --wæs ða frod cyning
- 2210 eald eþelweard-- oð ðæt on ongan  
deorcum nihtum draca ricsian  
se ðe on heaum hofe hord beweotode  
stanbeorh stearcne. stig under læg  
eldum uncuð. Þær on innan giong
- 2215 niða nathwylc ond neah gefeng  
hæðnum horde. hond gewriþenne  
since fahne he þæt syððan bohte  
þeah ðe he slæpende besyred hæfde  
þeofes cræfte. þæt sie ðiod onfand
- 2220 bufolc beorna þæt he gebolgen wæs.  
Nealles næs geweoldum wyrmhordan cræft  
sylfes willum se ðe him sare gesceod

- ac for þreanedlan þeof nathwylces  
 hæleða bearna heteswengeas fleoh  
 2225    ærnesþearfe ond ðær inne weall  
           secg synbysig sona onwacade.  
 þæt gean ðam gyste gryrebroga stod.  
 hwæðre fyrenisceapen  
 -- sceapen  
 2230    -- se fær begeat.  
           sincfæt sohte. þær wæs swylcra fela  
           in ðam eorðsele    ærgestreona  
           swa hy on geardagum gumena nathwylc  
           eormenlafe    æþelan cynnes  
 2235    þanchycgende    þær gehydde  
           deore maðmas. ealle hie deað fornam  
           ærran mælum ond si an ða gen  
           leoda duguðe se ðær lengest hwearf  
           weard winegeomor wende þæs yldan.  
 2240    þæt he lytel fæc    longgestreona  
           brucan moste. Beorh eallgearo  
           wunode on wonge wæteryðum neah  
           niwe be næsse nearocræftum fæst.  
           þær on innan bær    eorlgestreona  
 2245    hringa hyrde    handwyrðne dæl  
           fættan goldes. fea worda cwæð:  
           'Heald þu nu, hruse, nu hæleð ne mostan  
           eorla æhте. Hwæt, hytær on ðe  
           gode begeaton. guðdeað fornam  
 2250    feorhbeale frecne fyrena gehwylcne  
           leoda minra þa me ðe þis ofgeaf:  
           gesawon seledream. he nah hwa sweord wege  
           oððe fægrrie fæted wæge  
           dryncfæt deore. duguð ellor seoc.  
 2255    sceal se hearda helm hyrstedgolde

- fætum befallen. feormynd swefað  
 þa ðe beadogriman bywan sceoldon.  
 ge swylce seo herepad sio æt hilde gebad  
 ofer borda gebræc bite irena  
 2260 brosnað æfter beorne. ne mæg byrnan hring  
 æfter wigfruman wide feran  
 hæleðum be healfe. næs hearpan wyn  
 gomen gleobeames ne god hafoc  
 geond sæl swingeð ne se swifta mearh  
 2265 burhstede beateð. bealocwealm hafað  
 fela feorhcynna forð onsended.'  
 Swa giomormod giohðo mænde  
 an æfter eallum. unblīðe hwearf  
 dæges ond nihtes oð ðæt deaðes wylm  
 2270 hran æt heortan. Hordwynne fond  
 eald uhtsceaða opene standan  
 se ðe byrnende biorgas seceð  
 nacod niðdraca. nihtes fleogeð  
 fyre befangen. hyne foldbuend  
 2275 : : : : : : : : : : : nan. He gescean sceall  
 hearm on hrusan þær he hæðen gold  
 warað wintrum frod. ne byð him wihte ðy sel.  
 Swa se ðeodsceaða þreo hund wintra  
 heold on hrusan hordærna sum  
 2280 eacencraeftig oð ðæt hyne an abealch  
 mon on mode: mandryhtne bær  
 fæted wæge. frioðowære bæd  
 hlaford sinne. ða wæs hord rasod,  
 onboren beaga hord, bene getiðad  
 2285 feasceaftum men. frea sceawode  
 fira fyrngeweorc forman siðe.  
 Þa se wyrm onwoc --wroht wæs geniwad--  
 stonc ða æfter stane. stearcheort onfand

feondes fotlast. he to forð gestop  
2290 dyrnan cræfte dracan heafde neah.  
Swa mæg unfæge eaðe gedigan  
wean ond wræcsið se ðe waldendes  
hyldo gehealdeþ. Hordweard sohte  
georne æfter grunde. wolde guman findan  
2295 þone þe him on sweofote sare geteode.  
hat ond hreohmod hlæwum oft ymbehwearf  
ealne utanweardne --ne ðær ænig mon  
on þam westenne hwæðre hilde gefeh  
beadu weorces --hwilum on beorh æthwearf.  
2300 sincfæt sohte. he þæt sona onfand.  
ðæt hæfde gumena sum goldes gefandod  
heahgestreona. hordweard onbad  
earfoðlice oð ðæt æfen cwom.  
wæs ða gebolgen    beorges hyrde.  
2305 wolde se laða lige forgyldan  
drincfæt dyre. Þa wæs dæg sceacen  
wyrme on willan. no on wealle læg  
bidan wolde ac mid bæle for  
fyre gefyzed. wæs se fruma egeslic  
2310 leodum on lande swa hyt lungre wearð  
on hyra sincgifan sare geendod.  
Ða se gæst ongan gledum spiwan,  
beorht hofu bærnan. bryneleoma stod  
eldum on andan. no ðær aht cwices  
2315 lað lyftfloga læfan wolde.  
wæs þæs wyrmes wig wide gesyne  
nearofages nið nean ond feorran.  
hu se guðsceaða Geata leode  
hatode ond hynde. hord eft gesceat  
2320 dryhtsele dyrnne ær dæges hwile.  
hæfde landwara lige befangen

- bæle ond bronde. beorges getruwode  
 wiges ond wealles. him seo wen geleah.  
 2325    Þa wæs Biowulfe broga gecyðed  
 snude to soðe þæt his sylfes ham  
 bolda selest brynewylmum mealt  
 gifstol Geata. þæt ðam godan wæs  
 hreow on hreðore hygesorga mæst.  
 wende se wisa þæt he wealdende  
 2330    ofer ealde riht ecean dryhtne  
 bitre gebulge. breost innan weoll  
 þeostrum geþoncum swa him geþywe ne wæs.  
 Hæfde ligdraca leoda fæsten  
 ealond utan eorðweard ðone  
 2335    gledum forgrunden. him ðæs guðkynning  
 Wedera þioden wræce leornode.  
 heht him þa gewyrcean, wigendra hleo  
 eallirenne, eorla dryhten,  
 wigbord wrætlic. wisse he gearwe  
 2340    þæt him holtwudu helpan ne meahte  
 lind wið lige. Sceolde liþenddaga  
 æþeling ærgod ende gebidan  
 worulde lifes ond se wyrn somod  
 þeah ðe hordwelan heolde lange.  
 2345    Oferhogode ða hringa fengel  
 þæt he þone widflogan    weorode gesohte  
 sidan herge. no he him þam sækce ondred  
 ne him þæs wyrmes wig for wiht dyde  
 eafoð ond ellen forðon he ær fela  
 2350    nearo neðende niða gedigde  
 hildehlemma syððan he Hroðgares  
 sigoreadig secg sele fælsode  
 ond æt guðe forgrap Grendeles mægum  
 laðan cynnes. No þæt læsest wæs

- 2355 hondgemota    þær mon Hygelac sloh  
               syððan Geata cyning guðe ræsum  
               freawine folca Freslondum on  
               Hreðles eafora hiorodryncum swealt  
               bille gebeaten. þonan Biowulf com  
 2360 sylfes cræfte. sundnytte dreah.  
               hæfde him on earme eorla þritig  
               hildegeatwa þa he to holme stag.  
               nealles Hetware hremge þorfton  
               feðewiges    þe him foran ongean  
 2365 linde bæron. lyt eft becwom  
               fram þam hildfrecan hames niosan.  
               Oferswam ða sioleða bigong sunu Ecgðeowes  
               earm anhaga eft to leodum  
               þær him Hygd gebead hord ond rice  
 2370 beagas ond bregostol: bearne ne truwode  
               þæt he wið ælfylcum    eþelstolas  
               healdan cuðe ða wæs Hygelac dead.  
               no ðy ðe feasceafte findan meahton  
               æt ðam æðelinge ænige ðinga  
 2375 þæt he Heardrede    hlaford wäre  
               oððe þone cynedom ciosan wolde.  
               hwæðre he him on folce    freondlarum heold  
               estum mid are oð ðæt he yldra wearð.  
               Weder-Geatum weold. Hyne wræcmæcgas  
 2380 ofer sæ sohtan, suna Ohteres.  
               hæfdon hy forhealden helm Scylfinga  
               þone selestan sæcyninga  
               þara ðe in Swiorice sinc brytnade,  
               mærne þeoden. him þæt to mearce wearð.  
 2385 he þær for feorme feorhwunde hleaf  
               sveordes swengum sunu Hygelaces  
               ond him eft gewat Ongenðioes bearn

hames niosan syððan Heardred læg.  
let ðone bregostol Biowulf healdan,  
2390 Geatum wealdan. þæt wæs god cyning.  
Se ðæs leodhryres lean gemunde  
uferan dogrum. Eadgilse wearð  
feasceaftum freond. folce gestepte  
ofer sæ side sunu Ohteres  
2395 wigum ond wæpnum. he gewræc syððan  
cealdum cearsiðum. cyning ealdre bineat:  
swa he niða gehwane genesen hæfde  
sliðra geslyhta, sunu Ecgðiowes,  
ellenweorca oð ðone anne dæg  
2400 þe he wið þam wyrme gewegan sceolde.  
Gewat þa twelfa sum torne gebolgen  
dryhten Geata, dracan sceawian.  
hæfde þa gefrunen hwanan sio fæhð aras  
bealonið biorna: him to bearme cwom  
2405 maðþumfæt mære, þurh ðæs meldan hond.  
se wæs on ðam ðreate þreotteeða secg  
se ðæs orleges or onstealde  
hæft hygegiomor. sceolde hean ðonon  
wong wisian. he ofer willan giong  
2410 to ðæs ðe he eorðsele anne wisse  
hlæw under hrusan holmwylme neh  
yðgewinne. se wæs innan full  
wrætta ond wira. weard unhiore  
gearo guðfreca goldmaðmas heold  
2415 eald under eorðan. næs þæt yðe ceap  
to gegangenne gumena ænigum.  
Gesæt ða on næsse niðheard cyning.  
þenden hælo abead heorðgeneatum  
goldwine Geata. him wæs geomor sefa  
2420 wæfre ond wælfus, wyrd ungemete neah

- se ðone gomelan gretan sceolde,  
 secean sawle hord, sundur gedælan  
 lif wið lice. no þon lange wæs  
 feorh æþelinges flæsce bewunden.  
 2425 Biowulf mæhelade bearn Ecgðeowes:  
 'Fela ic on giogoðe guðræsa genæs  
 orleghwila. ic þæt eall gemon.  
 ic wæs syfanwintre þa mec sinca baldor  
 freawine folca æt minum fæder genam.  
 2430 heold mec ond hæfde Hreðel cyning.  
 geaf me sinc ond symbol. sibbe gemunde.  
 næs ic him to life laðra owihte  
 beorn in burgum þonne his bearna hwylc  
 Herebeald ond Hæðcyn oððe Hygelac min.  
 2435 Wæs þam yldestan ungedefelice  
 mæges dædum morþorbed strēd  
 syððan hyne Hæðcyn of hornbogan  
 his freawine flane geswencte.  
 miste mercelses ond his mæg ofscet  
 2440 broðor oðerne blodigan gare.  
 þæt wæs feohleas gefeoht fyrenum gesyngad,  
 hreðre hygemeðe. sceolde hwæðre swa þeah  
 æðeling unwrecen ealdres linnan.  
 Swa bið geomorlic gomelum ceorle  
 2445 to gebidanne þæt his byre ride  
 giong on galgan: þonne he gyd wrece,  
 sarigne sang þonne his sunu hangað  
 hrefne to hroðre ond he him helpan ne mæg  
 eald ond infrod ænige gefremman.  
 2450 symble bið gemyndgad morna gehwylce  
 eaforan ellorsið. oðres ne gymeð  
 to gebidanne burgum in innan  
 yrfeawardas þonne se an hafað

- 2455      þurh deaðes nyd dæda gefondad.  
 gesyhð sorhcearig on his suna bure  
 winsele westne windge reste  
 reote berofene. ridend swefað  
 hæleð in hoðman. nis þær hearpan sweg  
 gomen in geardum swylce ðær iu wæron.
- 2460      Gewiteð þonne on sealman. sorhleoð gæleð  
 an æfter anum. þuhte him eall to rum  
 wongas ond wicstede. Swa Wedra helm  
 æfter Herebealde heortan sorge  
 weallinde, wæg: wihte ne meahte  
 2465      on ðam feorhbonan fæghðe gebetan.  
 no ðy ær he þone heaðorinc      hatian ne meahte  
 laðum dædum þeah him leof ne wæs.  
 he ða mid þære sorhge þe him sio sar belamp  
 gumdream ofgeaf. godes leoht geceas.
- 2470      eaferum læfde swa deð eadig mon  
 lond ond leodbyrig þa he of life gewat.  
 Þa wæs synn ond sacu      Sweona ond Geata  
 ofer wid wæter wroht gemæne  
 herenið hearda syððan Hreðel swealt
- 2475      oððe him Ongenðeowes eaferan wæran  
 frome fyrdhwate. freode ne woldon  
 ofer heafo healdan ac ymb Hreosnabeorh  
 eatolne inwitscear oft gefremedon  
 þæt mægwine mine gewræcan,
- 2480      fæhðe ond fyrene swa hyt gefræge wæs  
 þeah ðe oðer his ealdre gebohte  
 heardan ceape. Hæðcynne wearð  
 Geata dryhtne guð onsæge.
- 2485      Þa ic on morgne gefragn mæg oðerne  
 billes ecgum on bonan stælan  
 þær Ongenþeow Eofores niosað.

- guðhelm toglad. gomela Scylfing  
hreas heaþoblac. hond gemunde  
fæhðo genoge. feorhweng ne ofteah.  
2490 Ic him þa maðmas    þe he me sealde  
geald æt guðe swa me gifeðe wæs  
leohtan sweorde. he me lond forgeaf  
eard eðelwyn. næs him ænig þearf  
þæt he to Gifðum    oððe to Gar-Denum  
2495 oððe in Swiorice secean þurfe  
wyrsan wigfrecan, weorðe gecypan:  
symle ic him on feðan beforan wolde  
ana on orde ond swa to aldre sceall  
sæcce fremman þenden þis sweord þolað  
2500 þæt mec ær ond sið oft gelæste  
syððan ic for dugeðum Dæghrefne wearð  
to handbonan, Huga cempan.  
nalles he ða frætwe    Frescyninge  
breostweorðunge    bringan moste  
2505 ac in cempan gecrong cumbles hyrde  
æþeling on elne. ne wæs ecg bona  
ac him hildegrap heortan wylmas  
banhus gebræc. Nu sceall billes ecg  
hond ond heard sweord ymb hord wigan.'
- 2510 Beowulf maðelode beotwordum spræc  
niehstan siðe: 'Ic geneðde fela  
guða on geogoðe. gyt ic wylle  
frod folces weard fæhðe secan,  
mærðum fremman gif mec se mansceaða  
2515 of eorðsele ut geseceð.'
- Gegrette ða gumena gehwylcne  
hwate helmberend hindeman siðe  
swæse gesiðas: 'Nolde ic sword beran  
wæpen to wyrme gif ic wiste hu

- 2520 wið þam aglæcean elles meahte  
 gylpe wiðgripan swa ic gio wið Grendle dyde  
 ac ic ðær heaðufyres hates wene  
 reðes ond hattres. forðon ic me on hafu  
 bord ond byrnan. nelle ic beorges weard
- 2525 oferfleōn fotes trem ac unc sceal  
 weorðan æt wealle swa unc wyrd geteoð  
 metod manna gehwæs. ic eom on mode from  
 þæt ic wið þone guðflogen      gylp ofersitte.  
 Gebide ge on beorge byrnnum werede
- 2530 secgas on searwum hwæðer sel mæge  
 æfter wælræse wunde gedygan  
 uncer twega. nis þæt eower sið  
 ne gemet mannes nefne min anes.  
 Wat he wið aglæcean eofoðo dæle.
- 2535 eorlscype efne. 'Ic mid elne sceall  
 gold gegangan oððe guð nimeð  
 feorhbealu frecne frean eowerne.'  
 Aras ða bi ronde      rof oretta  
 heard under helme. hiorosercean bær
- 2540 under stancleofu strengo getruwode  
 mannes. ne bið swylc earges sið.  
 Geseah ða be wealle se ðe worna fela  
 gumcystum god guða gedigde  
 hildehlemma þonne hnitan feðan.
- 2545 stodan stanbogan,      stream ut þonan  
 brecan of beorge. wæs þære burnan wælm  
 heaðofyrum hat. ne meahte horde neah  
 unbyrnende ænige hwile  
 deop gedygan for dracan lege.
- 2550 Let ða of breostum      ða he gebolgen wæs  
 Weder-Geata leod word ut faran.  
 stearcheort sturmde. stefn in becom  
 heaðotorht hlynnan under harne stan.

- hete wæs onhrered. hordweard oncniow  
 2555 mannes reorde. næs ðær mara fyrst  
     freode to friclan. from ærest cwom  
     oruð aglæcean ut of stane  
     hat hildeswat. hruse dynede.  
     biorn under beorge bordrand onswaf  
 2560 wið ðam grygieste Geata dryhten.  
     ða wæs hringbogan heorte gefyzed  
     sæcce to seceanne. sveord ær gebræd  
     god guðcyning gomele lafe  
     ecgum ungleaw. æghwæðrum wæs  
 2565 bealohycendra broga fram oðrum.  
     stiðmod gestod wið steepne rond  
     winia bealdor ða se wyrn gebeah  
     snude tosomne he on searwum bad.  
     gewat ða byrnende gebogen scriðan,  
 2570 to gescipe scyndan. scyld wel gebearg  
     life ond lice læssan hwile  
     mærum þeodne þonne his myne sohte.  
     ðær he þy fyrste forman dogore  
     wealdan moste swa him wyrd ne gescraf  
 2575 hreð æt hilde: hond up abræd  
     Geata dryhten. gryrefahne sloh  
     incgelafe   þæt sio ecg gewac  
     brun on bane. bat unswiðor  
     þonne his ðiodcyning þearfe hæfde  
 2580 bysigum gebæded. Þa wæs beorges weard  
     æfter heaðuswenge on hreoum mode.  
     wearp wælfyre. wide sprungon  
     hildeleoman.   Hreðsigora ne gealp  
     goldwine Geata. guðbill geswac  
 2585 nacod æt niðe swa hyt no sceolde  
     iren ærgod. ne wæs þæt eðe sið

- þæt se mæra maga Ecgðeowes  
 grundwong þone ofgyfan wolde.  
 sceolde willan wic eardian
- 2590    elles hwergen. swa sceal æghwylc mon  
 alætan lændagas. Næs ða long to ðon  
 þæt ða aglæcean    hy eft gemetton:  
 hyrte hyne hordweard. hreðer æðme weoll  
 niwan stefne. nearo ɔrowode
- 2595    fyre befongan se ðe ær folce weold.  
 Nealles him on heape    handgesteallan  
 æðelinga bearn ymbe gestodon  
 hildecystum ac hy on holt bugon.  
 ealdre burgan. hiora in anum weoll
- 2600    sefa wið sorgum. sibb' æfre ne mæg  
 wiht onwendan þam ðe wel þenceð.  
 Wiglaf wæs haten    Weoxstanes sunu  
 leoflic lindwiga leod Scylfinga  
 mæg Ælfheres. geseah his mondryhten
- 2605    under heregriman hat þrowian.  
 gemunde ða ða are þe he him ær forgeaf  
 wicstede weligne Wægmundinga,  
 folcrihta gehwylc swa his fæder ahte.  
 ne mihte ða forhabban. hond rond gefeng
- 2610    geolwe linde. gomelswyrd geteah.  
 þæt wæs mid eldum Eanmundes laf  
 suna Ohtere. þam æt sækce wearð  
 wræcca wineleasum Weohstanes bana  
 meces ecgum ond his magum ætbær
- 2615    brunfagne helm hringde byrnan  
 ealdsworð etonisc. þæt him Onela forgeaf  
 his gædelinges guðgewædu  
 fyrdsearo fuslic. no ymbe ða fæhðe spræc  
 þeah ðe he his broðor bearn abredwade.

- 2620 he frætwe geheold fela missera  
 bill ond byrnan oð ðæt his byre mihte  
 eorlscipe efnan swa his ærfæder.  
 geaf him ða mid Geatum guðgewæda  
 æghwæs unrim þa he of ealdre gewat
- 2625 frod on forðweg. Þa wæs forma sið  
 geongan cempan þæt he guðe ræs  
 mid his freodryhtne fremman sceolde.  
 ne gemealt him se modsefa ne his mægenes laf  
 gewac æt wige. þa se wyrm onfand
- 2630 syððan hie togædre gegan hæfdon.  
 Wiglaf maðelode. wordrihta fela  
 sægde gesiðum --him wæs sefa geomor--:  
 'Ic ðæt mæl geman þær we medu þegun  
 þonne we geheton ussum hlaforde
- 2635 in biorsele ðe us ðas beagas geaf  
 þæt we him ða guðgetawa gyldan woldon  
 gif him þyslicu þearf gelumpe,  
 helmas ond heard sweord. Ðe he usic on herge  
 geceas to ðyssum siðfate sylfes willum.
- 2640 onmunde usic mærða ond me þas maðmas geaf  
 þe he usic garwigend gode tealde  
 hwate helmberend þeah ðe hlaford us  
 þis ellenweorc ana aðohte  
 to gefremmanne, folces hyrde,
- 2645 forðan he manna mæst mærða gefremede  
 dæda dollicra. Nu is se dæg cumen  
 þæt ure mandryhten mægenes behofað  
 godra guðrinca. wutun gongan to  
 helpan hildfruman þenden hyt sÃ
- 2650 gledegessa grim. God wat on mec

- þæt me is micle leofre      þæt minne lichaman  
 mid minne goldgyfan gled fæðmie.  
 ne þynceð me gerysne þæt we rondas beren  
 eft to earde nemne we æror mægen  
 2655 fane gefyllan, feorh ealgian  
 Wedra ðeodnes. ic wat geare  
 þæt næron ealdgewyrht      þæt he ana scyle  
 Geata duguðe gnorn þrowian,  
 gesigan æt sacerce. urum sceal sveord ond helm  
 2660 byrne ond byrduscrud bam gemæne.'  
 Wod þa þurh þone wælrec. wigheafolan bær  
 frean on fultum. fea worda cwæð:  
 'Leofa Biowulf, læst eall tela  
 swa þu on geoguðfeore geara gecwæde  
 2665 þæt þu ne alæte be ðe lifigendum  
 dom gedreosan. scealt nu dædum rof,  
 æðeling anhydig, ealle mægene  
 feorh ealgian. ic ðe fullæstu.'  
 Æfter ðam wordum wyrm yrre cwom  
 2670 atol inwitgæst oðre siðe  
 fyrwylmum fah fionda niosian  
 laðra manna. sydaudio lig yðum for.  
 born bord wið rond. byrne ne meahte  
 geongum garwigan geoce gefremman  
 2675 ac se maga geonga under his mæges scyld  
 elne geeode þa his agen wæs  
 gledum forgrunden. Þa gen guðcyning  
 miht gemunde. mægenstrengo sloh  
 hildebille þæt hyt on heafolan stod  
 2680 niþe genyded. Nægling forbærst.  
 geswac æt sacerce sveord Biowulfes  
 gomol ond grægmæl. him þæt gifeðe ne wæs  
 þæt him irennna ecge mihton

- 2685      helpan æt hilde: wæs sio hond to strong  
 se ðe meca gehwane mine gefræge  
 swenge ofersohte þonne he to sæcce bær  
 wæpen wundum heard næs him wihte ðe sel.  
 Þa wæs þeodsceaða þriddan siðe  
 frecne fydraca fæhða gemyndig.
- 2690      ræsde on ðone rofan þa him rum ageald  
 hat ond heaðogrim heals ealne ymbefeng  
 biteran banum. he geblodegod wearð  
 sawuldriore.    swat yðum weoll.  
 Ða ic æt þearfe gefrægn    þeodcyninges
- 2695      andlongne eorl ellen cyðan  
 cræft ond cenðu swa him gecynde wæs.  
 ne hedde he þæs heafolan ac sio hand gebarn  
 modiges mannes þær he his mægenes healp  
 þæt he þone niðgæst    nioðor hwene sloh,  
 2700      secg on searwum þæt ðæt sweord gedeaf  
 fah ond fæted þæt ðæt fyr ongon  
 swēðrian syððan. Þa gen sylf cyning  
 geweold his gewitte. wællseaxe gebræd  
 biter ond beaduscearp þæt he on byrnan wæg.  
 2705      forwrat Wedra helm wyrm on middan.  
 Feond gefyldan --ferh ellen wræc--  
 ond hi hyne þa begen abroten hæfdon,  
 sibæðelingas. swylc sceolde secg wesan  
 þegn æt ðearfe. Þæt ðam þeodne wæs
- 2710      siðas sigehwile sylfes dædum,  
 worlde geweorces. Ða sio wund ongon  
 þe him se eorðraca ær geworhte  
 swelan ond swellan. he þæt sona onfand.  
 þæt him on breostum    bealonið weoll
- 2715      attor on innan. Ða se æðeling giong

- þæt he bi wealle      wishycgende  
 gesæt on sesse. seah on enta geweorc.  
 hu ða stanbogan stapulum fæste  
 ece eorðreced innan healden.  
 2720      Hyne þa mid handa heorodreorigne  
 þeoden mærne þegn ungemete till  
 winedryhten his wætere gelafede  
 hilde sädne ond his helm onspeon.  
 Biowulf mæbelode. he ofer benne spræc,  
 2725      wunde wælbleate --wisse he gearwe  
 þæt he dæghwila gedrogen hæfde  
 eorðan wynne. ða wæs eall sceacen  
 dogorgerimes,    deað ungemete neah--:  
 'Nu ic suna minum syllan wolde  
 2730      guðgewædu    þær me gifeðe swa  
 ænig yrfeweard æfter wurde  
 lice gelenge. ic ðas leode heold  
 fiftig wintra. næs se folccyning  
 ymbesittendra ænig ðara  
 2735      þe mec guðwinum gretan dorste,  
 egesan ðeōn. ic on earde bad  
 mælgesceafta.    heold min tela.  
 ne sohte searoniðas ne me swor fela  
 aða on unriht. ic ðæs ealles mæg  
 2740      feorhbennum seoc gefean habban  
 forðam me witan ne ðearf    Waldend fira  
 mordorbealo maga þonne min sceaceð  
 lif of lice. Nu ðu lungre geong  
 hord sceawian under harne stan,  
 2745      Wiglaf leofa, nu se wyrm ligeð,  
 swefeð sare wund since bereafod  
 bio nu on ofoste þæt ic ærwelan  
 goldæht ongite. gearo sceawige

- 2750      swegle searogimmas þæt ic ðy seft mæge  
æfter maððumwelan min alætan  
lif ond leodscipe þone ic longe heold.'  
Ða ic snude gefrægn sunu Wihstanes  
æfter wordcwydum wundum dryhtne  
hyran heaðosiocum, hringnet beran  
2755      brogdne beadusercean under beorges hrof.  
Geseah ða sigehreðig þa he bi sesse geong  
magoþegnmodig maððumsigla fealo,  
gold glitinian grunde getenge  
wundur on wealle ond þas wyrmes denn  
2760      ealdes uhtflogan, orcas stondan  
fyrnmannia fatu feormendlease  
hyrstum behrorene. þær wæs helm monig  
eald ond omig, earmbeaga fela  
searwum gesæled --sinc eaðe mæg  
2765      gold on grunde gumcynnes gehwone  
oferhigian hyde se ðe wylle--  
swylce he siomian geseah segn eallgylden  
heah ofer horde, hondwundra mæst  
gelocen leoðocræftum. of ðam leoman stod  
2770      þæt he þone grundwong ongitan meahte,  
wræte giondwlitan. næs ðæs wyrmes þær  
onsyn ænig ac hyne ecg fornā.  
Ða ic on hlæwe gefrægn    hord reafian  
eald enta geweorc anne mannan,  
2775      him on bearm hlodon bunan ond discas  
sylfes dome segn eac genom  
beacna beorhtost. bill ær gescod  
--ecg wæs iren-- ealdhlafordes  
þam ðara maðma    mundbora wæs  
2780      longe hwile. ligegesan wæg  
hatne for horde hioroweallende

- middelnichtum oð þæt he morðre swealt.  
 Ar wæs on ofoste eftsiðes georn  
 frætwum gefyrðred. hyne fyrwet bræc  
 2785 hwæðer collenferð cwicne gemette  
 in ðam wongstede Wedra þeoden  
 ellensiocne þær he hine ær forlet.  
 he ða mid þam maðmum mærne þioden  
 dryhten sinne driorigne fand
- 2790 ealdres æt ende. he hine eft ongon  
 wæteres weorpan oð þæt wordes ord  
 breosthord þurhbræc  
 gomel on giogoðe gold sceawode:  
 'Ic ðara frætwa frean ealles ðanc
- 2795 wuldurcynige wordum secge  
 ecum dryhtne þe ic her on starie  
 þæs ðe ic moste minum leodum  
 ær swyldæge swylc gestrynan  
 nu ic on maðma hord minne bebohte
- 2800 frode feorhlege fremmað gena  
 leoda þearfe. ne mæg ic her leng wesan.  
 hatað heaðomære hlæw gewyrcean  
 beorhtne æfter bæle æt brimes nosan.  
 se scel to gemyndum minum leodum
- 2805 heah hlifian on hrone næsse  
 þæt hit sæliðend syððan hatan  
 Biowulfes Biorh ða ðe brentingas  
 ofer floda genipu feorrān drifað.'  
 Dyde him of healse hring gyldenne
- 2810 þioden þristhydig. þegne gesealde  
 geongum garwigan goldfahne helm  
 beah ond byrnan. het hyne brucan well:  
 'Þu eart endelaf usses cynnes  
 Wægmundinga. ealle wyrd forsweop

- 2815 mine magas to metodsceafte  
eorlas on elne. ic him æfter sceal.'  
þæt wæs þam gomelan gingæste word  
breostgehygdum ær he bæl cure  
hate heaðowylmas. him of hwæðre gewat
- 2820 sawol secean soðfæstra dom.  
ða wæs gegongen guman unfroðum  
earfoðlice þæt he on eorðan geseah  
þone leofestan lifes æt ende  
bleate gebærnan. bona swylce læg
- 2825 egeslic eorðdraca ealdre bereafod  
bealwe gebæded. beahhordum leng  
wyrn wohbogen wealdan ne moste  
ac him irennan ecga fornamon,  
hearde heaðoscearde homera lafe
- 2830 þæt se widfloga wundum stille  
hreas on hrusan hordærne neah.  
nalles æfter lyfte lacende hwearf  
middelnichtum. maðmæhta wlone  
ansyn ywde ac he eorðan gefeoll
- 2835 for ðæs hildfruman hondgeweorce.  
Huru þæt on lande lyt manna ðah  
mægenagendra mine gefræge  
þeah ðe he dæda gehwæs dyrstig wäre.  
þæt he wið attorsceaðan oreðe geræsde
- 2840 oððe hringsele hondum styrede  
gif he wæccende weard onfunde  
buon on beorge. Biowulfe wearð  
dryhtmaðma dæl deaðe forgolden.  
hæfde æghwæðre ende gefered
- 2845 lænan lifes. Næs ða lang to ðon  
þæt ða hildlatan holt ofgefæn  
tydre treowlogan tyne ætsomne

- 2850      ða ne dorston ær dareðum lacan  
               on hyra mandryhtnes miclan þearfe  
 ac hy scamiente scyldas bæran  
         guðgewædu    þær se gomela læg.  
         witan on Wilaf. he gewergad sæt  
         feðecempa    frean eaxlum neah.  
         wehte hyne wætre. him wiht ne speow.  
 2855      ne meahte he on eorðan, ðeah he uðe wel  
               on ðam frumgare feorh gehealdan  
         ne ðæs wealdendes wiht oncirran:  
         wolde dom godes dædum rædan  
         gumena gehwylcum swa he nu gen dëð.  
 2860      Þa wæs æt ðam geongan grim andswaru  
         eðbegete    þam ðe ær his elne forleas.  
         Wiglaf maðelode    Weohstanes sunu  
         secg sarigferð seah on unleofe:  
         'Þæt, la, mæg secgan    se ðe wyle soð specan.  
 2865      þæt se mondryhten se eow ða maðmas geaf  
         eoredgeatwe    þe ge þær on standað--  
         þonne he on ealubence oft gesealde  
         healsittendum helm ond byrnan,  
         þeoden his þegnum swylce he þrydlicost  
 2870      ower feor oððe neah findan meahte--  
         þæt he genunga    guðgewædu  
         wraðe forwurpe ða hyne wig beget.  
         nealles folccyning fyrdgesteallum  
         gylpan þorfte. hwæðre him god uðe  
 2875      sigora waldend þæt he hyne sylfne gewræc  
         ana mid ecge þa him wæs elnes þearf.  
         Ic him lifwraðe lytle meahte  
         ætgifan æt guðe ond ongan swa þeah  
         ofer min gemet mæges helpan.  
 2880      symle wæs þy sämra þonne ic sweorde drep

- ferhðgeniðlan      fyr unswiðor  
 weoll of gewitte. fergendra to lyt  
 þrong ymbe þeoden þa hyne sio þrag becwom.  
 Hu sceal sincþego ond swyrdgifu  
 2885 eall eðelwyn eowrum cynne  
     lufen alicgean! Londrihtes mot  
     þære mægburge monna æghwylc  
     idel hweorfan syððan æðelingas  
     feorran gefricgean fleam eowerne  
 2890 domleasan dæd: deað bið sella  
     eorla gehwylcum þonne edwitlif.'  
     Heht ða þæt heaðoweorc to hagan biodan  
     up ofer ecgclif þær þæt eorlweorod  
     morgenlongne dæg modgiomor sæt  
 2895 bordhæbbende      bega on wenum:  
     endedogores ond eftcymes  
     leofes monnes. Lyt swigode  
     niwra spella se ðe næs gerad  
     ac he soðlice sægde ofer ealle:  
 2900 'Nu is wilgeofa Wedra leoda  
     dryhten Geata deaðbedde fæst  
     wunað wælreste wyrmes dædum.  
     him on efn ligeð ealdorgewinna  
     siexbennum seoc: sweorde ne meahte  
 2905 on ðam aglæcean ænige þinga  
     wunde gewyrcean. Wiglaf siteð  
     ofer Biowulfe byre Wihstanes  
     eorl ofer oðrum unlifigendum.  
     healdeð higemæðum heafodwearde  
 2910 leofes ond laðes. Nu ys leodum wen  
     orleghwile      syððan undyrne  
     Froncum ond Frysum fyll cyninges  
     wide weorðeð. wæs sio wroht scepen

- heard wið Hugas syððan Higelac cwom  
 2915 faran flotherge on Fresna land  
 þær hyne Hetware hilde gehnægdon.  
 elne geeodon mid ofermægene  
 þæt se byrnwiga bugan sceolde.  
 feoll on feðan. nalles frætwe geaf  
 2920 ealdor dugoðe. us wæs a syððan  
 Merewioingas milts ungyfeðe.  
 Ne ic te Sweoðeode sibbe oððe treowe  
 wihte ne wene ac wæs wide cuð  
 þætte Ongendio ealdre besnyðede  
 2925 Hæðcen Hreþling wið Hrefnawudu  
 þa for onmedlan ærest gesohton  
 Geata leode Guð-Scilfingas  
 sona him se froda fæder Ohtheres  
 eald ond egesfull hondslyht ageaf.  
 2930 abreot brimwisan. bryda herode.  
 gomela iomeowlan golde berofene  
 Onelan modor ond Ohtheres  
 ond ða folgode feorhgeniðlan  
 oð ðæt hi oðeodon earfoðlice  
 2935 in Hrefnesholt hlafordlease.  
 besæt ða sinherge sweorda lafe  
 wundum werge. wean oft gehet  
 earmre teohhe ondlunge niht.  
 cwæð: he on mergenne meces ecgum  
 2940 getan wolde, sum on galgtreowum  
 fuglum to gamene. frofor eft gelamp  
 sarigmodum somod ærdæge  
 syððan hie Hygelaces horn ond byman  
 gealdor ongeaton þa se goda com,  
 2945 leoda dugoðe on last faran.  
 Wæs sio swatswaðu Swona ond Geata  
 wælræs weora wide gesyne.

- hu ða folc mid him fæhðe towehton.  
 gewat him ða se goda mid his gædelingum  
 2950 frod felageomor fæsten secean.  
 eorl Ongenþio ufor oncirde.  
 hæfde Higelaces hilde gefrunen  
 wlonces wigcræft. wiðres ne truwode.  
 þæt he sæmannum onsacan mihte,  
 2955 heaðoliðendum hord forstandan  
 bearн ond bryde. beah eft þonan  
 eald under eorðweall. þа wæs æht boden  
 Sweona leodum. segn Higelaces  
 freoðowong þone forð ofereodon  
 2960 syððan Hreðlingas to hagan þrungon.  
 Þær wearð Ongenðiow ecgum sweordan  
 blondenfexa on bid wrecen  
 þæt se þeodcyning ðafian sceolde  
 Eafores anne dom. hyne yrriŋa  
 2965 Wulf Wonreðing wæpne geræhte  
 þæt him for swenge swat ædrum sprong  
 forð under fexe. næs he forht swa ðeh  
 gomela Scilfing ac forgeald hraðe  
 wyrsan wrixle wælhlem þone  
 2970 syððan ðeodcyning þyder oncirde.  
 ne meahte se snella sunu Wonredes  
 ealdum ceorle hondslyht giofan  
 ac he him on heafde helm ær gescer  
 þæt he blode fah bugan sceolde.  
 2975 feoll on foldan. næs he fæge þа git  
 ac he hyne gewyrpte þeah ðe him wund hrine.  
 let se hearda Higelaces þegn  
 brade mece þа his broðor læg  
 ealdsweord eotonisc entiscne helm  
 2980 brecan ofer bordweal. ða gebeah cyning

- folces hyrde. wæs in feorh dropen.  
 2985 Da wæron monige þe his mæg wriðon.  
           ricone arærdon ða him gerymed wearð  
           þæt hie wælstowe wealdan moston.  
 2985 þenden reafode rinc oðerne.  
           nam on Ongenðio irenbyrnan  
           heard swyrd hilted ond his helm somod.  
           hares hyrste Higelace bær.  
           he ðam frætwum feng ond him fægre gehet  
 2990 leana mid leodium ond gelæste swa.  
           geald þone guðræs Geata dryhten  
           Hreðles eafora þa he to ham becom  
           Ifore ond Wulfe mid ofermaðmum.  
           sealde hiora gehwæðrum hund þusenda  
 2995 landes ond locenra beaga --ne ðorfte him ða lean  
       oðwitan  
           mon on middangarde syððan hie ða mærða  
       geslogon-  
           ond ða Ifore forgeaf angan dohtor  
           hamweorðunge hyldo to wedde.  
           þæt ys sio fæhðo ond se feondscipe  
 3000 wælnið wera ðæs ðe ic wean hafo  
           þe us seceað to Sweona leoda  
           syððan hie gefricgeað frean userne  
           ealdorleasne þone ðe ær geheold  
           wið hettendum hord ond rice  
 3005 æfter hæleða hryre, hwate Scildingas.  
           folcred fremede oððe furður gen  
           eorlscipe efnde. Me is ofost betost  
           þæt we þeodcyning þær sceawian  
           ond þone gebringan þe us beagas geaf  
 3010 on adfære. ne scel anes hwæt  
           meltan mid þam modigan ac þær is maðma hord

gold unrime grimme geceapod  
ond nu æt siðestan sylfes feore  
beagas gebohte: þa sceall brond fretan,  
3015 æled þeccean, nalles eorl wegan  
maððum to gemyndum ne mægð scyne  
habban on healse hringweorðunge  
ac sceal geomormod golde bereafod  
oft nalles æne elland tredan  
3020 nu se herewisa hleahtor alegde  
gamen ond gleodream. Forðon sceall gar wesan  
monig morgenceald mundum bewunden,  
hæfen on handa, nalles hearpan sweg  
wigend weccean ac se wonna hrefn  
3025 fus ofer fægum fela reordian,  
earne secgan hu him æt æte speow  
þenden he wið wulf wæl reafode.'  
Swa se secg hwata secggende wæs  
laðra spella. he ne leag fela  
3030 wyrda ne worda. Weorod eall aras.  
eodon unbliðe under earna næs  
wollenteare wundur sceawian.  
fundon ða on sande sawulleasne  
hlimbed healdan þone þe him hringas geaf  
3035 ærran mælum. þa wæs endedæg  
godum gegongen þæt se guðcyning  
Wedra þeoden wundordeaðe swealt.  
AEr hi þær gesegan syllicran wiht  
wyrm on wonge wiðerræhtes þær  
3040 laðne licgean: wæs se legdraca  
grimlic gryregiest gledum beswæled.  
se wæs fiftiges fotgemearces  
lang on legere. lyftwynne heold  
nihtes hwilum. nyðer eft gewat

- 3045 dennes niosian. wæs ða deaðe fæst.  
 hæfde eorðscrafa ende genyttod.  
 Him big stodan bunan ond orcas.  
 discas lagon ond dyre swyrd  
 omige þurhetone swa hie wið eorðan fæðm
- 3050 þusend wintra þær eardodon.  
 þonne wæs þæt yrfe eacencræftig,  
 iumonna gold galdre bewunden  
 þæt ðam hringsele hrinan ne moste  
 gumena ænig nefne god sylfa
- 3055 sigora soðcyning sealde þam ðe he wolde  
 --he is manna gehyld-- hord openian.  
 efne swa hwylcum manna swa him gemet ðuhte.  
 Þa wæs gesyne þæt se sið ne ðah  
 þam ðe unrihte inne gehydde
- 3060 wræce under wealle. weard ær ofsloh  
 feara sumne. þa sio fæhð gewearð  
 gewrecen wraðlice. Wundur hwar þonne  
 eorl ellenrof ende gefere  
 lifgesceafta þonne leng ne mæg
- 3065 mon mid his mægum meduseld buan.  
 swa wæs Biowulfe, þa he biorges weard  
 sohte searoniðas: seolfa ne cuðe  
 þurh hwæt his worulde gedal weorðan sceolde.  
 Swa hit oð domes dæg diope benemdon
- 3070 þeodnas mære þa ðæt þær dydon.  
 þæt se secg wäre synnum scildig  
 hergum geheaderod hellbendum fæst  
 wommum gewitnad se ðone wong strude.  
 næs he goldhwæte gearwor hæfde
- 3075 agendes est ær gesceawod.  
 Wiglaf maðelode Wihstanes sunu:  
 'Oft sceall eorl monig anes willan

- wræc adreogan swa us geworden is.  
ne meahton we gelærnan leofne þeoden  
3080 rices hyrde ræd ænigne.  
þæt he ne grette goldweard þone.  
lete hyne licgean þær he longe wæs,  
wicum wunian oð woruldende.  
heoldon heahgesceap. hord ys gesceawod,  
3085 grimme gegongen. þæt gifeðe wæs  
to swið þe ðone þyder ontyhte.  
Ic wæs þær inne ond þæt eall geondseh  
recedes geatwa þa me gerymed wæs,  
nealles swæslice sið alyfed  
3090 inn under eorðweall. ic on ofoste gefeng  
micle mid mundum mægenbyrðenne  
hordgestreona. hidre ut ætbær  
cyninge minum. cwico wæs þa gena  
wis ond gewittig. worn eall gespræc  
3095 gomol on gehðo ond eowic gretan het.  
bæd þæt ge geworhton æfter wines dædum  
in bælstede beorh þone heān  
micelne ond mærne swa he manna wæs  
wigend weorðfullost wide geond eorðan  
3100 þenden he burhwelan brucan moste.  
Uton nu efstan oðre siðe  
seon ond secean on searogeþræc  
wundur under wealle. ic eow wisige  
þæt ge genoge neon sceawiað  
3105 beagas ond brad gold. sie sio bær gearo  
ædre geæfned þonne we ut cymen  
ond þonne geferian frean userne  
leofne mannan þær he longe sceal  
on ðæs waldendes wäre geþolian.'
- 3110 Het ða gebeodan byre Wihstanes

- hæle hildedior hæleða monegum  
 boldagendra þæt hie bælwudu  
 feorran feredon folcagende  
 godum togenes: 'Nu sceal gled fretan,  
 3115 weaxan wonna leg wigena strengel  
 þone ðe oft gebad isernscure  
 þonne stræla storm strengum gebæded  
 scoc ofer scildweall. sceft nytte heold  
 fæðergearwum fus. flane fulleode.'
- 3120 Huru se snotra sunu Wihstanes  
 acigde of corðre cyniges þegnas  
 syfone tosomne þa selestan.  
 eode eahta sum under inwithrof  
 hilderinc.sum on handa bær
- 3125 æledleoman se ðe on orde geong.  
 Næs ða on hlytme hwa þæt hord strude  
 syððan orwearde ænigne dæl  
 secgas gesegon on sele wunian  
 læne licgan. lyt ænig mearn
- 3130 þæt hi ofostlice ut geferedon  
 dyre maðmas. dracan ec scufun  
 wyrm ofer weallclif. leton weg niman,  
 flod fæðmian frætwa hyrde.  
 þæt wæs wundengold on wæn hladen
- 3135 æghwæs unrim, æþelinge boren  
 harum hilde to hrones næsse.  
 Him ða gegiredan Geata leode  
 ad on eorðan unwaclicne  
 helmum behongan hildebordum
- 3140 beorhtum byrnum swa he bena wæs.  
 alegdon ða tomiddes mærne þeoden  
 hæleð hiofende hlaford leofne.  
 ongunnon þa on beorge bælfyra mæst  
 wigend weccan. wudurec astah

- 3145 sweat ofer swioðole swogende leg  
wope bewunden --windblond gelæg--  
oð þæt he ða banhus gebrocen hæfde  
hat on hreðre. higum unrote  
modceare mændon mondryhtnes cwealm.
- 3150 swylce giomorgyd Geatisc anmeowle  
Biowulf brægd bundenheorde  
sang sorglearig. sälðe geneahhe  
þæt hio hyre hearmdagas hearde ondrede  
wælfylla worn werudes egesan
- 3155 hyðo ond hæftnyd. Heofon rece swealg.  
geworhton ða Wedra leode  
hlæo on hoe se wæs heah ond brad  
wægliðendum wide gesyne  
ond betimbredon on tyn dagum
- 3160 beadurofes becn. bronda lafe  
wealle beworhton swa hyt weorðlicost  
foresnotre men findan mihton.  
hi on beorg dydon beg ond siglu  
eall swylce hyrsta swylce on horde ær  
niðhedige men genumen hæfdon.
- 3165 forleton eorla gestreon eorðan healdan  
gold on greate þær hit nu gen lifað  
eldum swa unnyt swa hyt ærer wæs.  
Þa ymbe hlæw riodan, hildedeore  
æþelinga bearne ealra twelfa.
- 3170 woldon cearge cwiðan kyning mænan,  
wordgyd wrecan ond ymb wer sprecan.  
eahtodan eorlscipe ond his ellenweorc  
duguðum demdon. Swa hit gedefe bið  
3175 þæt mon his winedryhten wordum herge.  
ferhðum freoge þonne he forð scile  
of lichaman læded weorðan.

swa begnornodon Geata leode  
hlafordes hryre, heorðgeneatas:  
3180 cwaðdon þæt he wäre wyruldcyning  
manna mildust ond monðwærust  
leodum liðost ond lofgeornost.

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