

# BEOWULF

## Old English Edition

### Notes:

- ( ) Parenthesis indicate letters visible by modern photography
- [ ] Brackets indicate letters provided by transcribers
- [*i*] Italicized letters within brackets indicate emendations
- [:] Bracketed colon indicates letters altogether missing
- [...] Ellipses indicate letters wholly obscured
- “ ” Quotes are inserted by the editor, as is most punctuation
- | Bar indicates the beginning of a new numbered folio

### 129r |HWÆT: WE GARDENA IN GEARDAGUM

þeodcyninga þrym gefrunon.  
Hu ða æþelingas elle(n) fremedon!  
Oft Scyld Scefing sceapen[a] þreatum  
5 monegum mægþum meodosetla ofteah,  
egsode eorl, syððan ærest wear(ð)  
feasceaft funden. He þæs frofre geba(d),  
weox under wolcnum, weorðmyndum þah,  
oð þæt him æghwylc þara ymbsittendra  
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 aldor[*le*]ase  
lange hwile. Him þæs Liffrea,  
wuldres wealdend, woroldare forgeaf.

Beowulf wæs breme, blæd wide sprang,  
 Scyldes eafera Scedelandum in.  
 20 Swa sceal ge[ong] [g]uma gode gewyrcean,  
 129v fromum feohgiftum on fæder |[bea](r)me,  
 þæt hine on ylde eft gewunigen  
 wi(l)gesipas, þonne wig cume,  
 leode gelæsten. Lofdædum sceal  
 25 in mægþa gehwære man geþeon.  
 Him ða Scyld gewat to gescæphwile  
 felahror feran on Frean wære.  
 Hi hyne þa ætbæron to brimes faroðe,  
 swæse gesipas. Swa he selfa bæd  
 30 þenden wordum weold wine Scyldinga.  
 Leof landfruma lange ahte.  
 Þær æt hyðe stod hringedstefna,  
 isig 7 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 7 heaðowædum,  
 40 billum 7 byrnum. Him on bearne læg  
 madma mænigo, þa him mid scoldon  
 on flodes æht feor gewitan.  
 Nalæs hi hine læssan lacum teodan,  
 þeodgestreonium, þon[ne] (þ)a d(y)don,

45 þe hine æt frumsceaftē forð onsendon  
**130r** ænne ofer yðe umborwe|sende.  
Þa gyt hie him asetton segen g(y)[l]denne  
heah ofer heafod, leton holm ber(an)  
geafon on garsecg. Him wæs geomor sefa,  
50 murnende mod. Men ne cunnon  
secgan t(o) soðe selerædenne,  
hæleð under heofenum, hwa þæm hlæste onfeng.

.I.

ÐA wæs on burgum Beowulf Scyldinga  
leo(f) leodcyning longe þrage,  
55 folcum gefræge. Fæder ellor hwearf,  
aldor of earde. Oþ þæt him eft onwoc  
heah Healfdene, heold þenden lifde,  
gamol 7 guðreow, glæde Scyldingas.  
Ðæm feower bearn forðgerimed  
60 in worold wocun: weoroda ræswa,  
Heorogar, 7 Hroðgar, 7 Halga til.  
Hyrde ic þæt [æpele] [an] [wearð] Elan cwen,  
Heaðo-Scilfingas healsgebedda.  
Þa wæs Hroðgare heresped gyfen,  
65 wiges weorðmynd, þæt him his winemagas  
georne hyrdon, oðð þæt seo geogoð geweox  
magodriht micel. Him on mod bearn  
þæt healreced hatan wolde,  
**130v** |[medo]ærn micel men gewyrcean -  
70 þone ylðo (b)earn æfre gefrunon -

7 þær on innan eall (g)edælan  
 geongum 7 ealdum, swylc him God sealde,  
 buton folcscare 7 feorum gumena.  
 (Ð)a ic wide gefrægn weorc gebannan  
 75 manigre mægþe geond þisne middangeard,  
 folcstede frætwan. Him on fyrste gelomp,  
 ædre mid yldum, þæt 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 7 horngeap. Heaðowylma bad,  
 laðan liges. Ne wæs hit lenge þa gen  
 þæt se secghete apum swerian,  
 85 æfter wælniðe wæcnan scolde.  
 Ða se ellengæst earfoðlice  
 þrage geþolode, se þe in þystrum bad,  
 þæt he dogora gehwam dream gehyrde  
 hludne in healle. Þær wæs hearpan sweg,  
 90 swutol sang scopes. Sægde, se þe cuþe,  
 frumsceaft fira feorran reccan,  
**132r** |cwæ(ð) þæt se Ælmihtiga eorðan w(orh)[te],  
 wlitebeorhtne wang, swa wæter b(e)bugeð,  
 gesette sigehreþig sunn(an) 7 monan,  
 95 leoman to leohte landb(uen)dum.  
 7 gefræt Wade foldan sceatas,  
 leomum 7 leafum, lif eac gesceop

cy(n)na gehwylcum þara ðe cwise hwyrfa(þ.)  
 Swa ða drihtguman dreamum lifd(on)  
 100 eadiglice, oð ðæt an ongan  
 fyrene fre[m]man, feond on helle.  
 Wæs se grimma gæst Grendel haten,  
 mære mearcstapa, se þe moras heold,  
 fen 7 fæsten. Fifelcynnes eard  
 105 wonsæli wer weardode hwile,  
 siþðan him Scyppend forscriften hæfde  
 in Caines cynne. Þone cwealm gewræc,  
 ece Drihten, þæs 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 7 ylfe 7 orcneas,  
 132v swylce gi[ga](ntas), þa wið Gode wunnon  
 lange þrag(e). (He) him ðæs lean forgeald.  
 .II.  
 115 (Ge)wat ða neosian, syþðan niht becom,  
 hean huses, hu hit Hring-Dene  
 æfter (b)eorþege gebun hæfdon.  
 Fand þa ðær inne æþelinga gedriht  
 swefan æfter (sy)mble. Sorge ne cuðon,  
 120 wonscaft wera. Wiht unhælo,  
 grim 7 grædig, gearo sona wæs,  
 reoc 7 reþe, 7 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.  
 Ða wæs æfter wiste wop upahafen,  
 micel morgensweg. Mære þeoden  
 130 æþeling ærgod, unbliðe sæt,  
 þolode ðryðswyð, þegnsorge dreah,  
 syðþan hie þæs laðan last sceawedon,  
 wergan gastes. Wæs þæt gewin to strang,  
**133r** lað 7 longsum. Næs hit lengra |(f)yrst,  
 135 ac ym(b) ane niht ef(t gefremede)  
 morðbeala mare, 7 no mearn fore  
 fæhðe 7 fyrene. Wæs to fæst on þam.  
 Ð(a) wæs eaðfynde þe him elles hwær  
 geru(m)licor ræste [*wolde*],  
 140 bed æfter burum, ða hi(m) gebeacnod wæs,  
 gesægd soðlice sweo(to)lan tacne  
 healðegnes hete. Heold h(y)ne syðþan  
 fyr 7 fæstor, se þam feonde ætwand.  
 Swa rixode 7 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 gehwelcne,  
 sidra sorga. Forðam [*sona*] wearð  
 150 ylða bearnum undyrne, cuð,

gyddum geomore, þætte Grendel wan  
 hwile wið Hroþgar, heteniðas wæg,  
 fyrene 7 fæhðe fela missera,  
 singale sæce. Sibbe ne wolde  
 155 wið manna hwone mægenes Deniga,  
 feorhbealo feorran, fea þingian.  
 Ne þær nænig witenas wenan þorfte  
 beorhtre bote to ban[an] folmum.  
**133v** |[AtoI] (æglæca) (eh)tende wæs  
 160 deorc deapsc(ua), (du)guþe 7 geogoþe,  
 seomade 7 syrede, (s)innihte heold  
 mistige moras. Men ne (c)unnon  
 hwyrder helrunan hwyrftum scriþað.  
 Swa fela fyrena feond mancyn(n)es,  
 165 atol angengea, oft gefremede,  
 (h)eardra hynða. Heorot eardode,  
 sinc(fa)ge 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 wære  
 wið færgryrum to gefremmanne.  
 175 Hwylum hie geheton æt hrærgtrafum  
 wigweorþunga, wordum bædon  
 þæt him gastbona geoce gefremede

wið þeodþreaum. Swylc wæs þeaw hyra,  
hæþenra hyht. Helle gemundon  
180 in modsefan, Metod hie ne cuþon,  
dæda Demend, ne wiston hie Drihten God.  
**134r** |(Ne hie) huru heofena Helm herian (ne) cuþon,  
wuldres Waldend. Wa bið þæm ðe sceal  
þurh sliðne nið sawle bescufa(n)  
185 in fyres fæþm, frofre ne wenan,  
wihte gewendan. Wel bið þæm þe mot  
æfter deaðdæge Drihten secean  
7 to fæder fæþmum freoðo wilnian.

.III.

Swa ða mælceare maga Healfdenes  
190 singala seað. Ne mihte snotor hæleð  
wean onwendan. Wæs þæt gewin to swyð,  
laþ 7 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 7 eacen. Het him yðlidan  
godne gegyrwan. Cwæð, he guðcýning  
200 ofer swanrade secean wolde,  
mærne þeoden, þa him wæs manna þearf.  
Ðone siðfæt him snotere ceorlas  
**134v** lyt hwon logon. |(Þeah) he him leof wære,

hwetton hige(rofne). (Hæ)l sceawedon.  
 205 Hæfde se goda Geata leoda  
 (c)empan gecorone, þara þe he cenoste  
 findan mihte. Fiftyna sum  
 sundwudu sohte, secg wisade,  
 lagucræftig mon landgemyrcu.  
 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 wilsid wudu bundenne.  
 Gewat þa ofer wægholm, winde gefysed,  
 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.  
**135r** |(Þa) of wealle geseah weard Scildinga,  
 230 se þe (holm)clifu healdan scolde,

beran ofer bolcan beorhte randas,  
 fyrdsearu fuslicu. Hine fyrwyt bræc  
 modgehygdum hwæt þa men wæron.  
 Gewat him þa to waroðe wicge rid(an),  
 235 þegn Hroðgares, þrymmum cwehte  
 mægenwudu mundum, meþelwordum frægn.  
 "Hwæt, syndon ge searohæbbendra,  
 byrnum wer(e)de, þe þus brontne ceol  
 ofer lagustræte lædan cwomon,  
 240 hider ofer holmas?"  
 [H]e wæs endesæta, ægwearde heold,  
 þe on land Dena laðra nænig  
 mid scipherge sceoþan 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 wæpnum geweorðad. Næfre him his wlite leoge,  
 ænlic ansyn. Nu ic eower sceal  
**135v** frumcyn witan, ær ge fyr |(heon)an  
 leassceaweras on land Den(a)  
 furþur feran. Nu ge feorbuend,  
 255 mereliðende mine gehyrað  
 anfealdne geþoht: ofost is selest  
 to gecyðanne. (H)wanan eowre cyme syndon?"

.III.

Him se yldesta andswarode,  
werodes wisa, wordhord onleac:  
260 "We synt gumcynnes Geata leode  
7 Higelaces heorðgeneatas.  
Wæs min fæder folcum gecyþed,  
æþele ordfruma, Ecgþeow hatan.  
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 frean. Ne sceal þær dyrne sum  
wesan þæs, ic wene. Þu wast, gif hit is  
**136r** swa we soþlice |secgan hyrdon,  
þæt mid Scyldingum scea(ðona) ic nat hwylc,  
275 deogol dædhata, deorcu(m) nihtum,  
eaweð þurh egsan uncuðne ni(ð),  
hynðu 7 hrafyl. Ic þæs Hroðgar mæg,  
þur(h) rumne sefan, ræd gelæran,  
hu he, fro(d 7) god, feond oferswyðeþ -  
280 gyf him edwend(an) æfre scolde,  
bealuwa bisigu, bot eft cuman.  
7 þa cearwylmas colran wurðað,  
oððe a syþðan earfoðþrage,

þreanyd þolað, þenden þær wunað  
 285 on heahstede husa selest."  
 Weard maþelode, ðær on wicge sæt,  
 ombeht unforht: "Æghwæþres sceal  
 scearp scyldwiga gescad witan  
 worda 7 worca, se þe wel þenceð.  
 290 Ic þæt gehyre, þæt þis is hold weorod  
 frean Scyldinga. Gewitaþ forð beran  
 wæpen 7 gewædu. Ic eow wisige.  
 Swylce ic maguþegnas mine hate  
 wið feonda gehwone flotan eowerne,  
 295 niwtyrwydne nacan on sande,  
 arum healdan, oþ ðæt eft byreð  
**136v** ofer lagustrea(mas) leofne mannan,  
 wudu wundenhals (t)o Wedermearce.  
 Godfremmendra swylcum gifeþe bið  
 300 þæt þone hilderæs hal gedigeð."  
 Gewiton him þa feran. Flota (s)tille bad,  
 seomode on sole sidfæþmed (sc)ip,  
 on ancre fæst. Eoforlic scionon  
 (o)fer hleorberan, gehroden golde,  
 305 fah 7 fyrheard. Ferhwearde heold,  
 guþmod grummon. Guman onetton,  
 sigon ætsomne, oþ þæt hy æltimbred,  
 geatolic 7 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 of modigra  
 torht getæhte, þæt hie him to mihton  
 gegnum gangan. Guðbeorna sum  
 315 wicg gewende, word æfter cwæð.  
 "Mæl is me to feran. Fæder alwalda  
 mid arstafum eowic gehealde,  
 siða gesunde. Ic to sæ wille,  
**137r** wið |(w)ra(ð) werod wearde healdan."  
 .V.  
 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  
 sæmanna searo, samod ætgædere,  
 330 æscholt ufan græg. Wæs se irenþreat  
 wæpnum gewurþad. Þa ðær wlonc hæleð  
 oretmecgas æfter hæleþum frægn:  
 "Hwanon ferigeað ge fætte scyldas  
 græge syrcan 7 grimhelmas,  
 335 heresceafta heap? Ic eom Hroðgares  
 ar 7 ombiht. Ne seah ic elþeodige

þus manige men modiglicran.  
 Wen' ic þæt ge for wlenco, nalles for wræcsiðum,  
**137v** ac for higel(þry)mmum Hroðgar sohton."  
**340** Him þa elle(n)rof andswarode,  
 wlanc Wedera leod, word æfter spræc,  
 heard under helme. "We synt Higelaces  
 beodgeneatas. Beowulf is min nama.  
 Wille ic aseggan sunu Healfdenes,  
**345** mærum þeodne, min ærende,  
 aldre þinum, gif he us geunnan wile  
 þæt we hine swa godne gretan moton."  
 Wulfgar maþelode. Þæt wæs Wendla leod,  
 wæs his modsefa manegum gecyðed,  
**350** wig 7 wisdom: "Ic þæs wine Deniga,  
 frean Scildinga, frinan wille,  
 beaga bryttan, swa þu bena eart,  
 þeoden mærne ymb þinne sið,  
 7 þe þa andsware ædre gecyðan  
**355** ðe me se goda agifan þenceð."  
 Hwearf þa hrædlice þær Hroðgar sæt,  
 eald 7 unhar, mid his eorla gedriht.  
 Eode ellenrof þæt he for eaxlum gestod  
 Deniga frean. Cuþe he duguðe þeaw.  
**138r** Wulfgar maðelode |to [h]i(s) winedrihtne:  
 "Her syndon ge(fere)de, feorran cumene,  
 ofer geofenes (be)gang Geata leode.  
 Þone yldestan ore(t)mecgas

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 aldor deah,  
370 se þæm heaðorincum hider wisade."

.VI.

Hroðgar mapelode, helm Scyldinga:  
"Ic hine cuðe cnihtwesende.  
Wæs his ealdfæder Ecgþeo haten.  
Ðæm to ham forgeaf Hreþel Geata,  
375 angan dohto(r). Is his eaforan nu  
heard her cumen, sohte holdne wine.  
Ðonne sægdon þæt, sæliþende,  
þa ðe gifsceattas Geata fyredon  
**138v** þyder to þance, þæt he þri|(tig)es  
380 manna mægen-cræft on his (mund)gripe  
heaporof hæbbe. Hine halig God  
for arstafum us onsende,  
to West-Denum, (þ)æs ic wen hæbbe,  
wið Grendles gryre. (Ic) þæm godan sceal  
385 for his modþræce (m)admas beodan.  
Beo ðu on ofeste, hat in gan  
seon sibbedriht samod ætgædere.  
Gesaga him eac wordum, þæt hie sint wilcuman  
Deniga leodum." Word inne ahead.

390 "Eow het secgan, sigedrihten min,  
 aldor East-Dena, þæt he eower æþelu can,  
 7 ge him syndon ofer sæwylmas  
 heardhicgende hider wilcuman.  
 Nu ge moton gangan in eowrum guðgeatawum,  
 395 under heregriman, Hroðgar geseon.  
 Lætað hildebord her onbidan,  
 wuduwælsceaftas, worda geþinges."  
 Aras þa se rica, ymb hine rinc manig  
 þryðlic þegna heap. Sume þær bidon,  
**139r** heaðoreaf heoldon, swa him se |(hea)rda bebead.  
 Snyredon ætsomn(e). (Þa) secg wisode  
 under Heorotes hrof,  
 hea[rd] under helme, þæt he on heoðe gestod.  
 Beowulf maðelode. On him byrne scan,  
 405 sea[ro]net seowed smiþes orþancum:  
 "Wæs þu, Hr(oð)gar, hal. Ic eom Higelaces  
 mæg 7 magoðegn. Hæbbe ic mærdða fela  
 ongunnen on geogoþe. Me wearð Grendles þing  
 on minre eþeltyrf undyrne cuð.  
 410 Secgað sæliðend þæt þæs sele stande,  
 reced selesta rinca gehwylcum,  
 idel 7 unnyt, siððan æfenleoht  
 under heofenes hador beholen weorpeð.  
 Þa me þæt gelærdon leode mine,  
 415 þa selestan, snotere ceorlas,  
 þeoden Hroðgar, þæt ic þe sohte,

for þan hie mægenes cræft mine cuþon;  
 selfe ofersawon, ða ic of searwum cwom,  
 fah from feondum, þær ic fife geband,  
 420 yðde eotena cyn, 7 on yðum slog  
 niceras nihtes; nearoþearfe dreah,  
**139v** wræc |(Wed)[e]ra nið. Wean ahsodon,  
 forgrand g(ra)mum. 7 nu wið Grendel sceal,  
 wið þam aglæcan ana gehegan  
 425 ðing wið þyrse. (Ic) þe nu ða,  
 brego Beorht-Dena biddan wille,  
 eodor Scyldinga, anre bene,  
 þæt ðu me ne forwyrne, wigendra hleo,  
 freowine (f)olca, nu ic þus feorran com:  
 430 þæt ic mote ana - minra eorla gedryht  
 7 þes hearda heap! - Heorot fælsian.  
 Hæbbe ic eac geahsod þæt se æglæca  
 for his wonhydum wæpna ne recceð.  
 Ic þæt þonne forhicge, swa me Higelac sie,  
 435 min mondrihten, modes bliðe,  
 þæt ic sweord bere oþðe sidne scyld,  
 geolorand to guþe. Ac ic mid grape sceal  
 fon wið feonde 7 ymb feorh sacan,  
 lað wið laþum. Ðær gelyfan sceal  
 440 Dryhtnes dome, se þe hine deað nimeð.  
 Wen' ic þæt he wille, gif he wealdan mot  
 in þæm guðsele, Geotena leode  
**140r** etan unforhte, swa he |oft dyde

mægenhreð manna. Na (þu) minne þearft  
445 hafalan hydan, ac he me habban wile  
deore fahne, gif mec deað nimeð.  
Byreð blodig wæl, byrgea(n) þenceð,  
eteð angenga unmurnlice,  
mearcað morhopu. No ðu ymb mines ne þearft  
450 lices feorme leng sorgian.  
Onsend Higelace gif mec hild nime,  
beaduscruða betst, þæt mine breost wereð,  
hrægla selest. Þæt is Hrædlan laf  
Welandes geweorc. Gæð a wyrd swa hio scel.

.VII.

455 Hroðgar maþelode, helm Scyldinga:  
"Fere fyhtum, þu, wine min Beowulf,  
7 for arstafum usic sohtest.  
Gesloh þin fæder fæhðe mæste.  
Wearþ he Heaþolafe to handbonan  
460 mid Wilfingum. Ða hine [wi]gara cyn  
for herebrogan habban ne mihte.  
Panon he gesohte Suð-Dena folc  
**140v** ofer yða gewealc Ar-(Scyl)dinga.  
Ða ic furþum weold folce Deninga  
465 7 on geogoðe heold gimmerice  
hordburh hæleþa. Ða wæs Heregar dead,  
min yldra mæg unlifigende,  
bearn (H)ealfdenes. Se wæs betera ðonne ic.  
Siððan (þ)a fæhðe feo þingode.

470 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  
hynðo on Heorote mid his hetepancum,  
475 færniða gefremed. Is min fletwerod,  
wigheap gewanod. Hie wyrd forsweop  
on Grendles gryre. God eaþe mæg  
þone dolsceaðan dæda getwæfan.  
Ful oft gebeotedon, beore druncne,  
480 ofer ealowæge oretmecgas,  
þæt hie in beorsele bidan woldon  
Grendles guþe mid gryrum ecga.  
Ðonne wæs þeos medoheal on morgentid  
drihtsele dreorfah, þonne dæg lixte,  
**141r** eal þencþelu blode bestymed,  
heall heor(u)dreore. Ahte ic holdra þy læs,  
deorre duguðe, þe þa deað fornam.  
Site nu t(o) symle 7 onsæl meoto,  
sigehreð secgum, swa þin sefa hwette."  
490 Þa wæs Geatmægum geador ætsomne  
on beorsele benc gerymed.  
Þær swiðferhþe sittan eodon,  
þryðum dealle. Þegn nytte beheold,  
se þe on handa bær hroden ealowæge,  
495 scencte scir wered. Scop hwilum sang  
hador on Heorote. Þær wæs hæleða dream,

duguð unlytel Dena 7 Wedera.

.VIII.

HVNferð maþelode, Ecglafes bearn,

þe æt fotum sæt frean Scyldinga.

500 Onband beadurune. Wæs him Beowulfes sið,

modges merefaran, micel æfþunca,

forþon þe he ne uþe þæt ænig oðer man

**141v** æfre |mærða þon ma middangeardes

gehedde under heofenum þonne he sylfa:

505 "Eart þu se Beowulf, se þe wið Breca wunne

on sidne sæ, ymb sund flite,

ðær git for wlence wada cunnedon

7 for dolgilpe on deop wæter

aldrum neþdon? Ne inc ænig mon,

510 ne leof ne lað, belean mihte

sorhfullne sið, þa git on sund reon.

Þær git eagorstream earmum þehton,

mæton merestræta, mundum brugdon,

glidon ofer garsecg. Geofon ypum

515 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,

Ðonon he gesohte swæsne .eðel.,

520 leof his leodum, lond Brondinga,

freoðoburh fægere, þær he folc ahte,

**142r** burh 7 beagas. |Beot eal wið þe

sunu Beanstanes so[ðe] gelæste.  
 Donne wene ic to þe wursan (ge)þingea,  
 525 ðeah þu heaðoræsa gehwær dohte,  
 grimre guðe, gif þu Grendl(es) dearest  
 nihtlongne fyrst nean bi(dan)."  
 Beowulf mabelode, bearn Ecgþeowes:  
 "Hwæt, þu worn fela, wine min Hunfer(ð),  
 530 beore druncen, ymb Breca spræce,  
 sægdest from his siðe. Soð ic talige  
 þæt ic merestrengo maran ahte,  
 earfeþo on yþum, ðonne ænig oþer man.  
 Wit þæt gecwædon, cnihtwesende  
 535 7 gebeotedon - wæron begen þa git  
 on geogoðfeore þæt wit on garsecg ut  
 aldrum neðdon, 7 þæt geæfndon swa.  
 Hæfdon swurd nacod, þa wit on sund reon,  
 heard on handa. Wit unc wið hronfixas  
 540 werian þohton. No he wiht fram me  
 flodyþum feor fleotan meahte,  
 hraþor on holme, no ic fram him wolde.  
**142v** Ða wit æt|(s)omne on sæ wæron  
 fif nihta fyrst, (o)þ þæt unc flod todraf,  
 545 wado weallende, wedera cealdost,  
 nipende niht, 7 norþan(w)ind  
 heaðogrim ondhwearf. Hreo wæron (y)þa.  
 Wæs merefixa mod onhrered:  
 þær me wið laðum licsyrce min

550 heard hondlocen, helpe gefremede,  
beadohrægl broden, on breostum læg,  
golde gegyrwed. Me to grunde teah,  
fah feondscaða, fæste hæfde,  
grim on grape. Hwæþre me gyfeþe wearð

555 þæt ic aglæcan orde geræhte,  
hildebille. Heaþoræs fornam  
mihtig meredeor þurh mine hand."

.VIII.

"Swa mec gelome laðgeteonan  
þreatedon þearle. Ic him þenode  
560 deoran sweorde, swa hit gedefe wæs.  
Næs hie ðære fülle gefean hæfdon,  
manfordædlan, þæt hie me þegon,  
symbol ymbsæton sægrunde neah.

**143r** Ac on mergenne, mecum |wunde,  
565 be yðlafe uppe lægon,  
swe(o[r]dum) aswefede, þæt syðþan na  
ymb bront(ne) ford brimliðende  
lade ne letton. (Leoht) eastan com,  
beorht beacen Godes, brimu swaþredon,

570 þæt ic sænæssas geseon mihte,  
windige weallas. Wyrð oft nereð  
unfægne eorl, þonne his ellen deah.  
Hwæþere me gesælde þæt ic mid sweorde ofsloh  
niceras nigene. No ic on niht gefrægn

575 under heofones hwealf heardran feohtan,

ne on egstreamum earmran mannon.  
Hwæpere ic fara feng feore gedigde,  
siþes werig. Ða mec sæ oþbær,  
flod æfter faroðe on Finna land,  
580 w[a]du weallendu. No ic wiht fram þe  
swylcra searoniða secgan hyrde,  
billa brogan. Breca næfre git  
æt heaðolace, ne gehwæper incer,  
swa deorlice dæd gefremede  
585 fagum sweordum. No ic þæs gylpe,  
þeah ðu þinum broðrum to banan wurde,  
**143v** heafodmægum. Þæs þu in | (hell)e scealt  
werhðo dreogan, þeah þin (wit) duge.  
Secge ic þe to soðe, sunu Ecg(laf)es,  
590 þæt næfre Gredel swa fela gryra gefremede,  
atol æglæca ealdre þinum,  
hynðo on Heorote, gif þin hige wære,  
sefa swa searogrim swa þu self talast.  
Ac he hafað onfunden þæt he þa fæhðe ne þearf,  
595 atole ecgþræce eower leode  
swiðe onsittan Sige-Scyldinga.  
Nymed nydbade, nænegum arað  
leode Deniga, ac he lust wigeð,  
swefeð ond sendeþ, secce ne weneþ  
600 to Gar-Denum. Ac ic him Geata sceal  
eafod 7 ellen ungeara nu  
guþe gebeodan. Gæþ eft, se þe mot,

to medo modig, siþþan morgenleoht  
 ofer ylða bearn oþres dogores,  
 605 sunne sweglwered suþan scineð."

Ða wæs on salum sinces brytta,  
 gamolfeax 7 guðrof. Geoce gelyfde,  
**144r** |brego Beorht-Dena - gehyrde on (Beo)wulfe,  
 folces hyrde, fæstrædne geþoht.

610 Ðær wæs hæleþa hleahtor, hlyn swynsode,  
 word wæron wynsume. Eode Wealhþeow forð,  
 cwen Hroðgares, cynna gemyndig,  
 grette goldhroden guman on healle.  
 7 þa freolic wif ful gesealde

615 ærest East-Dena eþelwearde,  
 bæd hine bliðne æt þær(e) beorþege,  
 leodum leofne. He on lust geþeah  
 symbel 7 seleftful, sigerof kyning.  
 Ymbeode þa, ides Helminga,

620 duguþe 7 geogoþe dæl æghwylcne,  
 sincfato sealde, oþ þæt sæl alamp  
 þæt hio Beowulfe, beaghroden cwen,  
 mode geþungen, medoful ætbær.  
 Grette Geata leod, Gode þancode

625 wisfæst wordum, þæs ðe hire se willa gelamp,  
 þæt heo on ænigne eorl gelyfde  
 fyrena frofre. He þæt ful geþeah,

**144v** wæltreow wiga |(æt W)ealhþeon,  
 7 þa gyddode, guþe gefysed.

630 Beowulf mabelode, bearn Ecgþeowes:  
"Ic þæt hogode, þa ic on holm gestah,  
sæbat gesæt mid minra secga gedriht,  
þæt ic anunga eowra leoda  
willan geworhte, oþðe on wæl crunge,  
635 feondgrapum fæst. Ic gefremman sceal  
eorlic ellen, oþðe endedæg  
on þisse meoduhealle minne gebidan."  
Ðam wife þa word wel licodon,  
gilpcwide Geates. Eode goldhroden,  
640 freolicu folccwen, to hire frean sittan.  
þa wæs eft, swa ær inne on healle,  
þryðword sprecen, ðeod on sælum,  
sigefolca sweg, oþ þæt semninga  
sunu Healfdenes secean wolde  
645 æfenræste. Wiste þæm ahlæcan  
to þæm heahsele hilde geþinged,  
siððan hie sunnan leoht geseon meahton,  
oþðe nipende niht ofer ealle,  
scaduhelma gesceapu scriðan cwoman,  
650 wan under wolcnum. Werod eall aras.  
Grette þa guma [*guman*] oþerne,  
Hroðgar Beowulf, 7 him hæl abead,  
**145r** winærnes |geweald, 7 þæt word acwæð:  
"Næfre ic ænegum men ær alyfde,  
655 siþðan ic hond 7 rond hebban mihte,  
ðryþærn Dena, buton þe nu ða.

Hafa nu 7 geheald husa selest,  
gemyne mærfþo, mægenellen cyð,  
waca wið wraþum. Ne bið þe wilna gad  
660 gif þu þæt ellenweorc aldre gedigest."

.X.

ÐA him Hroþgar gewat mid his hæleþa gedryht,  
eodur Scyldinga ut of healle.  
Wolde wigfruma Wealhþeo secan,  
cwen to gebeddan. Hæfde Kyningwuldor  
665 Grendle togeanes, swa guman gefrungon,  
seleward aseted. Sundornytte beheold  
ymb aldor Dena, eotonward ahead.  
Huru Geata leod georne truwode  
modgan mægnes, Methodes hyldo.  
670 Ða he him of dyde isernbyrnan,  
helm of hafelan, sealde his hyrsted sword,  
irena cyst, ombihtþegne,  
7 gehealdan het hildegeatwe.  
Gespræc þa se goda gylpworda sum,

**145v** Beowulf |Geata, ær he on bed stige:  
"No ic me an herewæsmun hnagran talige,  
gufgeweorca, þonne Grendel hine.  
Forþan ic hine sweorde swebban nelle,  
aldre beneotan, þeah ic eal mæge.  
680 Nat he þara goda, þæt he me ongean slea,  
rand geheawe, þeah ðe he rof sie  
niþgeweorca. Ac wit on niht sculon

secge ofersittan, gif h[e] gesecean dea  
 wig ofer wæpen. 7 siþðan witig God,  
 685 on swa hwæþere hond, halig Dryhten,  
 mærdō deme, swa him gemet þince."  
 Hylde hine þa heaþodeor, hleorbolster onfeng  
 eorles andwlitan, 7 hine ymb monig  
 snellic særinc selereste gebeah.  
 690 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,  
 in þæm winsele wældeað fornam  
 695 Denigea leode. Ac him Dryhten forgeaf  
**146r** wigspeda gewiofu |Wedera leodum,  
 frofor 7 fult(um), (þæt hie) feond heora  
 ðurh anes cræft ealle ofercomon,  
 selfes mihtum. Soð is gecyþed,  
 700 þæt mihtig God manna cynnes  
 weold (wide)ferhð. Com on wanre niht  
 scriðan s(cea)dugenga. Sceotend swæfon,  
 þa þæt hornreced healdan scoldon,  
 ealle buton an(um). Þæt wæs yldum cup,  
 705 þæt hie ne moste, þa Meto(d) nolde,  
 se synscaþa under sceadu bregdan.  
 Ac he wæccende wrapum on andan  
 bad bolgenmod beadwa geþinges.

Ða com of more under misthleoþum  
 710 Grendel gongan, Godes yrre bær.  
 Mynte se manscaða manna cynnes  
 sumne b(e)syrwan in sele þam hean.  
 Wod under (wold)num to þæs þe he winreced,  
 goldsele gum(e)na gearwost wisse,  
 715 fættum fahne. Ne wæs þæt forma sið  
 þæt he Hroþgares ham gesohte.  
**146v** Næfre he on aldordagum, ær |(ne) siþðan,  
 heardran hæle, healðegnas fand.  
 Com þa to recede rinc siðian,  
 720 dreamum bedæled. Duru sona onarn,  
 fyr(ben)dum fæst, syþðan he hire folmum [æt]hran.  
 Onbræd þa bealohydig, ða [h]e gebolgen wæs,  
 recedes muþan. Raþe æfter þon  
 on fagne flor feond treddode,  
 725 eode yrremod. Him of eagum stod  
 ligge gelicost leoht unfæger.  
 Geseah he in recede rinca manige,  
 swefan sibbegedriht samod ætgædere  
 magorinca heap. Þa his mod ahlog,  
 730 mynte þæt he gedælde, ær þon dæg cwome,  
 atol aglæca anra gehwylces  
 lif wið lice, þa him alumpen wæs  
 wistfille wen. Ne wæs (þæt) (w)yrð þa gen  
 þæt he ma moste manna cynnes  
 735 ðicgean ofer þa niht. Pryðswyð beheold,

mæg Higelaces, hu se manscaða  
under færgripum gefaran wolde.  
Ne þæt se aglæca yldan þohte,

**147A**

(131)r ac he ge|feng hraðe forman siðe

740 slæpendn(e) rinc, slat unwearnum,  
bat banlocan, bl(od) edrum dranc,  
synsnædum swealh. Sona hæfde  
unlyfigendes ealgefeormod  
fe(t) 7 folma. Forð near ætstop,

745 nam þa mid h(an)da higeþihtigne  
rinc on ræste, ræhte ongear  
feond mid folme. He onfeng hraþe  
inwitþancum 7 wið earm gesæt.

Sona þæt onfunde, fyrena hyrde,  
750 þæt he ne mette middangeardes,  
eorþan sceatta, on elran men  
mundgripe maran. He on mode wearð  
forht on ferhðe. No þy ær fram meahte.

Hyge wæs him hinfus, wolde on heolster fleon,  
755 secan deofla gedræg. Ne wæs his drohtoð þær  
swylce he on ealderdagum ær gemette.

Gemunde þa se goda, mæg Higelaces,  
æfenspræce. Uplang astod  
7 him fæste wiðfeng. Fingras burston.

760 Eoten wæs utweard, eorl furþur stop.

**147A**

(131)v Mynte se mæra, [[hw](ær) he meahte swa,

widre gewindan, 7 (o)n weg þanon  
 fleon on fenhopu. Wiste [h]is fingra geweald  
 on grames grapum, (þæt) he wæs geocorsið  
 765 þæt se hearmsca(þa) to Heorute ateah.  
 Dryhtsele (dy)nede. Denum eallum wearð,  
 ceasterbuendum, cenra gehwylcum,  
 eorlum ealuscerwen. Yrre wæron begen,  
 reþe renweardas. Reced hlynsode.  
 770 Ða wæs wundor micel þæt se winsele  
 wiðhæfde heapodeorum, þæt he on hrusan ne feol,  
 fæger foldbold. Ac he þæs fæste wæs  
 innan 7 utan irenbendum  
 searþoncum besmipod. Ðær fram sylle abeag  
 775 medubenc monig, mine gefræge,  
 golde geregnad, þær þa graman wunnon.  
 Ðæs ne wendon ær, witan Scyldinga,  
 þæt hit a mid gemete manna ænig,  
 [b]etlic 7 banfag, tobrecaþ meahte,  
 780 listum tolucan, nymþe liges fæþm  
**147r** swulge on swaþule. Sweg |up astag,  
 niwe geneahhe: Norð-Denum st(od)  
 atelic egesa, anra gehwylcum  
 þara (þe) of wealle wop gehyrdon,  
 785 gryreleoð (ga)lan Godes andsacan,  
 sigeleasne sang, (sar) wanigean,  
 helle hæfton. Heold hine fæste,  
 se þe manna wæs mægene str(en)gest

on þæm dæge þysses lifes.

.XII.

- 790 Nolde eorla hleo ænige þinga  
þone cwealmcuman cwicne forlætan,  
ne his lifdagas leoda ænigum  
nytte tealde. Þær genehost brægd  
eorl Beowulfes, ealde lafe,
- 795 wolde freadrihtnes feorh ealgian,  
mæres þeodnes, ðær hie meahton swa.  
Hie þæt ne wiston, þa hie gewin drugon,  
heardhicgende hildemecgas,  
7 on healfa gehwone heawan þohton,
- 800 sawle secan: þone synscaðan  
ænig ofer eorþan, irenna cyst,  
guðbilla nan gretan nolde.
- 147v** Ac he sigewæpnum |(fo)rsworen hæfde,  
ecga gehwylcre. Scolde (h)is aldorgedal
- 805 on ðæm dæge þysses (lif)es  
earmlíc wurðan, 7 se ellorgast  
(on) feonda geweald feor siðian.  
Ða þæt (o)nfunde se þe fela æror  
modes myrðe (m)anna cynne
- 810 fyrene gefremede, he (f)ag wið God,  
þæt him se lichoma læstan (n)olde,  
ac hine se modega mæg Hygela(c)es  
hæfde be honda. Wæs gehwæper oðrum  
lifigende lað. Licsar gebad,

815 atol æglæca. Him on eaxle wearð  
syndolh sweotol, seonowe onsprungon,  
burston banlocan. Beowulfe wearð  
guðhreð gyfeþe. Scolde Grendel þonan  
feorhseoc fleon under fenhleoðu,  
820 secean wynleas wic. Wiste þe geornor  
þæt his aldres wæs ende gegongen,  
dogera dægrim. Denum eallum wearð  
æfter þam wælræse willa gelumpen.  
Hæfde þa gefælsod, se þe ær feorran com,  
825 snotor 7 swyðferhð, sele Hroðgares,  
**148r** genered wið |niðe. Nihtweorce gefeh,  
ellenmær(þum). Hæfde East-Denum,  
Geatmecga leod, gilp gelæsted.  
Swylce oncyþðe ealle ge(bette),  
830 inwidsorge, þe hie ær drugon,  
7 for (þrea)nydum þolian scoldon  
torn unlyt(el). Þæt wæs tacen sweotol,  
syþðan hildedeor hond alegde,  
earn 7 eaxle, þær wæs eal geador  
835 Grendles grape, under geapne h[rof].

.XIII.

ÐA wæs on morgen mine gefræge  
ymb þa gifhealle guðrinc monig.  
Ferdon folctogan feorran 7 nean  
geond widwegas wundor sceawian,  
840 laþes lastas. No his lifgedal

sarlic þuhte secga ænegum  
 þara þe tirleases trode sceawode,  
 hu he werigmod on weg þanon,  
 niða ofercumen, on nicera mere  
 845 fæge 7 geflymed feorhlastas bær.  
 Ðær wæs on blode brim weallende,  
 atol yða geswing eal gemenged  
**148v** haton heolfre, |(heo)rodreore weol,  
 deaðfæge deog. Siððan dreama leas,  
 850 in fenfreoðo, feorh alegde,  
 (hæþ)ene sawle. Ðær him hel onfeng.  
 Ðanon (eft) gewiton ealdgesiðas,  
 swylce geong (ma)nig, of gomenwape,  
 fram mere modge (m)earum ridan,  
 855 beornas on blancum. Ðær (w)æs Beowulfes  
 mærdō mæned. Monig oft gecwæð  
 þætte suð ne norð be sæm tweonum,  
 ofer eormengrund, oþer nænig  
 under swegles begong selra nære  
 860 rondhæbbendra, rices wyrðra.  
 Ne hie huru winedrihten wiht ne logon,  
 glædne Hroðgar, ac þæt wæs god cyning.  
 Hwilum heaþorofe hleapan leton,  
 on geflit faran fealwe mearas,  
 865 ðær him foldwegas fægere þuhton,  
 cystum cuðe. Hwilum cyninges þegn  
 guma gilphlæden, gidda gemyndig,

se ðe ealfela ealdgesegenas  
 worn gemunde, word oþer fand  
 870 soðe gebunden. Secg eft ongan  
**149r** sið Beowulfes snyttrum |styrian,  
 7 on sped wrecan spel gerade,  
 wordum wrixlan. Welhwylc gecwæð  
 þæt he fram Sigemunde secgan hyrde,  
 875 elle(ndæ)dum, uncuþes fela  
 Wælsinges gewin, wide siðas,  
 þara þe gumena bearn gearwe ne wiston,  
 fæhðe 7 fyrena. Buton Fitela (mid) hine,  
 þonne he swulces hwæt secgan wol(de),  
 880 eam his nefan, swa hie a wæron  
 æt niða gehwam nydgesteallan.  
 Hæfdon ealfela eotena cynnes  
 sweordum gesæged. Sigemunde gesprong  
 æfter deaðdæge dom unlytel.  
 885 Syþðan wiges heard wrym acwealde,  
 hordes hyrde; he under harnes stan  
 æþelinges bearn ana geneðde  
 frecne dæde, ne wæs him Fitela mid.  
 Hwæpre him gesælde ðæt þæt swurd þurhwod  
 890 wrætlicne wrym, þæt hit on wealle ætstod,  
 dryhtlic iren. Draca morðre swealt.  
 Hæfde aglæca elne gegongen  
 þæt he beahhordes brucan moste  
**149v** selfes dome. | Sæbat gehleod,

895 bær on bearm scipes beorhte frætwa,  
Wælses eafera. Wyrn hat (ge)mealt.  
Se wæs wreccena wide mærost  
(o)fer werþeode, wigendra hleo,  
ellendædum. (H)e þæs ær onðah.

900 Siððan Heremodes hild (s)weðrode,  
earfoð' 7 ellen. He mid eotenum (w)earð  
on feonda geweald forð forlacen,  
(s)nude forsended. Hine sorhwylmas  
lemede to lange. He his leodum wearð,

905 eallum æpellingum, to aldorceare.  
Swylce oft bemearn ærran mælum  
swiðferhþes sið, snotor ceorl monig,  
se þe him bealwa to bote gelyfde,  
þæt þæt ðeodnes bearn geþeon scolde,

910 fæderæþelum onfon, folc gehealdan,  
hord 7 hleoburh, hæleþa rice,  
.eðel. Scyldinga. He þær eallum wearð,  
mæg Higelaces, manna cynne,  
freondum gefægra. Hine fyren onwod.

915 Hwilum flitende fealwe stræte  
mearum mæton. Ða wæs morgenleht

**150r** scofen 7 scynded. |Eode scealc monig  
swiðhicgende to sele þam hean  
searowundor seon. Swylce se(lf) cyning

920 of brydbure, beahhorda wear(d),  
tryddode tirlfæst getrume micle,

cystum gecyþed, 7 his cwen mid him  
med(o)stigge mæt mægþa hose.

.XIII.

Hroðgar mapelode. He to healle geon(g),  
925 stod on stapole, geseah steapne hrof  
golde fahne 7 Grendles hond.  
"Ðisse ansyne Alwealdan þanc  
lungre gelimpe. Fela ic laþes gebad,  
grynna æt Grendle. A mæg God wyrcan  
930 wunder æfter wundre, wuldres Hyrde.  
Ðæt wæs ungeara þæt ic ænigra me  
weana ne wende to widan feore,  
bote gebidan (þonne blode fah  
husa selest heorodreorig stod,  
935 wea widscofen), witena gehwylcne  
ðara þe ne wendon þæt hie wideferhð  
leoda landgeweorc laþum beweredon,  
150v |scuccum 7 scinum. Nu scealc hafað  
þurh Drihtnes miht dæd gefremede,  
940 ðe we ealle (ær) ne meahton  
snyttrum besyrwan. Hwæt, (þæt s)ecgan mæg,  
efne swa hwylc mægþa swa ðone magan cende,  
æfter gumcynnum, gyf heo gyt lyfað,  
þæt hyre Ealdmetod este wære  
945 bearngebyrdo. Nu ic Beowulf, þec,  
secg betsta, me for sunu wylle  
freogan on ferhþe. Heald forð tela

niwe sibbe. Ne bið þe ænigre gad  
worolde wilna, þe ic geweald hæbbe.  
950 Ful oft ic for læssan lean teohhode,  
hordweorþunge hnahan rince,  
sæmran æt sæcce. Ðu þe self hafast  
dædum gefremed, þæt þin [*dæd*] lyfað  
awa to aldre. Alwalda þec  
955 gode forgyld, swa he nu gyt dyde."  
Beowulf mæpelode, bearn Ecþeowes:  
"We þæt ellenweorc estum miclum,  
feohtan fremedon, frecne geneðdon  
eafod uncupes. Uþe ic swiþor  
960 þæt ðu hine selfne geseon moste,  
feond on frætewum fylwerigne.  
**151r** Ic him hrædlice |heardan clammum  
on wælbedde wriþan þohte,  
þæt he for handgripe minum scolde  
965 licgean lifbysig, butan his lic swice.  
Ic hine ne mihte, þa Metod nolde,  
gange(s) getwæman: no ic him þæs georne ætfealh,  
feorhgeniðlan. Wæs to foremi(htig),  
feond on feþe. Hwæþere, he his folme f(or)let  
970 to lifwraþe last weardian,  
earn 7 (eax)le. No þær ænige swa þeah  
feasceaft (gu)ma, frofre gebohte.  
No þy leng leof(að) laðgeteona  
synnum geswenced, ac hyne sar hafað

975 in [nið]gripe, nearwe befangen  
balwon bendum. Ðær abidan sceal,  
maga mane fah, miclan domes,  
hu him scir Metod scrifan wille."  
Ða wæs swigra secg, sunu Eclafes,  
980 on gylpspræce guðgeweorca,  
siþðan æpelingas eorles cræfte  
ofer heanne hrof hand sceawedon,  
feondes fingras. Foran æghwylc wæs  
steda nægla gehwylc, style gelicost;  
151v hæpenes handsporu hilde|rinces  
egl unheoru. Æghwylc gecwæð  
þæt him heardra nan hrinan wolde,  
iren ærgod, þæt ðæs ahlæcan  
blodge beadufolme (o)nberan wolde.

.XV.

990 ÐA wæs haten hreþe Heort innanweard  
folmum gefrætwod. Fela þæra wæs  
wera 7 wifa, þe þæt winreced,  
gestsele gyredon. Goldfag scinon,  
web æfter wagum, wundorsiona fela  
995 secga gehwylcum, þara þe on swylc starað.  
Wæs þæt beorhte bold tobrocen swiðe  
eal inneward irenbendum fæst,  
heorras tohlidene. Hrof ana genæs  
ealles ansund, þe se aglæca  
1000 fyrendædum fag on fleam gewand,

aldres orwena. No þæt yðe byð  
 to befleonne - fremme se þe wille -  
 ac gesacan sceal sawlberendra,  
 nyde genydde, niþða bearna,  
 1005 grundbuendra gearwe stowe,  
 þær his lichoma, legerbedde fæst,  
 swefep æfter symle. Ða wæs sæl 7 mæl  
**152r** þæt to healle |gang Healfdenes sunu.  
 Wolde self cyni(ng) symbel þicgan.  
 1010 Ne gefrægen ic þa mægþ(e) maran weorode  
 ymb hyra sincgyfan s(el) gebæran.  
 Bugon þa to bence blæd(agan)de,  
 fylle gefægon. Fægere geþægon  
 (me)doful manig, magas þara  
 1015 swiðhicgend(e) on sele þam hean,  
 Hroðgar 7 Hroþulf. (Heo)rot innan wæs  
 freondum afylled. Nalles f(acen)stafas  
 Ðeod-Scyldingas þenden fremed(on).  
 Forgeaf þa Beowulfe brand Healfde(nes);  
 1020 segen gyldenne sigores to leane,  
 hro(den) hiltecumbor, helm, 7 byrnan.  
 Mære m(að)þumsweord manige gesawon  
 beforan be(orn) beran. Beowulf geþah  
 ful on flette. No (he) þære feohgyfte  
 1025 for scotenum scami(gan) ðorfte.  
 Ne gefrægn ic freondlicor feow(er) madmas  
 golde gegyrede gummanna fela

in ealobence oðrum gesellan.  
 Ym(b) þæs helmes hrof, heafodbeorge,  
 1030 wirum bewunden, walan utan heold,  
**152v** þæt him fela |(la)f frecne ne meahton,  
 scurheard, sceþ(ða)n, þonne scyldfreca  
 ongear gramum (g)angan scolde.  
 Heht ða eorla hleo eah(ta) mearas,  
 1035 fætedhleore, on flet teon  
 (in u)nder eoderas. Þara anum stod  
 sadol searwum fah, since gewurþad.  
 Þæt wæs hildesetl heahcyninges,  
 ðonne sweorda gelac sunu Healfdenes  
 1040 efnan wolde. Næfre on ore læg  
 widcupes wig, ðonne walu feollon.  
 7 ða Beowulfe bega gehwæþres  
 eodor Ingwina onweald geteah,  
 wicga 7 wæpna. Het hine wel brucan.  
 1045 Swa manlice mære þeoden  
 hordward hæleþa, heaþoræsas geald  
 mearum 7 madmum. Swa hy næfre man lyhð,  
 se þe secgan wile soð æfter rihte.

.XVI.

ÐA gyt æghwylcum eorla drihten  
 1050 þara þe mid Beowulfe brimleade teah,  
 on þære medubence maþðum gesealde,  
**153r** yr|felafe, 7 þone ænne heht  
 golde forgy(l)dan, þone ðe Grendel ær

mane acwealde. Swa he hyra ma wolde,  
 1055 nefne him witi(g) God wyrd forstode,  
 7 ðæs mannes mod. (Me)tod eallum weold  
 gumena cynnes, swa h(e) nu git deð.  
 Forþan bið andgit æghwær selest,  
 ferhðes foreþanc. Fela sceal g(e)bidan  
 1060 leofes 7 laþes se þe longe her  
 on ðyssum windagum worolde bruceð.  
 Þær wæs sang 7 sweg samod ætgædere  
 fore Healfdenes hildewisan;  
 gomenwudu greted, gid oft wrecen.  
 1065 Ðonne healgamen Hroþgares scop  
 æfter medobence mænan scolde,  
 Finnes eaferum, ða hie se fær begeat:  
 Hæleð Healfdena, Hnæf Scyldinga,  
 in Freswæle feallan scolde.  
 1070 Ne huru Hildeburh herian þorfte  
 eotena treowe. Unsynnum wearð  
 beloren leofum æt þam hildplegan,  
 bearnum 7 broðrum. Hie on gebyrd hruron,  
**153v** gare | (w)unde. Þæt wæs geomuru ides.  
 1075 Nalles holinga (H)oces dohtor  
 meotodsceaft bemearn, (sy)þðan morgen com.  
 Ða heo under swegle (ge)seon meahte  
 morþorbealo maga. (Ð)ær he ær mæste heold  
 worolde wynne, wig ealle fornam  
 1080 Finnes þegnas, nemne feaum anum.

þæt he ne mehte on þæm meðelstede  
 wig Hengeste wiht gefeohtan.  
 ne þa wealafe wige forþringan  
 þeodnes ðegne. Ac hig him geþingo budon,  
 1085 þæt hie him oðer flet eal gerymdon,  
 healle 7 heahsetl, þæt hie healfre geweald  
 wið eotena bearn agan moston.  
 7 æt feohgyftum Folcwaldan sunu  
 dogra gehwylce Dene weorþode,  
 1090 Hengestes heap hringum wenede,  
 efne swa swiðe sincgestreonum  
 fættan goldes swa he Fresena cyn  
 on beorsele byldan wolde.  
 Ða hie getruwedon on twa healfa  
 1095 fæste frioðuwære. Fin Hengeste  
**154r** elne unflitme aðum |benemde  
 þæt he þa wealafe weotena dome  
 arum heolde, þæt ðær ænig mon  
 wordum ne worcum wære ne bræce,  
 1100 (ne) þurh inwitsearo æfre gemænden,  
 ðeah hie hira beaggyfan banan folgedon,  
 ðeodenlease, þa him swa geþearfod wæs.  
 Gyf þonne Frysna hwylc frecnen spræ(ce)  
 ðæs morþorhetes myndgiend wære,  
 1105 þonne hit sweordes ecg syððan scolde.  
 Að wæs geæfned, 7 icge, gold,  
 ahæfen of horde. Here-Scyldinga

betst beadorinca wæs on bæl gearu.  
 Æt þæm ade wæs eþgesyne  
 1110 swatfah syrce, swyn ealgylden,  
 eofer irenheard, æþeling manig  
 wundum awyrded. Sume on wæle crungon.  
 Het ða Hildeburh æt Hnæfes ade  
 hire selfre sunu sweoloðe befæstan,  
 1115 banfatu bærnan, 7 on bæl don.  
 Earme on eaxle, ides gnornode,  
 geomrode giddum. Guðrinc astah,  
**154v** wand |(to) wolcnum. Wælfyra mæst  
 hlynode (fo)r hlawe. Hafelan multon,  
 1120 bengeato (bu)rston, ðonne blod ætspranc,  
 laðbite lices. Lig ealle forswearg,  
 gæsta (g)ifrost, þara ðe þær guð fornam  
 bega folces. Wæs hira blæd scacen.

.XVII.

(G)Ewiton him ða wigend wica neosian,  
 1125 freondum befeallen, Frysland geseon,  
 hamas 7 heaburh. Hengest ða gyt  
 wælfagne winter wunode mid Fin  
 [ea]l unhlitine. Eard gemunde,  
 þeah þe he meahte on mere drifan  
 1130 hringedstefnan. Holm storme weol,  
 won wið winde; winter yþe beleac  
 isgebinde, oþ ðæt oþer com,  
 gear in geardas, swa nu gyt deð,

þa ðe syngales sele bewitiað,  
 1135 wuldortorhtan weder. Ða wæs winter scacen,  
 fæger foldan bearm. Fundode wrecca,  
 gist of geardum. He to gyrnwraece  
**155r** swiðor þohte þonne to sælade,  
 gif he tor(nge)mot þurhteon mihte,  
 1140 þæt he eote(na) bearn inne gemunde.  
 Swa he ne fo(r)wyrnde woroldrædenne,  
 þonne him Hunlafing hildeleoman,  
 billa sele(st) on bearm dyde.  
 Þæs wæron mid eoten(um) ecge cuðe.  
 1145 Swylce ferhðfreca Fin eft begeat  
 sweordbealo sliðen æt hi(s) selfes ham,  
 siþðan grimne gripe Guðlaf ond Oslaf  
 æfter sæsiðe sorge mændon,  
 ætwiton weana dæl. Ne meahte wæfre mod  
 1150 forhabban in hrepre. Ða wæs heal hroden  
 feonda feorum, swilce Fin slægen,  
 cyning on corpre, 7 seo cwen numen.  
 Sceotend Scyldinga to scypon feredon  
 eal ingesteald eorðcyninges,  
 1155 swylce hie æt Finnes ham findan meahton  
 sigla searogimma. Hie on sælade  
 drihtlice wif to Denum feredon,  
**155v** læddon |(to) leodum. Leoð wæs asungen,  
 gleoman(nes) gyd. Gamen eft astah,  
 1160 beorhtode (b)encsweg, byrelas sealdon

win of (w)underfatum. Ða cwom Wealhþeo forð,  
 (g)an under gyldnum beage þær þa godan  
 twegen sæton, suhtergefæde(r)an;  
 þa gyt wæs hiera sib ætgædere, æghwylc  
 1165 oðrum trywe. Swylce þær Hunferþ þyle  
 æt fotum sæt frean Scyldinga.  
 Gehwylc hiora his ferhþe treowde,  
 þæt he hæfde mod micel, þeah þe he his magum  
 nære arfæst æt ecga gelacum.  
 1170 Spræc ða ides Scyldinga:  
 "Onfoh þissum fulle, freodrihten min,  
 sinesc brytta. Ðu on sælum wes,  
 goldwine gumena, 7 to Geatum spræc  
 mildum wordum, swa sceal man don.  
 1175 Beo wið Geatas glæd, geofena gemyndig;  
 nean 7 feorran þu nu hafast.  
**156r** Me man sægde þæt |(þ)u (ð)e for sunu wolde  
 hereric hab(ban). Heorot is gefælsod,  
 beahsele beor(hta). Bruc, þenden þu mote,  
 1180 manigra me(do), 7 þinum magum læf  
 folc 7 rice þonne ðu forð scyle  
 methodscaft seon. (Ic) minne can  
 glædne Hroþulf, þæt he þa g(eo)goðe wile  
 arum healdan, gyf þu ær þonne he,  
 1185 wine Scyldinga, worold oflættest.  
 Wene ic þæt he mid gode gyldan wille  
 uncran eaferan, gif he þæt eal gemon,

hwæt wit to willan 7 to worðmyndum  
umborwesendum ær arna gefremedon."

1190 Hwearf þa bi bence, þær hyre byre wæron,  
Hreðric 7 Hroðmund, 7 hæleþa bearn  
giogoð æt gædere. Þær se goda sæt  
Beowulf Geata be þæm gebroðrum twæm(.

.XVIII.

Him wæs ful boren, 7 freondlaþu  
1195 wordum bewægned 7 wundengold  
estum geeawed, earmreade twa,  
**156v** hrægl 7 hrin|(ga)s, healsbeaga mæst  
þara þe ic on fol(dan) (ge)frægen hæbbe.  
Nænigne ic under sweg(l)e selran hyrde  
1200 hordmadmum hæleþa, syþðan Hama ætwæg  
to herebyrhtan (byri)g Brosinga mene,  
sigle 7 sincfæt. (Se)aroniðas fealh  
Eormenrices geceas ecne ræd.  
Þone hring hæfde Higelac Geata,  
1205 nefa Swertinges, nyhstan siðe,  
siðþan he under segne sinc ealgode,  
wælreaf werede. Hyne wyrd fornam,  
syþðan he for wlenco wean ahsode,  
fæhðe to Frysum. He þa frætwe wæg,  
1210 eorclanstanas ofer yða ful,  
rice þeoden. He under rande gecranc.  
Gehwearf þa in Francna fæþm feorh cyninges  
breostgewædu 7 se beah somod.

Wyrsan wigfrecan wæl reafeden  
 1215 æfter guðsceare. Geata leode  
 hreawic heoldon. Heal swege onfeng.  
 Wealhðeo mabelode. Heo fore þæm werede spræc:  
 "Bruc ðisses beages, Beowulf leofa,  
**157r** hyse mid hæle, |(7 þ)isses hrægles neot;  
 1220 þeo gestreona, (7 geþeoh) tela,  
 cen þec mid cræfte, 7 þyssum cnyht(um) wes  
 lara liðe. Ic þe þæs lean geman.  
 Ha(fast) þu gefered þæt ðe feor 7 neah  
 ealne wifef(e) (rhþ) weras ehtigað,  
 1225 efne swa side swa sæ beb(ugeð)  
 windgeard, weallas. Wes þenden þu lifige,  
 æþ(eling), eadig. Ic þe an tela  
 sincgestreona. Beo þu suna minum  
 dædum gedefe, dreamhealde(n)de!  
 1230 Her is æghwylc eorl oprum getrywe,  
 modes milde, mandrihtne h[*leo*];  
 þegnas sy(n)don geþwære, þeod ealgearo,  
 druncne dry(ht)guman. Doð swa ic bidde."  
 Eode þa to setle. Þær wæs symbla cyst,  
 1235 druncon win weras. Wyrð ne cupon,  
 geosceaft grimne, swa hit agangen wearð  
 eorla manegum, syþðan æfen cwom.  
 7 him Hroþgar gewat to hofe sinum,  
 rice to ræste. Reced weardode  
 1240 unrim eorla, swa hie oft ær dydon.

Benþelu beredon. Hit geondbræded wearð  
 beddum 7 bolstrum. Beorscealca sum  
**157v** fus 7 fæge fletræste ge|(beag).  
 Setton him to heafdon hilderandas,  
 1245 (b)ordwudu beorhtan. Þær on bence wæs  
 ofer æþelinge yþgesene  
 heaþosteapa helm, hringed byrne,  
 þrecwudu þrymlic. Wæs (þ)eaw hyra  
 þæt hie oft wæron an wig gearwe  
 1250 ge æt ham ge on herge, ge gehwæþer þara,  
 efne swylce mæla swylce hira mandryhtne  
 þearf gesælde. Wæs seo þeod tilu.

.XVIII.

Sigon þa to slæpe. Sum sare angeald  
 æfenræste, swa him ful oft gelamp,  
 1255 siþðan goldsele Grendel (w)arode,  
 unriht æfnde oþ þæt ende becwom,  
 swylt æfter synnum. Þæt gesyne wearþ,  
 widcup werum, þætte wrecend þa gyt  
 lifde æfter laþum, lange þrage  
 1260 æfter guðceare. Grendles modor,  
 ides aglæcwif yrmþe gemunde,  
 se þe wætereges an wunian scolde,  
 cealde streamas, siþðan camp wearð  
 to ecgbanan angan breþer,  
 1265 fæderenmæge. He þa fag gewat,  
**158r** morþre gemearcod, |(ma)n(d)ream fleon,

westen warode. Ð(anon woc) fela  
geosceaftgasta. Wæs þæra Grend(el) sum,  
heorowearh hetelic, se æt Heorote fand  
1270 wæccendne wer wiges bidan.  
Ðær him aglæca ætgræpe wearð.  
Hwæpre he gemunde mægenes strenge,  
gimfæste gife, ðe him God sealde,  
7 him to Anwaldan are gelyfde,  
1275 frofre 7 fultum. Ðy he þone feon(d) ofercwom,  
gehnægde helle gast. Ða he hean gewat,  
dreame bedæled, deapwic seon,  
mancynnes feond. 7 his modor þa gyt,  
gifre 7 galgmod gegan wolde  
1280 sorhfulne sið sunu þeod wrecan.  
Com þa to Heorote, ðær Hring-Dene  
geond þæt sæld swæfun. Ða ðær sona wearð  
edhwyrft eorlum, siþðan inne fealh  
Grendles modor. Wæs se gryre læssa  
1285 efne swa micle, swa bið mægþa cræft  
wiggryre wifes, bewæpned men,  
þonne heoru bunden, hamere gepuren,  
sweord swate fah swin ofer helme  
**158v** ecgum |(dyhttig) andweard scireð.  
1290 Ða wæs on hea(lle) (he)ardecg togen  
sweord ofer setlum, sidrand manig  
hafen handa fæst. Helm ne gemunde,  
byrnan side, þa hine se (br)oga angeat.

Heo wæs on ofste, wolde ut þanon,  
 1295 feore beorgan, þa heo onfunden wæs.  
 Hraðe heo æþelunga anne hæfde  
 fæste befangen, þa heo to fenne gang.  
 Se wæs Hroþgare hæleþa (l)eofost  
 on gesiðes had be sæm tweonum  
 1300 rice randwiga, þone ðe heo on ræste abreat,  
 blædfæstne beorn. Næs Beowulf ðær.  
 ac wæs oþer in ær geteohhod  
 æfter maþðungife mærum Geate.  
 Hream wearð in Heorote. Heo under heolfre genam  
 1305 cuþe folme. Cearu wæs geniwod  
 geworden in wicun. Ne wæs þæt gewrixle til  
 þæt hie on ba healfa bicgan scoldon.  
 freonda feorum. Þa wæs frod cyning,  
**159r** har hilderinc on hreon |(mo)de,  
 1310 syðþan he aldorþegn unly(figendne),  
 þone deorestan, deadne wisse.  
 Hra(þe wæs) to bure Beowulf fetod  
 sigoreadig secg. Samod ærdæge  
 eode eorla sum, æþele cempa  
 1315 self mid gesiðum þær se snot(e)ra bad.  
 Hwæþre him A[L]walda æf(re) wille  
 æfter weaspelle wyrpe gefremman.  
 Gang ða æfter flore fyrdwyrðe man  
 mid his handscale, healwudu dynede,  
 1320 þæt he þone wisan wordum hnæg(de)

freaŋ Ingwina, frægn gif him wære  
æfter neodlaðu niht getæse.

.XX.

Hroðgar mapelode, helm Scyldinga:

"Ne frin þu æfter sælum. Sorh is geniwod

- 1325 Denigea leodum. Dead is Æschere,  
Yrmenlafes yldra broþor,  
min runwita 7 min rædbora,  
eaxlgestealla, ðonne we on orlege  
hafelan weredon, þonne hniton feþan,  
**159v** eoferas cnysedan. |(Swy)[lc] [eorl] (s)colde  
wesan ærgod, swylc Æsc(her) (wæs).  
Wearð him on Heorote to handbanan  
wælgæst wæfre. Ic ne wat hwæþer  
atol æse wlanc eftsida's teah,  
1335 fylle gefrægnod. Heo þa fæhðe wræc  
þe þu gystran niht Gren(d)el cwealdest  
þurh hæstne had heardum clammum,  
forþan he to lange leode mine  
wanode 7 wyrde. He æt wige gecrang,  
1340 ealdres scyldig. 7 nu oþer cwom,  
mihtig manscaða, wolde hyre mæg wrecan,  
ge feor hafað fæhðe gestæled,  
þæs þe þincean mæg þegne monegum,  
se þe æfter sincgyfan on sefan greoteþ.  
1345 Hreþerbealo hearde! Nu seo hand ligeð,  
se þe eow welhwylcra wilna dohte.

Ic þæt londbuend, leode mine,  
 selerædende secgan hyrde  
 þæt hie gesawon swylce twegen  
 1350 micle mearcstapan moras healdan,  
 ellorgæstas. Ðæra oðer wæs,  
 þæs þe hie gewislicost gewitan meah-ton,  
 idese onlicnæs. Oðer earmsceapen  
**160r** on weres wæstmum wræclastas |træd,  
 1355 næfne he wæs mara þonne ænig m(an) oðer.  
 Þone on geardagum Grendel nem(don).  
 Foldbuende no hie fæder cunnon,  
 hwæ(þer) him ænig wæs ær acenned  
 dyrnra gasta. Hie dygel lond  
 1360 warigeað, wulfhleoþu, windi(ge) næssas,  
 frecne fengelad, ðær fyrgenstream  
 under næssa genipu niþer gewiteð,  
 flod under foldan. Nis þæt feor heonon  
 milgemearces, þæt se mere stan[d]eð.  
 1365 Ofer þæm hongiað hrinde bearwas,  
 wudu wyrtum fæst wæter oferhelmað.  
 Þær mæg nihta gehwæm niðwundor seon,  
 fyr on flode. No þæs frod leofað  
 gumena bearna, þæt þone grund wite.  
 1370 Ðeah þe hæðstapa hundum geswenced,  
 heorot hornum trum holtwudu sece,  
 feorran geflymed, ær he feorh seleð,  
 aldor on ofre, ær he in wille

hafelan [*hafenian*]. Nis þæt heoru stow.  
1375 Þonon yðgeblond up astigeð,  
won to wolcnum, þonne wind styreþ,  
lað gewidru, oð þæt lyft drysmaþ,  
roderas reotað. Nu is se ræd gelang  
**160v** eft æt |(þ)e anum. Eard git ne const,  
1380 frecne stowe (ðær) þu findan miht  
felasinnigne secg. (S)ec gif þu dyrre.  
Ic þe þa fæhðe feo leanige,  
ealdgestreonum, swa ic ær dyde  
wund[un]golde, gyf þu on weg cymest."

.XXI.

1385 (B)EOWVLF mæpelode, bearn Ecgþeo[w]es.  
"Ne sorga, snotor guma. Selre bið æghwæm  
þæt he his freond wrece þonne he fela murne.  
Ure æghwylc sceal ende gebidan  
worolde lifes. Wyrce se þe mote  
1390 domes ær deaþe. Þæt bið drihtguman,  
unlifgendum, æfter selest.  
Aris, rices weard, uton hraþe feran,  
Grendles magan gang sceawigan.  
Ic hit þe gehate: no he on helm losaþ,  
1395 ne on foldan fæþm, ne on fyrgeholt,  
ne on gyfenes grund, ga þær he wille.  
Ðys dogor þu geþyld hafa  
weana gehwylces, swa ic þe wene to."  
Ahleop ða se gomela, Gode þancode,

**161r** mihtigan Drihtne, þæs se man ge|(spræc).  
 Þa wæs Hroðgare hors ge(bæted),  
 wicg wundenfeax. Wisa fengel  
 geato(lic) gende. Gumfeþa stop  
 lindhæbbendra. L(astas) wæron  
 1405 æfter waldswaþum wide gesyne.  
 Gang ofer grundas, gegnum for  
 ofer (myr)can mor, magoþegna bær  
 þone selestan sawolleasne  
 þara þe mid Hroðgare ham eahtode.  
 1410 Ofereode þa æþelinga bearn  
 steap stanhliðo, stige nearwe,  
 enge anpaðas, uncuð gelad,  
 neowle næssas, nicorhusa fela.  
 He feara sum beforan gengde  
 1415 wisra monna wong sceawian,  
 oþ þæt he færinga fyrgenbeamas  
 ofer harne stan hleonian funde,  
 wynleasne wudu. Wæter under stod,  
 dreorig 7 gedrefed. Denum eallum wæs,  
 1420 winum Scyldinga, weorce on mode  
 to geþolianne, ðegne monegum,  
 oncyð eorla gehwæm, syðþan Æscheres  
 on þam holmclife hafelan metton.  
 Flod blode weol - folc to sægon -  
**161v** |(hatan) heolfre. Horn stundum song,  
 fu(slic) [f][orð]leoð. Feþa eal gesæt.

Gesawon ða æfter (wæt)ere    wyrmcynnes fela,  
 sellice sædracan    (sun)d cunnian,  
 swylce on næshleoðum    nicras (li)cgean.

1430    Ða on undernmæl    oft bewitigað  
           sorhfulne sið    on segrade,  
           wyrmas 7 wildeor.    Hie on weg hruron  
           bitere 7 gebolgne.    Bearhtm ongeaton,  
           guðhorn galan.    Sumne Geata leod

1435    of flanbogan    feores getwæfde,  
           yðgewinnes.    Þæt him on aldre stod,  
           herestræl hearda.    He on holme wæs  
           sundes þe sænra,    ðe hyne swylt fornam.  
           Hræpe wearð on yðum    mid eoferspreotum

1440    heorohocyhtum    hearde genearwod,  
           niða genæged,    7 on næs togen,  
           wundorlic wægboras.    Weras sceawedon  
           gryreligne gist.    Gyrede hine Beowulf  
           eorlgewædum,    nalles for ealdre mearn;

1445    scolde herebyrne    hondum gebroden  
           sid 7 searofah    sund cunnian,  
           seo ðe bancofan    beorgan cupe,  
           þæt him hildegrap    hrepre ne mihte  
           eorres inwifeng    aldre gesceþðan.

162r    Ac se hwita helm    |(h)afelan werede,  
           se þe meregrundas    men(gan) scolde,  
           secan sundgebland    since geweo(rðad),  
           befongen freawrasnum    swa hine fyrndagum

worhte wæpna smið, wundrum teode,  
 1455 besette swinlicum, þæt hine syðþan no  
 brond ne beadomecas bitan ne meahton.  
 Næs þæt þonne mætost mægenfultuma,  
 þæt him on ðearfe lah ðyle Hroðgares.  
 Wæs þæm hæftmece Hrunting nama.  
 1460 Þæt wæs an foran ealdgestreona.  
 Ecg wæs iren, atertanum fah,  
 ahyrded heaþoswate. Næfre hit æt hilde ne swac  
 manna ængum, þara þe hit mid mundum bewand,  
 se ðe gryresiðas gegan dorste,  
 1465 folcstede fara. Næs þæt forma sið  
 þæt hit ellenweorc æfnan scolde.  
 Huru ne gemunde mago Ecglafes,  
 eafopes cræftig, þæt he ær gespræc,  
 wine druncen, þa he þæs wæpnes onlah  
 1470 selran sweordfreacan. Selfa ne dorste  
 under yða gewin aldre geneþan,  
 drihtscype dreogan. Þær he dome forleas,  
 162v ellen|(mæ)rðum. Ne wæs þæm oðrum swa,  
 syðþan (he) hine to guðe gegyred hæfde.

.XXII.

1475 BEOWULF maðelode, bearn Ecgþeowes:  
 "Gefenc nu, se mæra maga Healfdenes,  
 snottra fengel, nu ic eom siðes fus,  
 goldwine gumena, hwæt wit geo spræcon:  
 gif ic æt þearfe þinre scolde

1480 aldre linnan, þæt ðu me a wære,  
 forðgewitenum, on fæder stæle.  
 Wes þu mundbora minum magoþegnum,  
 hondgesellum, gif mec hild nime.  
 Swylce þu ða madmas, þe þu me sealdest,  
 1485 Hroðgar leofa, Higelace onsend.  
 Mæg þonne on þæm golde ongitan Geata dryhten,  
 geseon sunu Hrædles, þonne he on þæt sinc starað,  
 þæt ic gumcystum godne funde  
 beaga bryttan, breac þonne moste.  
 1490 7 þu Hunferð læt ealde lafe,  
 wrætlic wægsweord widcuðne man  
 heardecg habban. Ic me mid Hruntinge  
**163r** dom gewyrce, |oþðe mec deað nimeð."  
 Æfter þæ(m wordum) Weder-Geata leod  
 1495 efste mid elne. Na(las and)sware  
 bidan wolde. Brimwylm onfen(g)  
 [hil]derince. Ða wæs hwil dæges,  
 ær he þone grundwong ongytan mehte.  
 Sona þæt (on)funde, se ðe floda begong,  
 1500 heorogifre, beheold hund missera,  
 grim 7 grædig, þæt þ(ær) gumena sum  
 ælwihta eard ufan cunno(de).  
 Grap þa togeanes, guðrinc gefeng  
 at(olan) clommum. No þy ær in gescod  
 1505 halan lice. Hring utan ymbbearh,  
 þæt heo þone fyrðhom ðurhfon ne mihte,

locene leoð(o)syrca, laþan fingrum.  
 Bær þa seo brimwyl[f], þa heo to botme com,  
 hringa þengel to hofe sinum,  
 1510 swa he ne mihte - no he þæm modig wæs! -  
 wæpna gewealdan, ac hine wundra þæs fela  
 swecte on sunde, sædeor monig  
 hildetuxum heresyrcan bræc,  
 ehton aglæcan. Ða se eorl ongeat  
 1515 þæt he niðsele nathwylcum wæs,  
 þær him nænig wæter wihte ne sceþede,  
 ne him for hrofsele hrinan ne mehte,  
**163v** færgripe flodes. |(Fyrleoh)t geseah,  
 blacne leoman beorht(e) [scinan].  
 1520 Ongeat þa se goda grundwyrgegne,  
 (mer)ewif mihtig. Mægenræs forgeaf  
 hildebille, ho[n]dswenge, ne ofteah,  
 þæt hire on ha(fe)lan hringmæl agol  
 grædig guðleoð. [Ð]a se gist onfand  
 1525 þæt se beadoleoma bitan (no)lde,  
 aldre sceþðan. Ac seo ecg geswac  
 (ð)eodne æt þearfe. Ðolode ær fela  
 hond(ge)mota, helm oft gescær,  
 fæges fyrd(hr)ægl. Ða wæs forma sið  
 1530 deorum madme þæt his dom alæg.  
 Eft wæs anræd, nalas elnes (l)æt,  
 mærdða gemyndig mæg Hylaces:  
 wearp ða wundelmæl, wrættum gebunden,

yrre oretta, þæt hit on eorðan læg,  
 1535 stið 7 stylecg. Strengre getruwode,  
 mundgripe mægenes. Swa sceal man don,  
 þonne he æt guðe gegan þenceð  
 longsumne lof. Na ymb his lif cearað.  
 Gefeng þa be eaxle, nalas for fæhðe mearn,  
 1540 Guð-Geata leod, Grendles modor.  
 Brægd þa beadwe heard, þa he gebolgen wæs,  
 feorhgeniðlan, þæt heo on flet gebeah.  
 Heo him eft hraþe handlean forgeald  
**164r** grim|man grapum 7 him togeanes feng.  
 1545 Oferwear[p] þa werigmod, wigena strengest,  
 feþecempa, þæt he on fylle wearð.  
 Ofsæt þa þone selegy(st), 7 hyre sea[x] geteah,  
 brad, brunecg. Wolde hire bearn wrecan,  
 angan eaferan. Him on eaxle læg  
 1550 breostnet broden; þæt gebearh feore,  
 wið ord 7 wið ecge ingang forstod.  
 Hæfde ða forsiðod sunu Ecgþeowes,  
 und(er) gynne grund, Geata cempa,  
 nemne him heaðobyrne helpe gefremede,  
 1555 herenet hearde. 7 halig God  
 geweold wigsigor. Witig Drihten,  
 rodera Rædend, hit on ryht gesced  
 yðelice. Syþðan he eft asto(d).

.XXIII.

GEseah ða on searwum sigeeadig bil,

- 1560 ealdsweord eotenisc ecgum þyhtig,  
wigena weorðmynd, þæt wæpna cyst,  
buton hit wæs mare ðonne ænig mon oðer  
to beadulace ætberan meahte,  
god 7 geatolic, giganta geweorc.
- 1565 He gefeng þa fetelhilt, freca Scyldinga  
hreoh 7 heorogrim, hringmæl gebrægd
- 164v** aldres orwena, yrringa | (s)loh,  
þæt hire wið halse heard grapode,  
banhringas bræc. Bil eal ðurhwod
- 1570 fægne flæschoman. Heo on flet gecrong.  
Sweord wæs swatig, secg weorce gefeh.  
Lixte se leoma, leoht inne stod,  
efne swa of hefene hadre scineð  
rodores candel. He æfter recede wlat.
- 1575 Hwearf þa be wealle, wæpen hafena(de)  
heard be hiltum, Higelaces ðegn,  
yrre (7 a)nræd. Næs seo ecg fracod  
hilderince, ac he hraþe wolde  
Grendle forgyldan guðræsa (f)ela
- 1580 ðara þe he geworhte to West-Denum  
(o)ftor micle ðonne on ænne sið,  
þonne he (H)roðgares heorðgeneatas  
sloh on sweofote, slæpende fræt,  
folces Denigea fyftyne men,
- 1585 7 oðer swylc ut offerede  
laðlicu lac. He him þæs lean forgeald,

reþe cempa, to ðæs þe he on ræste geseah  
 guðwerigne Grendel licgan,  
 aldorleasne, swa him ær gescod  
 1590 hild æt Heorote. Hra wide sprong,  
 syþðan he æfter deaðe drepe þrowade,  
 heorosweng heardne. 7 hine þa heafde becearf.  
**165r** Sona þæt gesawon snottre |ceorlas,  
 þa ðe mid Hroðgare on holm (wliton),  
 1595 þæt wæs yðgeblond eal gemenged  
 brim b(lode) fah. Blondenfeaxe,  
 gomele ymb godne, ongeador spræcon,  
 þæt hig þæs æðelinges eft ne wendon,  
 þæt he sigehreðig secean come  
 1600 mærne þeoden. Þa ðæs monige gewearð,  
 þæt hine seo brimwylf abreoten hæ(f)de.  
 Ða com non dæges. Næs ofgeafon  
 hw(ate) Scyldingas. Gewat him ham þonon,  
 gold(wine) gumena. Gistas secan  
 1605 modes seoce, 7 o(n) mere stædon,  
 wiston, 7 ne wendon, þæt hie heora winedrihten  
 selfne gesawon. Þa þæt sweord ongan  
 æfter heaþoswate hildegicelum,  
 wigbil wanian. Þæt wæs wundra sum,  
 1610 þæt hit eal gemealt, ise gelicost,  
 ðonne forstes bend Fæder onlæteð,  
 onwindeð wæ(l)rapas, se geweald hafað  
 sæla 7 mæla. Þæt is soð Metod.

Ne nom he in þæm wicum, Weder-Geata leod,  
 1615 maðmæhta ma, þeh he þær monige geseah,  
 buton þone hafelan 7 þa hilt somod  
 since fage. Sweord ær gemealt,  
**165v** forbarn brodenmæl. Wæs þæt blod | (to þæ)s hat,  
 ætten ellorgæst se þær (in)ne swealt.  
 1620 Sona wæs on sunde, se þe (æ)r æt sæcce gebad,  
 wighryre wraðra. Wæter up þurhdeaf,  
 wæron yðgebland eal gefælsod,  
 eacne eardas, þa se ellorgast  
 oflet lifdagas 7 þas lænan gesceaft.  
 1625 Com þa to lande, lidmanna helm,  
 swiðmod swymman. Sælace gefeah,  
 mægen(by)rþenne, þara þe he him mid hæfde.  
 (E)odon him þa togeanes, Gode þancodon,  
 ðryðlic þegna heap, þeodnes gefegon,  
 1630 þas þe hi hyne gesundne geseon moston.  
 Ða wæs of þæm hroran helm 7 byrne  
 lungre alysed. Lagu drusade,  
 wæter under wolcnum, wældreore fag.  
 Ferdon forð þonon feþelastum  
 1635 ferhþum fægne, foldweg mæton,  
 cuþe stræte. Cyningbalde men  
 from þæm holmclife hafelan bæron  
 earfoðlice, heora æghwæþrum,  
 felamodigra. Fewer scoldon  
 1640 on þæm wælstenge weorcum geferian

to þæm goldsele Grendles heafod.  
**166r** Oþ ðæt |semninga to sele comon,  
frome fyrðhwate feowertyne  
Geata gongan, gu(m)dryhten mid,  
1645 modig on gemonge, meod(o)wongas træd.  
Ða com in gan ealdor ðegna,  
dædcene mon dome gewurþ(ad),  
hæle hildedor, Hroðgar gretan.  
Ð(a) wæs be feaxe on flet boren  
1650 Grendles heafod, þær guman druncon,  
egeslic f(or) eorlum, 7 þære idese mid,  
wliteseon wr(æt)lic. Weras onsawon.

.XXV.

BEOwulf mapelode, bearn Ecgþeowe(s):  
"Hwæt, we þe þas sælac, sunu Healfdene(s),  
1655 leod Scyldinga, lustum brohton  
tires to tacne, þe þu her to locast.  
Ic þæt unsofte ealdre gedigde,  
wigge under wætere, weorc geneþde  
earfoðlice. Ætrihte wæs  
1660 guð getwæfed, nymðe mec God scylde.  
Ne meahte ic æt hilde mid Hruntinge  
wiht gewyrcaþ, þeah þæt wæpen duge.  
Ac me geuðe ylða Waldend  
**166v** þæt ic on wage geseah wlitig |(ha)ngian  
1665 ealdsweord eacen. Oftost wisode  
(wi)nigea leasum; þæt ic ðy wæpne gebræd,

(of)sloh ða æt þære sæcce, þa me sæl (a)geald,  
 huses hyrdas. Ða þæt hildebil  
 for(ba)rn brogdenmæl, swa þæt blod gesprang,  
 1670 (ha)tost heaþoswata. Ic þæt hilt þanan  
 feon(d)um ætferede, fyrendæda wræc,  
 deað(c)wealm Denigea, swa hit gedefe wæs.  
 Ic (h)it þe þonne gehate, þæt þu on Heorote most  
 (so)rhleas swefan mid þinra secga gedryht,  
 1675 (7) þegna gehwylc þinra leoda,  
 duguðe 7 iogoþe, þæt þu him ondrædan ne þearft,  
 þeoden Scyldinga, on þa healfe,  
 aldorbealu eorlum, swa þu ær dydest."  
 Ða wæs gyldenhilt gamelum rince,  
 1680 harum hildfruman, on hand gyfen,  
 enta ærgeweorc. Hit on æht gehwearf  
 æfter deofla hryre Denigea frean,  
 wundorsmiþa geweorc. 7 þa þas worold ofgeaf  
 gromheort guma, Godes andsaca  
 1685 morðres scyldig, 7 his modor eac.  
 On gewæld gehwearf woroldcyninga  
 167r ðæm selestan be |sæm tweonum,  
 ðara þe on Scedenigge (sceat)tas dælde.  
 Hroðgar maðelode. Hylt sceawode,  
 1690 ealde lafe, on ðæm wæs or (wri)ten  
 fyrngewinnes, syðþan flod ofs(lo)h  
 gifen geotende, giganta cyn.  
 Frene (ge)ferdon; þæt wæs fremde þeod

ecean Dryh(tne). Him þæs endelean  
 1695 þurh wæteres wylm Waldend sealde.  
 Swa wæs on ðæm scen(num) sciran goldes  
 þurh runstafas rihte (ge)mearcod,  
 geseted 7 gesæd, hwam þæt sweo(rd) geworht,  
 irena cyst ærest wære,  
 1700 w(reo)þenhilt 7 wrymfah. Ða se wisa spræc,  
 s(u)nu Healfdenes. Swigedon ealle:  
 "Þæt, la, mæg secgan, se þe soð 7 riht  
 fremed on folce, feor eal gemon,  
 eald .eðel.wea(rd), þæt ðes eorl wære  
 1705 geboren betera. Blæd (is) aræred  
 geond widwegas, wine min Beo[wulf],  
 ðin ofer þeoda gehwylce. Eal þu hit geþyldum  
 healdest, mægen mid modes snyttrum.  
 Ic þe sceal mine gelæstan freoðe,  
 1710 swa wit furðum spræcon. Ðu scealt to frofre weorþan  
 eal langtwidig leodum þinum,  
**167v** |(hæl)eðum to helpe. Ne wearð Heremod (swa)  
 eaforum Ecgwelan, Ar-Scyldingum.  
 (Ne) geweox he him to willan, ac to wælfeal(le)  
 1715 7 to deaðcwalum Deniga leodum.  
 Breat (bo)lgenmod beodgeneatas,  
 eaxlge(ste)allan, oþ þæt he ana hwearf,  
 mære þeo(d)en, mondreamum from  
 ðeah þe hine (mi)htig God mægenes wynnum  
 1720 eafeþum (ste)pte ofer ealle men,

forð gefreme(d)e. Hwæþere him on ferhþe greow  
 breost(h)ord blodreow. Nallas beagas geaf  
 Denum æfter dome. Dreamleas gebad,  
 þæt he þæs gewinnes weorc þrowade,  
 1725 leodbea(l)o longsum. Ðu þe lær be þon,  
 gumcyste ongit. Ic þis gid be þe  
 awræc wintrum frod. Wundor is to secganne  
 hu mihtig God manna cynne  
 þurh sidne sefan snyttru bryttað,  
 1730 eard 7 eorlscipe. He ah ealra geweald.  
 Hwilum he on lufan læteð hworfan  
 monnes modgeþonc mæran cynnes  
 seleð him on eþle eorþan wynne  
 to healdanne hleoburh wera,  
 168r |gedeð him swa gewealdene worolde (dæ)las  
 side rice, þæt he his selfa ne m(æg)  
 (for) his unsnyttrum ende geþencean.  
 W(unað) he on wiste. No hine wiht dweleð,  
 ad(l) ne ylðo, ne him inwitsorh  
 1740 on sefa(n) sweorceð, ne gesacu ohwær  
 ecghe(te) eoweð, ac him eal worold  
 wendeð on w(il)lan. He þæt wyrse ne con.  
 .XXVI.  
 Oð þæt him on innan oferhygda dæl  
 wea(xeð) 7 wridað. Þonne se weard swefeð,  
 1745 sawele hy(rde). Bið se slæp to fæst,  
 bisgum gebunde(n), bona swiðe neah,

se þe of flanbogan fyrenum sceoteð.  
 Ponne bið on hreþre under helm drepen  
 biteran stræle (him bebeorgan ne con),  
 1750 wom wundorbebodum wergan gastes.  
 Þinceð him to lytel þæt he to lange heold;  
 gytsað gromhydig, nallas on gylp seleð  
 fædde beagas, 7 he þa forðgesceaft  
 forgyteð 7 forgymeð, þæs þe him ær God sealde,  
 168v wuldres |(Wal)dend, weorðmynda dæl.  
 Hit on endestæf eft gelimpeð  
 þæt se lichoma [læn]e gedreoseð,  
 fæge gefealleð. Fehð oþer (to),  
 se þe unmunlice madmas dæleþ,  
 1760 (eor)les ærgestreon, egesan ne gymeð.  
 (Be)beorh þe ðone bealonið, Beowulf leofa,  
 (s)ecg betsta, 7 þe þæt selre geceos,  
 ece rædas. (Of)erhyda ne gym,  
 mære cempa. Nu is þines (m)ægnes blæd  
 1765 ane hwile. Eft sona bið  
 þæt (þe)c adl oððe ecg eafopes getwæfedð,  
 oððe (fy)res feng, oððe flodes wylm,  
 oððe gripe (m)eces, oððe gares fliht,  
 oððe atol ylðo. (O)ððe eagenas bearhtm  
 1770 forsitedð 7 forswor(c)eð. Semninga bið  
 þæt ðec, dryhtguma, deað (o)ferswyðeð.  
 Swa ic Hring-Dena hund missera  
 weold under wolcnum 7 hig wigge beleac,

- manigum mægþa geond þysne middangeard,  
 1775 æscum 7 ecgum, þæt ic me ænigne  
 under swegles begong gesacan ne tealde.  
 Hwæt, me þæs on eþle edwendan cwom,  
 gyrn æfter gomene, seoþðan Grendel wearð  
 ealdgewinna, ingenga min.
- 169r** | Ic þære socne singales wæg  
 modcear(e) micle. Þæs sig Metode þanc,  
 ecean (Dryht)ne, þæs ðe ic on aldre gebad,  
 þæt ic on þo(ne) hafelan heorodreorigne  
 ofer eal(d ge)win eagam starige.
- 1785 Ga nu to setle, (sym)belwynne dreoh,  
 wiggeweorþad. Unc (sceal) worn fela  
 maþma gemænra siþðan (mor)gen bið."  
 Geat wæs glædmod, geong son(a to)  
 setles neosan, swa se snottra heht.
- 1790 Þ(a wæs) eft swa ær ellenrofum,  
 fletsittendum fægere gereorded  
 niowan stefne. Ni(ht)helm geswearc,  
 deorc ofer dryhtgu(mum). Duguð eal aras.  
 Wolde blondenfeax beddes neosan,
- 1795 gamela Scylding. Geat unigmetes wel,  
 rofne randwigan, restan lys(te).  
 Sona him seleþegn siðes wergum  
 feorrancundum forð wisade,  
 se for andrysum ealle beweote[d]e
- 1800 þegnes þearfe, swylce þy dogore

heapoliðende habban scoldon.

Reste hine þa rumheort. Reced hliuade

geap 7 goldfah. Gæst inne swæf

op þæt hrefn blaca, heofones wynne

**169v** bliðheort bodode. |[Ða c]om beorht scacan,  
scaþan onetton.

(Wæro)n æþelingas eft to leodum

fuse to [f](ar)en[n]e. Wolde feor þanon,

cuma col[l](enf)erhð, ceoles neosan.

1810 Heht þa se hear(da) (H)runting beran  
sunu Ecglafes, heht (his s)weord niman,  
leoflic iren. Sægde him (þæ)s leanes þanc,  
cwæð, he þone guðwine (go)dne tealde.  
wigcræftigne. Nales (wor)dum log

1815 meces ecge. Þæt wæs modig secg.

(7 þ)a, siðfrome, searwum gearwe,

wigend wæron. (Eo)de weorð Denum,

æþeling to yppan, (þæ)r se oþer wæs.

Helle hildedeor Hroð(g)ar grette.

.XXVII.

1820 (Be)owulf maþelode, bearn Ecgþeowes:

"Nu (w)e sæliðend secgan wyllað

feorran cumene, þæt we fundiaþ

Higelac secan. Wæron her tela

willum bewenede. Þu us wel dohtest.

1825 Gif ic þonne on eorþan owihte mæg

þinre modlufan maran tilian,

gumena dryhten, ðonne ic gyt dyde  
 guðgeweorca, ic beo gearo sona.

**170r** Gif ic þæt ge|fricge ofer floda begang,  
 1830 þæt þec ymb sittend egesan þywað,  
 swa þec hete(nde) hwilum dydon,  
 Ic ðe þusenda þegna br(in)ge,  
 hæleþa to helpe. Ic on Higelace wat  
 Geata dryhten, þeah ðe he geong sy,  
 1835 folces hyrde, þæt he mec fremman wile  
 weordum 7 worcum, þæt ic þe wel heri(ge)  
 7 þe to geoce garholt bere,  
 mægenes fultum, þær ðe bið manna þearf.  
 G(if) him þonne Hreþrinc to hofum Geata  
 1840 geþinge[ð] þeodnes bearn, he mæg þær fela  
 freonda findan. Feorcyþðe beoð  
 selran gesohte þæm þe him selfa dea(h.)"  
 Hroðgar maþelode him on andsware:  
 "Þe þa wordcwidas wigtig Drihten  
 1845 on sefan sende. Ne hyrde ic snotorlicor  
 on swa geongum feore guman þingian.  
 Þu eart mægenes strang 7 on mode frod,  
 wis wordcwida. Wen ic talige:  
 gif þæt geganged, þæt ðe gar nymed,  
 1850 hild heorugrimme Hreþles eaferan,  
 adl oþðe iren ealdor ðinne,  
 folces hyrde, 7 þu þin feorh hafast,  
**170v** þæt þe |(S)æ-Geatas selran næbban

to geceosen(ne) cyning ænigne  
 1855 hordweard hæleþa, (g)yf þu healdan wylt  
 maga rice. Me þin [m]odsefa  
 licað leng swa wel, leofa Beo(w)ulf.  
 Hafast þu gefered þæt þam folcum (s)ceal,  
 Geata leodum 7 Gar-Denum,  
 1860 sib (g)emænum, 7 sacu restan,  
 inwitniþas, (þe) hie ær drugon;  
 wesan, þenden ic weal(d)e widan rices,  
 maþmas gemæne, ma[n]ig oþerne  
 godum gegrettan ofer ganotes bæð.  
 1865 Sceal hringnaca ofer (h)eaþu bringan  
 lac 7 luftacen. Ic þa (l)eode wat  
 ge wið feond ge wið freond fæste geworhte,  
 æghwæs untæle ealde wisan."  
 Ða git him eorla hleo inne gesealde,  
 1870 mago Healfdenes maþmas twelf.  
 Het inne mid þæm lacum leode swæse  
 secean on gesyntum, snude eft cuman.  
 Gecyste þa, cyning æþelum god,  
 þeoden Scyldinga, ðegn betstan  
 1875 7 be healse genam. Hruron him tearas  
 blondenfeaxum. Him wæs bega wen  
 171r ealdum in|frodum, oþres swiðor,  
 þæt h[i]e seoðða[n] geseon moston,  
 modige on meþle. (Wæs) him se man to þon leof  
 1880 þæt he þone (breost)wylm forberan ne mehte.

Ac him (on) hreþre hygebendum fæst  
æfter d(eo)rum men dyrne langað  
beorn wið bl(o)de. Him Beowulf þanan,  
guðrinc goldwlanc, græsmoldan træd,  
1885 since h(re)mig. Sægenga bad  
agedfreat, se (þe) on ancre rad.  
Þa wæs on gange gi(fu) Hroðgares  
oft geæhted. Þæt wæs an cyning,  
æghwæs orleahtre, oþ þæt hin(e) ylðo benam  
1890 mægenes wynnum, se þe oft manegum scod.

.XXVIII.

CWOM þa to flode fela modigra  
hægstealdra. Hringnet bæron  
locene leoðosyrca. Landweard onfand  
eftsið eorla, swa he ær dyde.  
1895 No he mid hearne of hliðes nosan  
**171v** |(g[ie]s)[tas] grette, ac him togeanes rad,  
(cwæ)ð þæt wilcuman Wedera leodum  
sca(þan) scirhame to scipe foron.  
Þa wæs (on) sande sægeap naca  
1900 hladen here(wæ)dum hringedstefna,  
mearum 7 mað(m)um. Mæst hlifade  
ofer Hroðgares (h)ordgestreonum.  
He þæm batwearde (bun)den golde  
swurd gesealde, þæt he syð(þan) wæs  
1905 on meodubence maþma þy weo(rþ)re,  
yrfelafe. Gewat him on nacan

- (d)refan deop wæter. Dena land ofgeaf.  
Pa wæs be mæste merehrægla sum,  
segl sale fæst. Sundwudu þunede.
- 1910 No þær wegflotan wind ofer yðum  
siðes getwæfde. Sægenga for,  
fleat famigheals forð ofer yðe,  
bundenstefna ofer brimstreamas,  
þæt hie Geata clifu ongitan meahton,
- 1915 cuþe næssas. Ceol up geþrang  
lyftgeswenced, on lande stod.
- 172r** Hraþe wæs æt |holme hyðweard geara,  
se þe ær lange tid leofra manna  
fus æt faroðe (feor) wlatode.
- 1920 Sælde to sande sidfæþme sci(p)  
oncearbendum fæst, þy læs hym yþ(a) ðrym  
wudu wynsuman forwrecan (meah)te.  
Het þa up beran æþelinga gestr(eon),  
frætwe 7 fætgold. Næs him feor þan(on)
- 1925 to gesecanne since bryttan,  
Higelac Hreþling, þær æt ham wunað  
s(elfa) mid gesiðum sæwealle neah.  
Bold w(æs) betlic, bregorof cyning,  
heahealle. Hygd swiðe geong,
- 1930 wis welþungen, þeah ðe wintra lyt  
under burhlocan gebide(n) hæbbe,  
Hæreþes dohtor. Næs hio hnah swa þeah,  
ne to gneað gifa Geata leodum,

- maþmgestreona. Mod Þryðo wæg,  
 1935 fremu folces cwen, firen ondrysne.  
 Nænig þæt dorste deor geneþan,  
 swæsra gesiða, nefne sinfrea,  
 þæt hire an dæges eagam starede.
- 172v** Ac him wælbende |(w)eotode tealde  
 1940 handgewriþene; hraþe (seo)þðan wæs,  
 æfter mundgripe mece (g)eþinged,  
 þæt hit sceadenmæl scyran (m)oste,  
 cwealmbealu cyðan. Ne bið swylc (cwen)lic þeaw  
 idese to efnanne, þeah ðe (h)io ænlicu sy,  
 1945 þætte freoðuwebbe feores (on)sæce  
 æfter ligetorne leofne mannan.  
 (H)uru þæt on hoh snod Hemninges mæg.  
 (Eal)odrincende oðer sædan,  
 þæt hio leod(b)ealewa læs gefremede,  
 1950 inwitniða, [s]yððan ærest wearð  
 gyfen goldhro(d)en geongum cempan,  
 æðelum diore, syððan hio Offan flet  
 ofer fealone flod be fæder lare  
 siðe gesohte. Ðær hio syððan well  
 1955 in gumstole, gode mære,  
 lifgesceafta lifigende breac,  
 hiold heahlufan wið hæleþa brego,  
 ealles moncynnes mine gefræge  
 þæs selestan bi sæm tweonum,  
**173r** eormencynnes. Forðam Offa |wæs

geofum 7 guðum, garcene man;  
wid(e) (ge)weorðod, wisdome heold  
eðel sinne. Ponon geomor woc  
hæleðum to helpe, Heminges mæg,  
1965 nefa Garmundes, niða cræftig.

.XXVIII.

GEwat him ða se hearda mid his hondscole  
sylf æfter sande sæwong tredan,  
wide waroðas. Woruldcandel scan,  
sigel suðan fus. Hi sið drugon,  
1970 elne geodon, to ðæ(s ðe) eorla hleo,  
bonan Ongenþeoes burg(um) in innan,  
geongne guðcýning godne gefrunon  
hringas dælan. Higelace wæs  
sið Beowulfes snude gecyðed,  
1975 þæt ðær on worðig wigendra hleo,  
lindgestealla, lifigende cwom,  
heaðolaces hal to hofe gongan.  
Hraðe wæs gerymed, swa se rica bebead,  
feðgestum flet innanweard.  
1980 Gesæt þa wið sylfne, se ða sæcce genæs,  
**173v** mæg wið mæge, |[s]yððan mandryhten  
þurh hleoðorcwyde holdne gegrette,  
meaglum wordum. Meoduscencum  
hwearf geond þæt side reced Hæreðes dohtor,  
1985 lufode ða leode, liðwæge bær  
hænum to handa. Higelac ongan

- sinne geseldan in sele þam hean  
 fægre fricgcean, hyne fyrwet bræc,  
 hwylce Sæ-Geata siðas wæron.
- 1990 "Hu lomp eow on lade, leofa Biowulf,  
 þa ðu færinga feorr gehogodest  
 sæcce secean ofer sealt wæter,  
 hilde to Hiorote? Ac ðu Hroðgare  
 wi[d]cuðne wean wihte gebettest,
- 1995 mærum ðeodne? Ic ðæs modceare  
 sorhwylmum seað, siðe ne truwode  
 leofes mannes. Ic ðe lange bæd,  
 þæt ðu þone wælgæst wihte ne grette,  
 lete Suð-Dene sylfe geweorðan
- 2000 guðe wið Grendel. Gode ic þanc secge,  
 þæs ðe ic ðe gesundne geseon moste.  
 Biowulf maðelode, bearn Ecgðioes:
- 174r** |"Þæt is undyrne, dryhten Hige[lac],  
 [micel] gemeting monegum fira,
- 2005 hwy[lc e][arfoð]hwil uncer Grendles  
 wearð on (ðam) wange þær he worna fela  
 Sige-(Scyl)dingum sorge gefremede,  
 yrmð(e) to aldre. Ic ðæt eall gewræc,  
 swa (be)gylpan þearf Grendeles maga
- 2010 [yfel] ofer eorðan uhthlem þone,  
 se (ðe) lengest leofað laðan cynnes,  
 (fyrene) bifongen. Ic ðær furðum cwom  
 to ðam hringsele Hroðgar gretan.

Sona me se mæra mago Healfd(e)nes,  
 2015 syððan he modsefan minne cuðe,  
 wið his sylfes sunu setl getæht(e.)  
 Weorod wæs on wynne. Ne seah ic widan feorh  
 under heofones hwealf healsittendra  
 medudream mar(an). Hwilum mæru cwen,  
 2020 friðusibb folca, flet eall geondhwearf,  
 bædde byre geonge. Oft hio beahwriðan  
**174v** secge |(sealde), ær hie to setle geong.  
 Hwilum fo(r) [d][ugu]ðe dohtor Hroðgares  
 eorlum [on] ende ealuwæge bær.  
 2025 þa ic Freaware (flet)sittende  
 nemnan hyrde, þær hio [næ](g)led sinc  
 hæleðum sealde. Sio gehaten [is],  
 geong goldhroden, gladum suna Frodan.  
 [H](a)fað þæs geworden wine Scyldinga,  
 2030 ri(ce)s hyrde, 7 þæt ræd talað,  
 þæt he mid ðy (wi)fe wælfæhða dæl  
 sæcca gesette. Oft (s)eldan hwær  
 æfter leodhryre lytle (hw)ile  
 bongar bugeð, þeah seo bryd duge.  
 2035 (M)æg þæs þonne ofþyncan ðeoden Heaðo-(B)eardna  
 7 þegna gehwam þara leoda,  
 (þ)onne he mid fæmnan on flett gæð,  
 dryhtbearn Dena duguða, biwenede  
 on him gladiað gomelra lafe,  
 2040 heard 7 hringmæl Heaða-Bearna gestreon,

penden hie ðam wæpnum wealdan moston.

[.XXX.]

Oð ðæt hie forlæddan to ðam lindplegan

swæse gesiðas ond hyra sylfra feorh.

- 175r** Þonne cwið æt beore, se ðe beah |gesyhð,  
2045 eald æscwiga, se ðe eall g(e)[*man*]  
garcwealm gumena. Him bið gri(m) [*se*]fa,  
onginneð geomormod geon(g)[*an*] cempan  
þurh hreðra gehygd (higes) cunnian,  
wigbealu weccean, 7 þæt wo(rd) acwyð:  
2050 "Meaht ðu, min wine, mec(e) gecnawan,  
þone þin fæder to gef(eohte) bær,  
under heregriman hinde(man) siðe,  
dyre iren. Þær hyne Dene slogon,  
weoldon wælstowe, syððan wiðergyld læg,  
2055 æfter hæleþa hry(re), hwate Scyldungas?  
Nu her þara b(a)nena byre nathwylces,  
frætwwum hremig, on flet gæð,  
morðres gyl[peð], 7 þone maðþum byreð  
þone þe ðu m(id) rihte rædan sceoldest."  
2060 Manað sw(a) 7 myndgað mæla gehwylce  
sarum wordum, oð ðæt sæl cymeð  
þæt se fæmnan þegn fore fæder dædum  
æfter billes bite blodfag swefeð,  
ealdres scyldig. Him se oðer þonan  
**175v** losað |[*li*](figen)de, con him land geara.  
Pon(ne) bio(ð) (*b*)rocene on ba healfe

aðsweord eorla. [Syð]ðan Ingelde  
 weallað wælniðas 7 him (wif)lufan  
 æfter cearwælmum colran (we)orðað.

2070 Þy ic Heaðo-Bearna hyldo ne (tel)ge,  
 dryhtsibbe dæl, Denum unfæcne,  
 (f)reondscipe fæstne. Ic sceal forð (sp)recan  
 gen ymbe Grendel, þæt ðu geara (cun)ne,  
 since brytta, to hwan syððan (w)earð

2075 hondræs hæleða. Syððan heofones (g)im  
 glad ofer grundas, gæst yrre cwom,  
 (ea)tol æfengrom user neosan,  
 ðær we (g)esunde sæl weardodon.  
 Þær wæs Hond(s)cio hilde onsæge

2080 feorhbealu fægum. (H)e fyrrest læg,  
 gyrded cempa. Him Grendel wearð,  
 mærum mag[*u*]þegne, to muðbonan,  
 leofes mannes lic eall forswealg.  
 No ðy ær ut ða gen idelhende

2085 bona blodigtoð, bealewa gemyndig,  
 of ðam goldsele gongan wolde.  
 Ac he mægnes rof min costode,

**176r** |grapode geareofolm. Glof (hangode)  
 sid 7 syllic, searobendum fæst.

2090 (Sio) wæs orðoncum eall gegyrwed  
 de(ofles) cræftum 7 dracan fellum.  
 He mec (þær) on innan unsynnigne,  
 dior dæ(d)fruma gedon wolde

- manigra sumne. Hyt ne miht(e) swa,  
 2095 syððan ic on yrre upprih(te) astod.  
 To lang ys to reccenne hu i(c ðam) leodsceaðan  
 yfla gehwylces hon(dlean) forgeald.  
 Þær ic, þeoden min, þine leode  
 weorðode weorcum. He on (weg) losade  
 2100 lytle hwile, lifwynna br(eac).  
 Hwæpre him sio swiðre swaðe w(ear)dade  
 hand on Hiorte, 7 he hea(n) ðonan,  
 modes geomor, mereg(rund) gefeoll.  
 Me þone wælræs wine Scildunga  
 2105 fættan golde fela lea(no)de,  
 manegum maðmum, syððan me(r)gen com,  
 7 we to symble geseten hæfdon.  
 176v Þær wæs gidd 7 gleo. Gome(la) |(Scilding)  
 felafricgende, feorran reh(te).  
 2110 (Hwilum) hildedeor hearpan wynne  
 go(mel)wudu grette; hwilum gyd awræc,  
 soð (7 sa)rlic; hwilum syllic spell.  
 Rehte æfter (r)ihte rumheort cyning.  
 Hwilum eft (onga)n, eldo gebunden,  
 2115 gomel guðwiga, (gio)guðe cwiðan,  
 hildestrenge. Hreðer (inn)e weoll,  
 þonne he, wintrum frod, worn (gem)unde.  
 Swa we þær inne andlangne [dæg]  
 niode naman, oð ðæt niht becwom,  
 2120 (oð)er to yldum. Þa wæs eft hraðe

gearo (gyr)nwræce Grendeles modor.  
 Siðode (sor)hfull; sunu deað fornam,  
 wighete (Wed)ra. Wif unhyre  
 hyre bearn gewræc, (beo)rn acwealde  
 2125 ellenlice. Þær wæs Æsc(he)re,  
 frodan fyrnwitan feorh uð(ge)nge.  
 Noðer hy hine ne moston, syððan (m)ergen cwom,  
 deaðwerigne Denia (le)ode  
 bronde forbærnan, (n)e on bel hladan,  
**177r** leofne mannan. |(H)io þæt lic ætbær  
 feondes fæð[me] [un]der firgenstream.  
 þæt wæs Hroðg[are] hreowa tornost  
 þara þe leodfruman lange begeate.  
 Þa se ðeoden (mec) ðine life  
 2135 healsode hreohmod, (þæt ic) on holma geþring  
 eorlscipe efn(e), ealdre geneðde,  
 mærdō fremed(e). He me mede gehet.  
 Ic ða ðæs wælm(es), þe is wide cuð,  
 grimme gryrelc(ne) grundhyrde fond.  
 2140 Þær unc hwil(e) wæs hand gemæne.  
 Holm heolfre weoll, 7 ic heafde becearf  
 in ðam [grund]s(ele) Grendeles modor  
 eacnum ecgu(m), unsofte þonan  
 feorh oðferede. Næs ic fæge þa gyt.  
 2145 Ac me eorla hl(eo) eft gesealde  
 maðma menigeo, mag(a) Healfdenes."

"Swa se ðeodkyning þeawum lyfde.  
 Nealles ic ðam leanum forloren hæfde,  
**177v** mægnes mede, ac he me |[*maðma*](s) geaf,  
 2150 sunu Healfdenes, on [*min*]ne sylfes dom.  
 Ða ic ðe, beorn(c)yning, bringan wylle,  
 estum ge(yw)an. Gen is eall æt ðe  
 lissa gelong. (Ic) lyt hafo  
 heafodmaga nefne, (Hy)gelac, ðec."  
 2155 Het ða in beran eafor (hea)fodsegn,  
 heaðosteapne helm, (ha)re byrnan,  
 guðsweord geatolic. (Gy)d æfter wræc.  
 "Me ðis hildesceorp (H)roðgar sealde,  
 snotra fengel. Sume (w)orde het,  
 2160 þæt ic his ærest ðe est gesægde;  
 (c)wæð þæt hyt hæfde Hiorogar cyning,  
 (l)eod Scyldunga lange hwile.  
 No ðy (æ)r suna sinum syllan wolde,  
 hwatum (H)eorowearde, þeah he him hold wære,  
 2165 breostgewædu. Bruc ealles well."  
 Hyrde ic þæt þam frætsum feower mearas  
 lungre gelice last weardode,  
 æppelfealuwe. He him est geteah  
**178r** meara 7 maðma. Swa sceal |mæg don,  
 2170 nealles inwitnet oðr(um) bregdon,  
 dyrnum cræfte deað re[*nian*]  
 hondgesteallan. Hygelace wæs  
 (niða) heardum nefa swyðe hold,

- 7 geh(wæðer) oðrum hropra gemyndig.
- 2175 Hyrd(e) ic þæt he ðone healsbeah Hygde (ge)sealde,  
 wrætlicne wundur(maððum), ðone þe him Wealhðeo geaf,  
 ðeo(d)[nes] dohtor, þrio wicg somod  
 swanco(r) 7 sadolbeorht. Hyre syððan wæs  
 (æfter) beahðege brost geweorðod.
- 2180 Swa (b)[eal]dode, bearn Ecgðeowes,  
 guma gu(ð)[um]cuð, godum dædum.  
 Dreah æfter dom(e), nealles druncne slog  
 heorðgen(ea)tas. Næs him hreoh sefa,  
 ac he ma(n)cynnes, mæste cræfte,
- 2185 ginfæsta(n) gife, þe him God sealde,  
 heold hildedeor. Hean wæs lange  
 swa hyne Geat(a) bearn godne ne tealdon,  
 ne hyne on medobence micles wyrðne
- 178v** |[dri]hten wereda gedon wolde.
- 2190 Swyðe [sæg]don, þæt he sleac wære,  
 æðeling un(fro)m. Edwenden cwom  
 tireadigum (me)nn torna gehwylces.  
 Het ða eorla (hl)eo in gefetian,  
 heaðorof cyning, (Hr)eðles lafe,
- 2195 golde gegyrede. Næs (mid) Geatum ða  
 sincmaðþum selra [o](n) sweordes had.  
 Þæt he on Biowulfes (be)arm alegde,  
 7 him gesealde seofan (þ)usendo,  
 bold 7 bregostol. Him wæs [b](a)m samod
- 2200 on ðam leodscipe [lo]nd gecynde,

eard eðelriht, oðrum (s)wiðor  
 side rice þam ðær selra wæs.  
 (E)ft þæt geiode ufaran dogrum  
 hilde(h)læmmum, syððan Hygelac læg,  
 2205 7 Hearede hildemeceas  
 under bordhreoðan to bonan wurdon,  
 ða hyne gesohtan on sigeþeode.  
 Hearde hildfreccan, Heaðo-Scilfingas,  
 niða genægðan nefan Hererices.  
**179r** Syððan |Beowulfe br[æ]de rice  
 on hand ge[hwearf]. He geheold tela  
 fiftig wintra. W(æs ða) frod cyning,  
 eald eþelweard, oð ð(æt) on ongan  
 deorcum nihtum draca (rics[i]an),  
 2215 se ðe on hea[um] h[of]e hord beweot(ode),  
 stanbeorh stear[c]ne. Stig under l(æg)  
 eldum uncuð. Þær on innan giong  
 nið(a) nathwyl[c], [7] [neah] gefeng  
 hæðnum ho(rde), hond[gewriþenne]  
 2220 since fahne. (He þæt) syððan [bohte]  
 þ[eah] ð[e] [he] slæpende (be)syre[d] [hæf]de  
 þeo[f]es cræfte. Þæt si(e) ðiod [onfand],  
 b[u]folc beorn[a], þæt he gebolge[n] wæs.

### XXXII

Nealles [næs] geweoldum wyrmhorda cræft,  
 2225 sylfes willum, se ðe him sare (ge)sceod,  
 ac for þreanedlan þe[of] nathwylces

- hæleða bearna hetesweng(eas) fleoh,  
 [ðeodnes] þea[rfe]. 7 ðær inne weal(l),  
 secg syn[by]sig, sona [o]nwa[ca]de,  
 2230 þæt [gean] ðam gyst[e] [gry]rebr[o]g[a] stod.  
**179v** Hwæðre [fyren]sceapen| [...] se fær begeat.  
 Sincfæt [sohte] þær wæs swylcra fela  
 in ðam eorð[sele] ærgestreona,  
 swa hy on gearda(gum) gumena nathwylc,  
 2235 eormenlafe (æþ)elan cynnes,  
 þanchycgende, þær ge(hy)dde,  
 deore maðmas. Ealle hie deað (fo)rnam  
 ærran mælum, 7 si an ða gen  
 (leo)da duguðe, se ðær lengest hwearf,  
 2240 (we)ard winegeomor, [w]ende þæs yldan,  
 (þæt h)e lytel fæc longgestreona  
 brucan (m)oste. Beorh eallgearo  
 wunode on wonge [wæ]teryðum neah,  
 niwe be næsse, nearo(c)ræftum fæst.  
 2245 Þær on innan bær eorl(g)estreona  
 hringa hyrde ha[n]dwyrðne (d)æll,  
 fættan goldes. Fea worda cwæð:  
 "Heald þu nu, hruse, nu hæleð ne m[o]stan,  
 eorla æhte. Hwæt, hyt ær on ðe  
 2250 gode begeaton. Guðdeað fornam,  
 [f]eorhbeal[e] frecne, fyrena gehwylcne,  
 leoda minra. Ða [me]ðe þis ofgeaf.  
**180r** Gesawon seledream. [He]| nah, hwa sweord wege

oððe f[æ]g[rie] fæted wæge,  
 2255 dryncfæt deore. Dug[uð] ellor seoc.  
 Sceal se hearda helm [hyr]stedgolde  
 fætum befeallen. Feormy(nd) swefað,  
 þa ðe beadogriman bywan sceoldon.  
 Ge swylce seo herepad, s(io) æt hilde gebad  
 2260 ofer borda gebræc bite irena,  
 broснаð æfter beorne. Ne mæg byrnan hring  
 æfter wig(fru)man wide feran,  
 hæleðum be healfe. Næs hearpan wyn,  
 gomen gleobeames, ne god hafoc  
 2265 geond sæl swingeð, ne se swifra mearh  
 burhstede beateð. Bea(lo)cwealm hafað  
 fela feorhcynna fo(rð) onsended."  
 Swa giomormod gιοhðo mænde  
 an æfter eallum, unbliðe hwe(arf)  
 2270 dæges 7 nihtes, oð ðæt deaðes wylm  
 hr(an) æt heortan. Hordwynne fond,  
 eald uh(t)sceaða, opene standan,  
 se ðe, byrnend[e], biorgas seceð.  
 Nacod niðdraca niht(es) fleogeð,  
 2275 fyre befangen. Hyne foldbuen(d)  
**180v** |[: :: :: :: :: :: ::]nan. He gesecean sceall  
 [hearm] [on] [h]rusan, þær he hæðen gold  
 warað [win]trum frod. Ne byð him wihte ðy sel.  
 (Sw)a se ðeodsceaða þreo hund wintra  
 2280 (h)eold on hrusa[n] hordærna sum,

eacen(cr)æftig, oð ðæt hyne an abealch,  
 mon on mode. Mandryhtne bær  
 fæted wæge, frioðowære bæd  
 hlaford sinne. (Ða w)æs hord rasod,  
 2285 onboren beaga (h)ord. Bene getiðad  
 feasceaftum men. Frea sceawode  
 fira fyrngeweorc (f)orman siðe.  
 Ða se wurm onwoc, wroht wæs geniwad.  
 Stonc ða æfter stane, stearcheort onfand  
 2290 feondes fot(l)ast. He to forð gestop  
 dyrnan cræfte dracan heafde neah.  
 Swa mæg unfæge eaðe gedigan  
 wean 7 wræcsið se ðe Waldendes  
 hyldo gehealdeþ. Hordweard sohte  
 2295 georne æfter grunde, wolde guman findan,  
 þone þe him on sweofote sare geteode.  
**181r** Hat 7 hreohmod, |hl(æ)wum oft ymbehwearf  
 ealn[e utan]weardne. Ne ðær ænig mon  
 on þ[am] westenne, hwæðre hilde gefeh,  
 2300 bea[du]weorces. Hwilum on beorh æthwe(arf),  
 sincfæt sohte. He þæt sona onf(and),  
 ðæt hæfde gumena sum goldes gefandod,  
 heahgestreona. Hordwea(rd) onbad  
 earfoðlice, oð ðæt æfen c(wom).  
 2305 Wæs ða gebolgen beorges hyrde,  
 wolde [s]e laða lige forgyldan  
 drin(c)fæt dyre. Ða wæs dæg sceacen

w(yr)me on willan. No on wealle læg,  
(bi)dan wolde, ac mid bæle for,  
2310 fyre gefysed. Wæs se fruma egeslic  
leodum on lande, swa hyt lungre wearð  
on hyra sincgifan sare geendod.

XXXIII

ÐA se gæst ongan gledum spiwan,  
beorht hofu bærnan. Bry(ne)leoma stod  
2315 eldum on andan. No ðæ(r) aht cwices  
**181v** lað lyftfloga læfan |(wolde).  
Wæs þæs wyrmes wig wide gesy(ne),  
(ne)arofages nið nean 7 feorran,  
hu (s)e guðsceaða Geata leode  
2320 hatode 7 hyn(de). Hord eft gesceat,  
dryhtsele dyrn(ne) ær dæges hwile.  
Hæfde landwara (li)ge befangen,  
bæle 7 bronde. Beorges getruwode,  
wiges 7 wealles. Him seo wen (g)eleah.  
2325 Þa wæs Biowulfe broga gecy(ð)ed  
snude to soðe, þæt his sylfes h[a]m,  
bolda selest, brynewylmum mealt,  
(g)ifstol Geata. Þæt ðam godan wæs  
hreow (o)n hreðre, hygesorga mæst.  
2330 Wende (s)e wisa þæt he Wealdende  
ofer ealde riht ecean Dryhtne  
bitre gebulge. (B)reost innan weoll  
þeostrum geþoncum, swa him geþywe ne wæs.

Hæfde ligdraca leoda fæsten,  
 2335 ealond utan, eorðweard ðone  
 gledum forgrunden. Him ðæs guðkyning,  
 Wedera þioden, wræce leornode.  
 Heht him þa gewyrcean, wigendra hleo,  
 eallirene, eorla dryhten,  
**182r** wigbord wrætlic. |Wisse he gearwe,  
 þæt him holtwudu he[*lpan*] ne meahte,  
 lind wið lige. Sceolde [*li*]þenddaga,  
 æþeling ærgod, ende g(e)bidan  
 worulde lifes, 7 se wurm somod,  
 2345 þeah ðe hordwelan heolde lan(ge).  
 Oferhogode ða hringa fengel  
 þæt he þone widflogan weorode gesohte,  
 sidan herge. No he him þam sæcce ondred,  
 ne him þæs wyrmes wig for wiht dyde,  
 2350 eafod 7 ellen, forðon he ær fela  
 nearo neðende niða gedig(de),  
 hildehlemma, syððan he Hroðga(res)  
 sigoreadig secg, sele fælsode,  
 7 æt g(uðe) forgrap Grendeles mægum,  
 2355 laðan cynnes. No þæt læsest wæs  
 hondge(mot)[*a*], þær mon Hygelac sloh,  
 syððan Geata cyning, guðe ræsum,  
 freawine folc(a), Freslondum on,  
 Hreðles eafora, hiorodryncum swealt,  
 2360 bille gebeate(n). Þonan Biowulf com

- sylfes cræfte, sundnytte dreah.
- 182v** Hæfde him on earm(e) | [*ealra*] þritig  
 hildegeatwa, þa he to holm(e) [*gion*]g.  
 Nealles Hetware hremge þorf[*ton*]
- 2365 feðewiges, þe him foran ongean  
 linde bæron. Lyt eft becwom  
 fram þam hildfrecan hames niosan.  
 Ofer(s)wam ða sioleða bigong sunu Ecgðeowes,  
 (ea)rm anhaga eft to leodum.
- 2370 Þær him Hygd gebead hord 7 rice,  
 beagas 7 brego(s)tol. Bearne ne truwode,  
 þæt he wið ælfylcum eþelstolas  
 healdan cuðe. Ða wæs Hygelac dead.  
 No ðy ær feasceafte (f)indan meahton
- 2375 æt ðam æðelinge (æ)nige ðinga,  
 þæt he Heardrede hlaford (w)ære,  
 oððe þone cynedom ciosan wol(d)e.  
 Hwæðre he him on fólce freondlarum heold,  
 estum mid are, oð ðæt he yldra wearð,
- 2380 Weder-Geatum weold. Hyne wræcmæcgas  
 ofer sæ sohtan, suna Ohteres.  
 Hæfdon hy forhealden helm Scylfinga,  
 þone selestan sæcyninga  
 þara ðe ðe in Swiorice sinc brytnade
- 183r** mærne | (þ)eoden. Him þæt to mearce wearð.  
 He (þær) orfeorme feorhwunde hleat,  
 sw(eor)des swengum, sunu Hygelaces.

7 [him] eft gewat Ongenðioes bearn  
ha(mes) niosan, syððan Heardred læg.  
2390 Let ðone bregostol Biowulf healdan,  
Geatum wealdan. Ðæt wæs god cyning.

XXXIII.

SE ðæs leodhryres lean gemunde.  
Uferan dogrum Eadgilse wearð  
feasceaftum freond. Folce gesteppe  
2395 ofe(r) sæ side sunu Ohteres,  
wigum 7 wæpnum. He gewræc syððan  
cealdum cearsiðum, cyning ealdre bineat.  
Swa he niða gehwane genesen hæfde,  
sliðra geslyht(a), sunu Ecgðiwes,  
2400 ellenweorca, oð ðone anne dæg,  
þe he wið þam wyrme gewegan sceolde.  
Gewat þa twelfa sum, torne gebolgen,  
dryhten Geata, dracan sceawia(n).  
Hæfde þa gefrunen hwanan sio fæhð aras,  
**183v** bealonið biorna. Him to bearne |(cwom)  
ma(ð)þumfæt mære, þurh ðæs me(l)(da)n hond.  
Se wæs on ðam ðreate þreotteo(ða) secg,  
se ðæs orleges or onstealde,  
hæft (hy)gegiomor. Sceolde hean ðonon  
2410 wong (w)isian. He ofer willan giong  
to ðæs ðe he eorðsele anne wisse,  
hlæw under (hr)usan holmwylme neh,  
yðgewinne. Se wæs innan full

wrætta 7 wira. Weard unhiore,  
 2415 gearo guðfreca goldmaðmas heold  
 eald under eorðan. Næs þæt yðe ceap,  
 to gegangenne gumena ænigum.  
 Gesæt ða on næsse niðheard cyning,  
 þenden hælo abead heorðgeneatum,  
 2420 gold(w)ine Geata. Him wæs geomor sefa,  
 wæfre 7 wælfus. Wyrð ungemete neah  
 se ðone gomelan gretan sceolde,  
 secean sawle hord, sundur gedælan  
 lif wið lice. No þon lange wæs  
 2425 feorh æþelinges flæsce bewunden.  
 Biowulf maþelade, bearn Ecgðeowes:  
 "Fela ic on gioguðe guðræsa genæs,  
 orleghwila. Ic þæt eall gemon.  
**184r** |Ic wæs syfanwintre þa mec sin(ca bal)dor,  
 2430 freawine folca, æt minum fæ(der) genam.  
 Heold mec 7 hæfde Hreðel cyn(ing),  
 geaf me sinc 7 symbel, sibbe gemund(e);  
 næs ic him to life laðra owihte  
 beorn (in) burgum, þonne his bearna hwylc,  
 2435 Herebe(ald) 7 Hæðcyn oððe Hygelac min.  
 Wæs þam yldestan ungedefelice  
 mæges dædum morþorbed stred,  
 syððan hyne Hæðcyn of hornbogan,  
 his freawine flane geswencte,  
 2440 miste mercelses 7 his mæg o(f)scet,

broðor oðerne blodigan gare.

Þæt w(æs) feohleas gefeoht fyrenum gesyngad,

hreð(re) hygemeðe. Sceolde hwæðre swa þeah

æð(e)ling unwrecen ealdres linnan.

2445 Swa bið geomorlic gomelum ceorle

to gebidanne þæt his byre ride

giong on galgan. Þonne h(e) gyd wrece,

sarigne sang, þonne his sunu hangað

hrefne to hroðre, 7 he him helpa(n) ne mæg,

2450 eald 7 infrod ænige gefremma(n).

Symble bið gemyndgad morna gehwylce,

**184v** |(eaf)ran ellorsið. Oðres ne gymeð

(t)o gebidanne burgum in innan,

yrfewardas, 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,

2460 gomen in geardum, swylce ðær iu wæron.

### XXXV

GEwiteð þonne on sealman, sorhleod gæleð,

an æfter anum. Þuhte him eall to rum,

wongas 7 wicstede. Swa Wedra helm

æfter Herebealde heortan sorge,

2465 weallinde, wæg. Wihte ne meahte

on ðam feorhbonan fæghðe gebetan.

No ðy ær he þone heaðorinc hatian ne meahhte  
 laðum dædum, þeah him leof ne wæs.  
 He ða mid þære sorhge, þe him sio sar belamp,  
 2470 gumdream ofgeaf, Godes leoht geceas.  
 Eaferum læfde, swa deð eadig mon,  
 lond 7 leodbyrig, þa he of life gewat.  
**185r** Ða |(wæs) synn 7 sacu Sweona 7 Geata  
 of(er [w]id) wæter wroht gemæne,  
 2475 herenið hea(rda), syððan Hreðel swealt,  
 oððe him Ongenðeowes eaferan wæran  
 frome fyrdhwate. Freode ne woldon  
 ofer heafo healdan, ac ymb Hreosnabeorh  
 eat(olne) inwitscear oft [ge]fremedon.  
 2480 Ðæt m(æg)wine mine gewræcan,  
 fæhðe 7 fyrene, swa hyt gefræge wæs,  
 þeah ðe oðer his ealdre gebohte,  
 heardan ceape. Hæðcynne wearð,  
 Geata dryhtne guð onsæg(e).  
 2485 Ða ic on morgne gefrægn mæg oðerne  
 billes ecgum on bonan stælan,  
 þær Onge(n)þeow Eofores niosað.  
 Guðhelm toglad, gomela Scylfing  
 hreas [*heabo*]blac. Hond gemunde  
 2490 fæhðo genoge, feorhsweng ne ofteah.  
 Ic him þa maðmas, þe he me sealde,  
 geald æt guðe, swa me gifeðe wæs,  
 leohtan sweorde. He me lond forgeaf,

eard eðelwy(n). Næs him ænig þearf,  
 2495 þæt he to Gifðum oððe to Gar-Denum  
 oððe in Swiorice secean þurfe  
**185v** |(wyr)an wigfreca(n), weorðe gecyþa(n).  
 (Symle) (ic) him on feðan beforan wolde,  
 ana on orde. 7 swa to aldre sceall  
 2500 sæcþe fremman, þenden þis sweord þolað.  
 Þæt mec ær 7 sið oft gelæste,  
 syððan ic for dugeðum (D)æghrefne wearð  
 to handbonan, Huga (ce)mpan.  
 Nalles he ða frætwe Frescyning[e],  
 2505 breostweorðunge bringan moste,  
 ac in cempan gecrong cumbles hyrde,  
 æþeling on elne. Ne wæs ecg bona,  
 ac him hildegrap heortan wylmas,  
 banhus gebræc. Nu sceall billes ecg,  
 2510 hond 7 heard sweord ymb hord wigan."  
 Beowulf maðelode, beotwordum spræc  
 nehstan siðe: "(I)c geneðde fela  
 guða on geogoðe; gyt ic wylle,  
 frod folces weard fæhðe secan,  
 2515 mærdum fremman, gif mec se mansceaða  
 of eorðsele ut geseceð."  
 Gegrette ða gumena gehwylcne,  
 hwate helmberend hindeman siðe,  
 swæse gesiðas: "Nolde ic sweord beran,  
**186r** wæpen to wyrme, |gif ic wiste hu

wið ðam aglæcean    elle(s) meahthe  
 gylpe wiðgripan,    swa ic gio wi(ð) Grendle dyde.  
 Ac ic ðær heaðufyres    hate(s) wene,  
 reðes 7 hattres;    forðon ic me on hafu  
 2525 bord 7 byrnan.    Nelle ic beorges weard  
 oferfleon fotes trem,    ac unc sce(al)  
 weorðan æt wealle    swa unc wyrd geteoð,  
 Metod manna gehwæs.    Ic eom on mode from  
 þæt ic wið þone guðflogan    gylp ofe(r)sitte.  
 2530 Gebide ge on beorge    byrnum werede,  
 secgas on searwum,    hwæðer sel mæge  
 æfter wælræse    wunde gedygan  
 uncer twega.    Nis þæt eower sið,  
 ne gemet mannes,    ne(fn)[e] min anes."  
 2535 Wat he wið aglæcean    efofoðo dæle,  
 eorlscype efne.    "Ic mid elne sceall  
 gold gegangan,    oððe guð nimeð,  
 feorhbealu frecne    frean eowerne."  
 Aras ða bi ronde,    rof oretta,  
 2540 heard under helm(e),    hiorosercean bær  
 under stancleofu,    strengo getruwode  
 anes mannes.    Ne bið swylc earges sið!  
 186v Geseah ða be wealle,    |(se ð)e worna fela,  
 gumcystum god,    guða ge(d)igde,  
 2545 hildehlemma,    þonne hnitan feðan -  
 stodan stanbogan --    stream ut þonan  
 breacan of beorge.    Wæs þære burnan wælm

heaðofyrum hat, ne meahthe horde neah  
 unbyrnende ænige hwile  
 2550 deop gedygan for dracan lege.  
 Let ða of breostum, ða he gebolgen wæs,  
 Weder-Geata leod word ut faran,  
 stearcheort styrnde. Stefn in becom,  
 heaðotorht hlynnan under harne stan.  
 2555 Hete wæs onhrered, hordweard oncnio  
 mannes reorde. Næs ðær mara fyrst  
 freode to friclan. From ærest cwom  
 oruð aglæcean ut of stane,  
 hat hildeswat. Hruse dynede.  
 2560 Biorn under beorge bordrand onswaf  
 wið ðam gryregieste Geata dryhten.  
 Ða wæs hringbogan heorte gefysed  
 sæcce to seceanne. Sweord ær gebræd  
 god guðcýning, gomele lafe,  
 2565 ecgum ungleaw. Æghwæðrum wæs  
**187r** bealohycgendra |(bro)ga fram oðrum.  
 Stiðmod gestod (wið) steapne rond  
 winia bealdor, ða se wyr(m) gebeah  
 snude tosomne. He on searwum bad.  
 2570 Gewat ða byrnende gebogen scriða(n),  
 to gescipe scyndan. Scyld wel gebearg  
 (life) 7 lice læssan hwile  
 mærum þeodne, þon(ne) his myne sohte,  
 ðær he þy fyrste fo(r)man dogore

2575 wealdan moste, swa him wyrð ne gescraf  
 hreð æt hilde. Hond u(p) abræd  
 Geata dryhten, gryrefahne slo(h)  
 Incgelafe, þæt sio ecg gewac  
 brun on bane, bat unswiðor  
 2580 þonne his ðiodcýning þe(arfe) hæfde  
 bysigum gebæded. Ða wæs beorges weard  
 æfter heaðuswenge on hreou(m) mode.  
 Wearp wælfyre; wide sprungon  
 hildeleoman. Hreðsigora ne gealp  
 2585 goldwine Geata. Guðbill geswac,  
 nacod æt niðe, swa hyt no sceolde,  
 iren ærgod. Ne wæs þæt eðe sið,  
 þæt se mæra maga Ecgðeowes  
 grundwong þone ofgyfan wolde.  
 2590 Sceolde willan wic eardian  
 187v elles hwergen, swa |(sceal) æghwylc mon  
 alætan lændag(as). Næs ða long to ðon,  
 þæt ða aglæcean hy eft gemetton.  
 Hyrte hyne hordweard, hreðer æðme weoll,  
 2595 niwan stefne. Nearo (ðr)owode,  
 fyre befongen, se ðe ær folce weold.  
 Nealles him on heape h[a]ndgesteallan,  
 (æ)ðelinga bearn, ymbe gestodon  
 hildecystum, ac hy on holt bugon,  
 2600 ealdre burgan. Hiora in anum weoll  
 sefa wið sorgum. Sibb æfre ne mæg

wiht onwendan, þam ðe wel þenceð.

XXXVI

(W)IGlaf wæs haten, Weoxstanes sunu,  
leof(l)ic lindwiga, leod Scylfinga,  
2605 mæg Ælfheres. Geseah his mondryhten  
under heregriman hat þrowian.  
Gemunde ða ða are þe he him ær forgeaf,  
wicstede weligne Wægmundinga,  
folcrihta gehwylc, swa his fæder ahte.  
2610 Ne mihte ða forhabban, hond rond gefeng,  
geolwe linde, gomelswyrð geteah.  
Þæt wæs mid eldum Eanmundes laf,  
**188r** |(su)na Ohtere. Þam æt sæcce wearð  
w(ræcca) wineleasum Weohstanes bana  
2615 meces ecg(um), 7 his magum ætbær  
brunfagne helm, hringde byrnan,  
ealdsweord etonisc. Þæt him Onela forgeaf,  
his gædelinges guðgewædu,  
fyrdsearo fuslic. No ymbe ða fæhðe spræc,  
2620 þeah ðe he his broðor bearn abredwade.  
He frætwe geheold fela missera,  
bill 7 byrnan, oð ðæt his byre mihte  
eorlscipe efnan swa his ærfæder.  
Geaf him ða mid Geatum guðgewæda,  
2625 æghwæs unrim, þa he of ealdre gewat,  
frod on forðweg. Þa wæs forma sið  
geongan ceman, þ(æt) he guðe ræs

mid his freodryhtne fremman sceolde.  
 Ne gemealt him se modsefa, ne his mægenes laf  
 2630 gewac æt wige. Ða se wyrm onfand,  
 syððan hie togædre gegan hæfdon.  
 Wiglaf maðelode, wordrihta fela  
 sægde gesiðum. Him wæs sefa geomor.  
**188v** "Ic ðæt |(mæl) geman, þær we medu þegun,  
 2635 þon(ne) (we) geheton ussum hlaforde  
 in biorsele, (ð)e us ðas beagas geaf,  
 þæt we him ða guðgetawa gyldan woldon,  
 gif him þyslicu þearf gelumpe,  
 helmas 7 heard sweord. Ðe he usic on herge geceas  
 2640 to ðyssum siðfate sylfes willum.  
 Onmunde usic mærdða, 7 me þas maðmas geaf,  
 þe he usic garwigend gode tealde,  
 hwate helmberend, þeah ðe hlaford us  
 þis ellenweorc ana aðohte  
 2645 to gefremmanne, folces hyrde,  
 forðan he manna mæst mærdða gefremede,  
 dæda dollicra. Nu is se dæg cumen  
 þæt ure mandryhten mægenes behofað  
 godra guðrinca. Wutun gongan to  
 2650 helpan hildfruman, þenden hyt sy,  
 gledegesa grim. God wat on mec  
 þæt me is micle leofre, þæt minne lichaman  
 mid minne goldgyfan gled fæðmie.  
 Ne þynced me gerysne, þæt we rondas beren

2655 eft to earde, nemne we æror mægen

**189A**

(197)r fane gefyllan, | (f)eorh ealgian

Wedra ðeodnes. Ic wat gear(e),

þæt næron ealdgewyrht, þæt he ana scyle

G(eata) duguðe gnorn þrowian,

2660 gesigan æt sæcce. Urum sceal sweord 7 helm,

byrne 7 byrduscrud (bam) gemæne."

Wod þa þurh þone wælrec, wig(hea)folan bær

freat on fultum. Fea worda (cwæð):

"Leofa Biowulf, læst eall tela,

2665 swa ðu on g(eo)guðfeore geara gecwæde,

þæt ðu ne alæte be ðe lifigendum

dom gedreosan. Scealt nu dædum rof,

æðeling anhydig, ealle mægene,

feorh ealgian. Ic ðe fullæstu."

2670 Æfter ðam wordum wyrn yrre cwom,

atol inwitg(æst) oðre siðe,

fyrwylmum fah fionda nio(s[i]an)

laðra manna. Lig yðum for,

born bord (wið) rond. Byrne ne meahte

2675 geongum garwigan geoce gefremman.

ac se maga geonga und(er) his mæges scyld

elne geode, þa his agen [wæs]

gledum forgrunden. Þa gen guðcynig

m[*ih*t] gemunde, mægenstrengo sloh

2680 hildebille, (þæt) hyt on heafolan stod

niþe genyded. Nægl(in)g forbærst,

geswac æt sæcce    sweord Biowulfes

**189A**

(197)v |gomol 7 grægmæl.    Him þæt gifeðe ne wæs,

(þæt) him irenna    ecge mihton

2685    helpan æt hilde.    Wæs sio hond to strong,

se ðe meca gehwane    (m)ine gefræge

swenge ofersohhte.    Þonne he to (s)æcce bær

wæpen wundum heard,    næs him (w)ihte ðe sel.

Þa wæs þeodsceaða    þridan siðe,

2690    frecne fyrdraca    fæhða gemyndig,

ræsde on ðone rofan,    þa him rum ageald,

hat 7 heaðogrim,    heals ealne ymbefeng

biteran banum.    He geblodegod wearð

sawuldriore.    Swat yðum weoll.

XXXVII

2695    ÐA ic æt þearfe [*gefrægn*]    þeodcyniges

andlongne eorl    ellen cyðan,

cræft 7 cenðu,    swa him gecynde wæs.

Ne hedde he þæs heafolan,    ac sio hand gebarn

modiges mannes,    þær he his mægenes healp,

2700    þæt he þone niðgæst    nioðor hwene sloh,

secg on searwum,    þæt ðæt sweord gedeaf

fah 7 fæted;    þæt ðæt fyr ongan

sweðrian syððan.    Þa gen sylf cyning

geweold his gewitte,    wællseaxe gebræd

2705    biter 7 beaduscearp,    þæt he on byrnan wæg.

**189r**    Forwrat Wedra |helm    wurm on middan.

Feond gefyldan,    ferh ellen wræc,

7 hi hyne þa begen abroten hæfdon,  
 sibæðelingas. Swylc sceolde secg wasan,  
 2710 þegn æt ðearfe. Þæt ðam þeodne wæs  
 siðas sigehwile sylfes dædum,  
 wo(rlde) geweorces. Ða sio wund ongon,  
 þe him se e(orð)draca ær geworhte,  
 swelan 7 swella(n). (He) þæt sona onfand  
 2715 þæt him on breostum beal(onið) weoll,  
 attor on innan. Ða se æðeling gion(g),  
 þæt he bi wealle wishycgende  
 gesæt on sesse. Seah on enta geweorc  
 hu ða stanbogan stapulum fæste  
 2720 ece eorðreced innan heald(e)[n].  
 Hyne þa mid handa heorodreorigne,  
 (þeo)den mærne, þegn ungemete till  
 winedry(h)ten his wætere gelafede,  
 hilde sædne, 7 his he(l)[m] onspeon.  
 2725 Biowulf maþelode. He ofer be(nne) spræc,  
 wunde wælbleate. Wisse he gearwe  
 þæt he dæghwila gedrogen hæfde,  
 eorðan wyn[ne]. Ða wæs eall sceacen  
 dogorgerimes, deað ungemete neah:  
 2730 "Nu ic suna minum syllan wolde  
 guðgewædu, þær me gifeðe swa  
**189v** ænig yrfe|weard æfter wurde  
 lice gelenge. Ic ðas leo(de) heold  
 fiftig wintra. Næs se folccyning

2735 ymbesittendra ænig ðara  
þe mec guðwinum (gr)etan dorste,  
eges an ðeon. Ic on earde bad  
(m)ælgescrafta, heold min tela,  
ne sohte (s)earoniðas, ne me swor fela  
2740 aða on un(ri)ht. Ic ðæs ealles mæg  
feorhbennum seoc ge(fea)n habban,  
forðam me witan ne ðearf Waldend fira  
morðorbealo maga, þonne min sceaceð  
lif of lice. Nu ðu lungre geong  
2745 hord sceawian under harne stan,  
Wiglaf leofa. Nu se wurm ligeð,  
swefeð sare wund, (si)nce bereafod.  
Bio nu on ofoste, þæt ic ærwelan,  
goldæht on gite, gearo sceawige  
2750 swegle searogimmas, þæt ic ðy seft mæge  
æfter maððumwelan (mi)n alætan  
lif 7 leodscipe, þone ic longe heold."

### XXXVIII

ÐA ic snude gefrægn sunu Wihstanes,  
æfter wordcwydum wundum dryhtne,  
2755 hyran heaðosiocum, hringnet beran,  
brogdne beadusercean u[n]der beorges hrof.  
Geseah ða sigehreðig, þa he bi sesse geong,  
**190r** magoþegn |modig, maððumsigla fealo,  
gold glitnian grunde getenge,  
2760 wundur on wealle, 7 þæs wyrmes denn,

ealdes uhtflogan, orcas stondan,  
 fyrnmanna fatu feormendlease,  
 hyrstum behrorene. Þær wæs helm monig  
 eald 7 omig, earmbeaga fela  
 2765 searwum gesæled. Sinc eaðe mæg,  
 gold on gr(und)[e] gumcynnes gehwone  
 oferhigian, hyde se ðe wylle.  
 Swylce he siomian geseah segn eallgylden  
 heah ofer horde, hondwundra mæst,  
 2770 gelocen leoðocræftum. Of ðam leoman stod,  
 þæt he þone grundwong ongitan mea(hte),  
 wræce giondwlitan: næs ðæs wyrmes þ(ær)  
 onsyn ænig, ac hyne ecg fornam.  
 Ða ic (on) hlæwe gefrægn hord reafian,  
 2775 eald ent(a) geweorc anne mannan.  
 Him on bearm hlo(don) bunan 7 discas.  
 Sylfes dome segn eac geno(m),  
 beacna beorhtost. Bill ær gescod -  
 ecg wæs iren ealdhlafordes -  
 2780 þam ðara maðma mundbora wæs  
 longe hwile. Ligegeasan wæg  
 hatne for horde, hioroweallende  
 190v middelnihum |oð þæt he morðre swealt.  
 Ar wæs on ofoste, eftsides georn,  
 2785 frætsum gefyrðred. Hyne fyrwet bræc,  
 hwæðer collenferð cwicne gemette  
 in ðam wongstede, Wedra þeoden

ellensiocne, þær he hine ær forlet.  
 He ða mid þam maðmum mærne þioden,  
 2790 dryhten sinne, driorigne fand,  
 ealdres æt ende. He hine eft ongon  
 wæteres weorpan, oð þæt wordes ord  
 breosthord þurhbræc.  
 Gomel on giogoðe gold sceawode.  
 2795 "Ic ðara frætwa Frean ealles ðanc,  
 Wuldurcyninge wordum (sec)ge,  
 ecum Dryhtne, þe ic her on starie,  
 þæs ðe (ic) moste minum leodum  
 ær swyltdæge swylc ge(str)ynan.  
 2800 Nu ic on maðma hord minne be(bo)hte  
 frode feorhlege. Fremmað gena  
 (l)eoda þearfe. Ne mæg ic her leng wesan.  
 Hatað (h)eaðomære hlæw gewyrcean  
 beorhtne æfter bæle, æt brimes nosan.  
 2805 Se scel to gemyndum minum leodum  
 heah hlifian on hrones næsse,  
 þæt hit sæliðend syððan hatan  
 Biowulfes Biorh, ða ðe brentingas  
**191r** ofer |floda genipu feorran drifað."  
 2810 Dyde him of healse hring gyldenre,  
 þioden þristhydig, þegne gesealde,  
 geongum garwigan, goldfahne helm,  
 beah 7 byrnan, het hyne brucan well:  
 "Þu eart endelaf usses cynnes,

2815 Wægmundinga. Ealle wyrd forspeo[f]  
mine magas to metodsceaft,  
eorlas on elne. Ic him æfter sceal."  
Þæt wæs þam gomelan gingæste word  
breostgehygdum, ær he bælcure,  
2820 hate heaðowylmas. Him of hwæðre gewat  
sawol secean soðfæstra dom.

[XXXVIII]

Ða wæs gegongen gum[an] unfrodum  
earfoðlice, þæt he on eorðan geseah  
þone leofestan lifes æt ende  
2825 bleate gebæran. Bona swylce læg,  
egeslic eorðdraca ealdr(e) bereafod,  
bealwe gebæded. Beahhordum leng  
wurm wohbogen wealdan ne moste,  
ac him irenna ecga fornamon,  
2830 hearde heaðoscearde homera lafe,  
þæt se widfloga, wundum stille,  
hreas on hrusan hordærne neah.  
**191v** Nalles |æfter lyfte lacende hwearf  
middelnih(tum), maðmæhta wlanc,  
2835 ansyn ywde, ac he eorðan gefeoll  
for ðæs hildfruman hondgeweorce.  
Huru þæt on lande lyt manna ðah  
mægenagenda, mine gefræge,  
þeah ðe he dæda gehwæs dystig wære,  
2840 þæt he wið attorsceaðan oreðe geræsde,

oððe hringsele hondum styrede,  
 gif he wæccende weard onfunde  
 buon on beorge. Biowulfe wearð  
 dryhtmaðma dæl, deaðe forgolden.

2845 Hæfde æghwæðre ende gefered  
 lænan lifes. Næs ða lang to ðon,  
 þæt ða hildlatan holt ofgefan,  
 tydre treowlogan, tyne ætsomne,  
 ða ne dorston ær dareðum lacan

2850 on hyra mandryhtnes miclan þearfe.  
 Ac hy scamiende scyldas bæran,  
 guðgewædu, þær se gomela læg.  
 Wlitan on Wilaf. He gewergad sæt,  
 feðecempa frean eaxlum neah.

2855 Wehte hyne wætre - him wiht ne speo[w].  
 Ne meahte he on eorðan, ðeah he uðe wel,  
 on ðam frumgare feorh gehealdan,  
 ne ðæs Wealdendes wiht oncirran;

**192r** wolde dom |(Go)des dædum rædan

2860 gumena gehwylcum, sw(a) he nu gen deð.  
 Þa wæs æt ðam geongum grim andswar(u)  
 eðbegete, þam ðe ær his elne forleas.  
 Wiglaf maðelode, Weohstanes sunu,  
 sec sarigferð. Seah on unleofe:

2865 "Þæt, la, mæg secgan se ðe wyle soð specan,  
 þæt se mondryhten, se eow ða maðmas geaf,  
 eoredgeatwe, þe ge þær on standað,

þonne he on ealubence oft gesealde  
 healsittendum helm 7 byrnan,  
 2870 þeoden his þegnum swylce he þrydlicost  
 ower feor oððe neah findan meahte,  
 þæt he genunga guðgewædu  
 wraðe forwurpe, ða hyne wig beget.  
 Nealles folccyning fyrdgeste(allum)  
 2875 gylpan þorfte; hwæðre him God uðe,  
 sigor(a) Waldend, þæt he hyne sylfne gewræc,  
 ana mid ecge, þa him wæs elnes þearf.  
 Ic him lifwraðe lytle meahte  
 ætgifan æt guðe, 7 ongan swa þeah  
 2880 ofer min gemet mæges helpan.  
 Symle wæs þy sæmra þonne ic sweorde drep,  
 ferhðgeniðlan, fyr unswiðor  
 weoll of gewitte. Fergendra to lyt  
 192v þrong ymbe þeoden, þa hyne sio |(þ)rag becwom.  
 2885 Hu sceal sincþego 7 swyrd(gifu),  
 eall eðelwyn eowrum cynne,  
 lufen alicgean. Londrihtes mot  
 þære mægburge monna æghwylc  
 idel hweorfan, syððan æðelingas  
 2890 feorran gefricgean fleam eowerne,  
 domleasan dæd. Deað bið sella  
 eorla gehwylcum þonne edwitlif."

XL

Heht ða þæt heaðoweorc to hagan biodan,

up ofer ecgclif, þær þæt eorlweorod  
 2895 morgenlongne dæg modgiomor sæt,  
 bordhæbbende, bega on wenum,  
 endedogores 7 eftcymes  
 leofes monnes. Lyt swigode  
 niwra spella, se ðe næs gerad,  
 2900 ac he soðlice sægde ofer ealle:  
 "Nu is wilgeofa Wedra leoda,  
 dryhten Geata deaðbedde fæst,  
 wunað wælreste wyrmes dædum.  
 Him on efn ligeð ealdorgewinna  
 2905 siexbennum seoc. Sweorde ne meahte  
 on ðam aglæcean ænige þinga  
 wunde gewyrcean. Wiglaf siteð  
 ofer Biowulfe, byre Wihstanes,  
 eorl ofer oðrum unlifigendum,  
**193r** healdeð higemæðum |(heafod)wearde  
 leofes 7 la(ð)es. Nu y(s leodum) wen  
 orleghwile syððan und[y]r[ne]  
 Froncu(m) 7 Frysum, fyll cyninges  
 wide weorðeð. Wæs sio wroht scepen  
 2915 heard wið Hugas, syððan Higelac cwom  
 faran flotherge on Fresn(a) land.  
 Þær hyne Hetware hilde gehnægdon,  
 elne geodon mid ofermægene,  
 þæt se byrnwiga bugan sceolde.  
 2920 Feoll on feðan. Nalles frætwe geaf

ealdor dugoðe. Us wæs a syððan  
 Merewioingas milts ungyfeðe.  
 Ne ic te Swe(o)ðeode sibbe oððe treowe  
 wihte ne wene, ac wæs wide cuð  
 2925 þætte Ongenðio ealdre besnyðede  
 Hæðce(n) Hreþling wið Hrefnawudu,  
 þa for on(med)lan ærest gesohton  
 Geata leode Guð-Sci(l)ingas.  
 Sona him se froda fæder Ohthere(s),  
 2930 eald 7 egesfull, hondslyht ageaf  
 abreot brimwisan, bryda he[ro]de,  
 gomela iomeowl(a)[n] golde berofene,  
 Onelan modor 7 Ohtheres.  
 7 ða folgode feorhgeniðlan,  
 2935 oð ðæt hi oðeodo(n) earfoðlice,  
 in Hrefnesholt hlafordlease.  
 Besæt ða sinherge sweorda lafe  
**193v** wundum werge. |(Wean o)ft gehet  
 earmre teohhe on(d longe) niht,  
 2940 cwæð, he on mergenne meces ecgum  
 getan wolde sum on galgtreowu[m]  
 [feðan] to gamene. Frofor eft gelamp  
 sarigmodum somod ærdæge,  
 syððan hie Hygelaces horn 7 byman,  
 2945 gealdor ongeaton, þa se goda com,  
 leoda dugoðe on last faran.

Wæs sio swatswaðu    Swona 7 Geata,  
 wælræs weora,    wide gesyne.  
 Hu ða folc mid him    fæhðe towehton!  
 2950 Gewat him ða se goda    mid his gædelingum,  
       frod, felageomor,    fæsten secean.  
       Eorl Ongenþio    ufor oncirde,  
       hæfde Higelaces    hilde gefrunen,  
       wlonces wigcræft.    Wiðres (n)e truwode,  
 2955 þæt he sæmannum    onsacan mihte,  
       heaðoliðendum    hord forstandan,  
       bearn 7 bryde.    Beah eft þonan  
       eald under eorðweall.    Þa wæs æht boden  
       Sweona leodum,    segn Higelace.  
 2960 Freoðowong þone    ford ofereodon,  
       syððan Hreðlingas    to hagan þrungon.  
       Þær wearð Ongenðiow    ecgum, sweordum,  
       blondenfexa    on bid wrecen,  
       þæt se þeodcyning    ðafian sceolde  
 194r Eafores |anne dom.    Hyne yringa  
       Wulf Wonreðing    wæpne geræhte,  
       þæt him for swenge    swat ædrum sprong  
       forð under fexe.    Næs he forht swa ðeh,  
       gomela Scilfing,    ac forgeald hraðe  
 2970 wýrsan wrixle    wælhlem þone,  
       syððan ðeodcyning    þyder oncirde.  
       Ne meahte se snella    sunu Wonredes  
       ealdum ceorle    hondslýht giofan,

ac he him on heafde helm ær gescer,  
 2975 þæt he blode fah bugan sceolde.  
 Feoll on foldan. Næs he fæge þa git,  
 ac he hyne gewyrpte, þeah ðe him wund hrine.  
 Let se hearda Higelaces þegn  
 brade mece, þa his broðor læg,  
 2980 ealdsweord eotonisc entiscne helm  
 brec(an) ofer bordweal. Ða gebeah cyning,  
 folces hyrde wæs in feorh dropen.  
 Ða wæron monige, þe his mæg wriðon,  
 ricone arærdon, ða him gerymed wearð,  
 2985 þæt hie wælstowe wealdan moston.  
 Þenden reafode rinc oðerne,  
 nam on Ongenðio irenbyrnan,  
 heard swyrd hilted, 7 his helm somod.  
 Hares hyrste Higelace bær  
 2990 He [*ðam*] frætsum feng 7 him fægre gehet  
**194v** leana [*mid*] |leodum, 7 gelæst[*e*] swa.  
 Geald þone guðræs Geata dryhten,  
 Hreðles eafora, þa he to ham becom,  
 Iofore 7 Wulfe mid ofermaðmum.  
 2995 Sealde hiora gehwæðrum hund þusenda  
 landes 7 locenra beaga, ne ðorfte him ða lean,  
 oðwitan mon on middangearde,  
 syðða[*n*] hie [*ma*] ða mærdða geslogon.  
 7 ða Iofore forgeaf angan dohtor,  
 3000 hamweorðunge, hylde to wedde.

Pæt ys sio fæhðo 7 se feondscipe,  
 wælnið wera, ðæs ðe ic [*wean*] hafo,  
 þe us seceað to Sweona leoda,  
 syððan hie gefricgeað frean userne  
 3005 ealdorleasne, þone ðe ær geheold  
 wið hettendum hord (7) rice,  
 æfter hæleða hryre, hwate Scildingas,  
 folcred fremede, oððe furður gen  
 eorlscipe efnde. Me is ofost betost,  
 3010 þæt we þeodcyning þær sceawian,  
 7 þone gebringan, þe us beagas geaf,  
 on adfære. Ne scel anes hwæt  
 meltan mid þam modigan, ac þær is maðma hord,  
 gold unrime, grimme gecea[*po*](d),  
 3015 7 nu æt siðestan sylfes feore  
 beagas [*geboh*]te; þa sceall brond fretan,  
**195r** æled þeccean; |nalles eorl wegan  
 maððum to gemyndum, ne mægð scyne  
 habban on healse hringweorðunge,  
 3020 ac sceal, geomormod, golde bereafod,  
 oft, nalles æne, elland tredan.  
 Nu se herewisa hleahtor alegde  
 gamen 7 gleodream. Forðon sceall gar wesan  
 monig morgenceald mundum bewunden,  
 3025 hæfen on handa; nalles hearpan sweg  
 wigend weccan, ac se wonna hrefn,  
 fus ofer fægum, fela reordian,

earne secgan, hu him æt æte speow,  
þenden he wið wulf wæl reafode."  
3030 Swa se secg hwata secgende wæs  
laðra spella. He ne leag fela  
wyrda ne worda. Weorod eall aras.  
Eodon unbliðe under earna næs,  
wollenteare, wundu[r] sceawian.  
3035 Fundon ða on sande sawulleasne,  
hlimbed healdan, þone þe him hringas geaf  
ærran mælum. Þa wæs endedæg  
godum gegongen, þæt se guðcýning,  
Wedra þeoden, wundordeaðe swealt.  
3040 Ær hi þær gesegan syllicran wiht,  
wyrm on wonge wiðerræhtes þær,  
laðne licgean. Wæs se legdraca  
**195v** grimlic gry[*regiest*] |gledum beswæled.  
Se wæs fiftiges fotgemeances  
3045 lang on legere. Lyftwynne heold  
nihtes hwilum, nyðer eft gewat  
dennes niosian. Wæs ða deaðe fæst,  
hæfde eorðscrafa ende genyttod.  
Him big stodað bunan 7 orcas,  
3050 discas lagon 7 dyre swyrd,  
omige þurhetone, swa hie wið eorðan fæðm  
þusend wintra þær eardodon.  
Ponne wæs þæt yrfe eacencræftig,  
iumonna gold, galdre bewunden,

3055 þæt ðam hringsele hrinan ne moste,  
gumena ænig, nefne God sylfa,  
sigora Soðcýning sealde þam ðe he wolde -  
He is manna gehyld - hord openian,  
efne swa hwylcum manna swa him gemet ðuhte.

XLII.

3060 Þa wæs gesyne þæt se sið ne ðah  
þam ðe unrihte inne gehydde  
wræce under wealle. Weard ær ofsloh  
feara sumne. Þa sio fæhð gewearð  
gewrecen wraðlice. Wundur hwar þonne  
3065 eorl ellenrof ende gefere  
lifgesceafta, þonne leng ne mæg,  
mon mid his [mæ]gum, meduseld buan.  
**196r** Swa wæs Biowulfe, |þa he biorges weard  
sohte searoniðas. Seolfa ne cuðe  
3070 þurh hwæt his worulde gedal weorðan sceolde.  
Swa hit oð domes dæg diope benemdon  
þeodnas mære, þa ðæt þær dydon,  
þæt se secg wære synnum scildig,  
hergum geheaðerod, hellbendum fæst,  
3075 wommum gewitnad, se ðone wong strude.  
Næs he goldhwæte gearwor hæfde  
agendes est ær gesceawod.  
Wiglaf maðelode, Wihstanes sunu:  
"Oft sceall eorl monig, anes willan,  
3080 wræc adreog[an], swa us geworden is.

Ne meah-ton we gelæran leofne þeoden,  
rices hyrde, ræd ænigne,  
þæt he ne grette goldweard þone,  
lete hyne licgean, þær he longe wæs,  
3085 wicum wunian oð woruldende.  
Heoldon heahgesceap. Hord ys gesceawod,  
grimme gegongen. Þæt gifeðe [*wæs*]  
to swið þe ðone þyder ontyhte.  
Ic wæs þær inne 7 þæt eall geondseh,  
3090 recedes geatwa, þa me gerymed wæs,  
nealles swæslice sið alyfed  
inn under eorðweall. Ic on ofoste gefeng  
micle mid mundum mægenbyrðenne  
**196v** hordgestreona, hider |ut ætbær  
3095 cyinge minum. Cwico wæs þa gena,  
wis 7 gewittig. Worn eall gespræc,  
gomol on gehðo, 7 eowic gretan het,  
bæd þæt ge geworhton æfter wines dædum  
in bælstede beorh þone hean,  
3100 micelne 7 mærne, swa he manna wæs  
wigend weorðfullost wide geond eorðan,  
þenden he burhwelan brucan moste.  
Uton nu efstan oðre [*siðe*]  
seon 7 secean [*on*] searogeþræc,  
3105 wundur under wealle. Ic eow wisige,  
þæt ge genoge neon sceawiað  
beagas 7 brad gold. Sie sio bær gearo,

ædre geæfned, þonne we ut cymen,  
 7 þonne geferian frean userne,  
 3110 leofne mannan, þær he longe sceal  
 on ðæs Waldendes wære geþolian."  
 Het ða gebeodan, byre Wihstanes,  
 hæle hildedior, hæleða monegum  
 boldagenda, þæt hie bælwudu  
 3115 feorran feredon, folcagende  
 godum togenes: "Nu sceal gled fretan  
 weaxan wonna leg wigena strengel,  
 þone ðe oft gebad isernscure,  
 þonne stræla storm, strengum gebæded,  
 3120 scoc ofer scildweall. Sceft nytte heold,  
 fæ[ð]ergearwum fus, flane fulleode."  
 Huru se snotra sunu Wihstanes  
**198r** acigde of corðre |cyniges þegnas,  
 s[yf]on[e] [tosom][n]e, þa selestan.  
 3125 Eode eahta sum under inwithrof.  
 (H)ilderinc sum on handa bær  
 æledleoman. se ðe on orde geong.  
 Næs ða on hlytme, hwa þæt hord strude,  
 syððan orwearde ænigne dæl  
 3130 secgas gesegon on sele wunian,  
 læne licgan. Lyt ænig mearn  
 þæt hi ofostli(c)[e] ut geferedon  
 dyre maðmas. Dracan ec scufun,  
 wyrm ofer weallclif, leton weg niman,

3135 flod fæðmian frætwa hyrde.  
Þæt wæs wundengold on wæn hladen,  
æghwæs unrim, æþelinge boren,  
har[um] hilde, to hrones næsse.

XLIII

Him ða gegiredan Geata leode  
3140 ad on eorðan unwacligne,  
helm[um] behongen, hildebordum,  
beorhtum byrnum, swa he bena wæs.  
Alegdon ða tomiddes mærne þeoden,  
hæleð hiofende, hlafor[d] leofne.  
3145 Ongunnon þa on beorge bælfyra mæst,  
wigend weccan. W(ud[u]r)ec astah,  
sweart ofer swi[o]ðole, swogende l(et)  
(wop)e bewunden. Windblond gelæg,  
oð þæt he ða banhus gebrocen hæfd[e]  
3150 hat on hreðre. Higum unrote  
modceare mændon, mondryhtnes (cw[e]a)lm.  
**198v** Swylce giomorgyd [[Ge]at[isc] [an]meowle  
[ : : : : ... : : : : ] [b]undenheorde  
[sang] sorgcearig sælðe geneah[he]  
3155 þæt hio hyre [here]g[æn]gas hearde ond[r]ede,  
wælfylla wo[r]n, [w]erudes egesan,  
hyðo [7] hæf[t]nyd. Heofon rece swealg.  
Geworhton ða Wedra leode  
[hlæo] on h[o]e, se wæs heah 7 brad,  
3160 [wæ]gliðendum wide gesyne,

- 7 beti[m]bredon on tyn dagum  
beadurofes becn, bronda lafe.  
Wealle beworhton, swa hyt weorðlicost  
foresnotre men findan mihton.
- 3165 Hi on beorg dydon beg 7 siglu,  
eall swylce hyrsta, swylce on horde ær  
niðhedige men genumen hæfdon.  
Forleton eorla gestreon eorðan healdan,  
gold on greote, þær hit nu gen lifað
- 3170 eldum swa unnyt swa hyt [ære]r wæs.  
Þa ymbe hlæw riordan, hildedeore  
æþelinga bearn, ealra twelfa,  
woldon [cearge] cwiðan, kyning mænan,  
wordgyd wrecan, 7 ymb w[er] sprecan.
- 3175 Eahtodan eorlscipe 7 his ellenweorc  
duguðum demdon, swa hit ged[efe] [bi]ð,  
þæt mon his winedryhten wordum herge,  
ferhðum freog[e], (þonne) he forð scile  
of l[i]chaman [læded] weorðan.
- 3180 Swa begnornodon Geata leode  
hlafordes [hry]re, heorðgeneatas.  
Cwædon þæt he wære wyruldcyning,  
manna mildust (mon[ðw]ær)ust  
leodum liðost, 7 lofgeornost.