

COMPARISON OF LANGUAGES INVOLVED IN MAALAN AARUM (WALAM OLUM)

WALAM OLUM	ALGONQUIN	OLD NORSE
Pehella	Pemi kegw	Bríma kygva
wtenk	witawemin'k	vidh aa vina 'k
lennapewi	linapiwi	hreina buui
tulape _{wini}	touappu	daufrrby
psakwiken	win pasak wikia	van basa thak viikja
woliwikgun	woalau wiquom	hola veik inn
wittank	wit aw emin 'k	vidh aa vina 'k
talli	talli	thar ii
 V		 V
After the rushing waters were close together Lenape of the turtle ?missing? in hollow houses living together there		(waves) surging gently "I (stay) with friend" (people who) are decent deserted (solitude) under thick roof stronghold hollow to return (to) "I (stay) with friend" there in

WORD (PHRASE) BY WORD (PHASE) DECIPHERMENT

Original English	After the rushing waters	
Recorded sounds	Pe he ll a	1*
Algonquin words	Pemi kegw	v. 5 p. 104
Old Norse	Brima kygva	WO retains last "a". 2*
Norse/English	(waves) Surging gently	
Original English	were close together	English word order changed 3*
Recorded sounds	w t en k	"k" sound could have been "ek"
Algonquin words	wit aw emin 'k	v. 1 p.241-242 4*
Old Norse	vidh aa vina 'k	
Norse/English	"I (stay) with friend"	5*
Original English	lenape of the	
Recorded sounds	lennapewi	
Algonquin words	lin a piwi	v. 1 p. 169
Old Norse	hreina buui	6*
Norse/English	(people who) are decent	
Original English	turtle	Appears to be wrong word 7*
Recorded sounds	tulape_{wini}	Wini is a prefix. V. 1 p. 240 8*
Algonquin words	tou a ppu	v. 3 p.127
Old Norse	dau fr by	Correct Algonquin/Norse words
Norse/English	deserted (solitude)	

Original English	?missing?	9*
Recorded sounds	wini p s ak wiken	Wini is a prefix V.1 p.240
Algonquin words	win pas ak wiken	v. 1 p 240, 150 & 237
Old Norse	van basa thak vikja	
Norse/English	under thick roof stronghold	10*
Original English	in hollow houses living	
Recorded sounds	woli wikgun	
Algonquin words	woalau wiquom	v. 1 p. 237 & 243
Old Norse	ho la veik inn	
Norse/English	hollow to return (to)	11*
Original English	together	12*
Recorded sounds	witt a n'k	"k" sound could have been "ek"
Algonquin words	wit aw emin 'k	v. 1 p.241-242
Old Norse	vidh aa vina 'k	
Norse/English	"I (stay) with friend"	
Original English	there	
Recorded sounds	talli	
Algonquin words	talli	v. 1 p195
Old Norse	thar ii	
Norse/English	there in	

- 1* Walam Olum words are spaced out to match Old Norse syllables.
- 2* The Old Norse "a" may have been retained by memory, while it fell from common Algonquin use.
- 3* The order of the WO English phrases was changed to match the WO words.
- 4* The "'k" sound is often dropped in Algonquin.
- 5* "I (stay) with friend" appears to be an idiom for "together."
- 6* Sherwin gives many examples to show that "lenn" came from "hrein."
- 7* Rafinesque may have guessed "tul" meant "Turtle" from the Algonquin word "Tulpe."
- 8* Many Algonquin words show "wini" as a prefix. So, wini was added to next word.
- 9* May have been an honest omission, but may have been left out because "under thick roof stronghold" was not a believable statement to Rafinesque.
- 10* If this phrase had been written in English, comparison to Norse housing in Greenland may have occurred sooner.
- 11* "Veik" in Old Norse is often associated with home and sometimes with returning (to home).
- 12* The two "together" words, spelled differently but meaning the same thing, are most likely evidence of a Lenape Historian and a Moravian recorder of the sounds having communication difficulties.