

WALAM OLUM (MAALAN AARUM)

COMPARISONS of LANGUAGES

WORD (PHRASE) BY WORD (PHRASE) DECIPHERMENT

(All references are to Sherwin's eight volumes of the *Viking and the Red Man*)

Original English	Those from the north	
Recorded sounds	Ni hilla pe win	
Algonquin words	Nahooch bi win	v. 7 p. 52 & v. 4 91 &
Old Norse	nidhr hniiga by wineu	v. 7 p. 108
Norse/English	Be dropping down from snow	

Original English	being free, without care	
Recorded sounds	kom e lendam	
Algonquin words	kimi al lumskaan	v. 8 p. 37 1*
Old Norse	geymi a(f) lymskaada	
Norse/English	discreetly stealing off	

1* The Recorder had written "lendam" endings. Here the word ending had a different sound, and meaning, but he apparently spelled the ending the same way as before.

The "free, without care" probably came from the Historian who understood that slipping away would enable a person to be "free, without care."

The "discreetly stealing off" may describe a process where people walked away from the camp ground near the boats with the full knowledge of everyone in camp that they should load the boat and sail when the time was right.

Original English	From the land of snow	(English order changed
Recorded sounds	lowaniwi	to match Algonquin)
Algonquin words	lowaney	v. 6 p. 58 northerly
Old Norse	raa-andi	
Norse/English	freezing	

Original English	?missing?	
Recorded sounds	wemitten	
Algonquin words	wematin	v. 1, p. 233 2*
Old Norse	vedh-madhir	
Norse/English	plighted brothers	3*

2* "Plighted brothers may refer to the sons of any Norse man. There were other men, servants and slaves. Those men may have discreetly slipped away too. But they probably did not help write the Maalan Aarum.

3* According to Sherwin, "plighted brothers" could include up to fifth cousins. That status may have included most of the Greenland men.

Original English	went forth	
Recorded sounds	chihillen	
Algonquin words	chilhillen	v. 1, p.38
Old Norse	Skilja vera	
Norse/English	were separated	

Original English	In different directions	
Recorded sounds	win aken	
Algonquin words	wem aken	v. 4 p. 159
Old Norse	hveim akran	
Norse/English	(through) all the land	

SUMMARY OF DECIPHERMENT

WALAM OLUM	ALGONQUIN	OLD NORSE
Nihillapewin	Nahooch bi win	nidhr hniiga by wineu
komelendam	kimi allumskaan	geymi a(f) lymaskaada
lowaniwi	lowaney	raa-andi
wemitten	wematin	vedh-madhir
chihillen	chilhillen	Skilja vera
winaken	wemaken	hveim akran
		V
		Be dropping down from snow
		discreetly stealing off
		(from) freezing
		plighted brothers
		were separated
		(through) all the land
V		V
Those from the north		After moving down from
being free, without care		the snowy land and
from the land of snow		discreetly leaving,
?Missing?		the cousins
went forth		separated
In different directions		through out all the land

General Comments

The original English and the paraphrase from the Old Norse are similar except that the Old Norse version leaves a sense that they came to stay.

The episode in verses 8 through 11 appears to be an one occurrence, but there were probably repeated episodes from 1050 to 1300. This verse about distant cousins discreetly leaving to move through out all the land implies something that happened again and again over a long time.