

# 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 | To the snake land              |       |     |
| Recorded sounds  | Akho                           | kin   | k   |
| Algonquin words  | Akoores                        | kime  | sik |
| Old Norse        | Uugaurvs                       | geyma | sik |
| Norse/English    | Gentle (people) hid themselves |       |     |

|                  |              |  |  |
|------------------|--------------|--|--|
| Original English | in the east  |  |  |
| Recorded sounds  | wapaneu      |  |  |
| Algonquin words  | wapanneu     |  |  |
| Old Norse        | verpandi     |  |  |
| Norse/English    | turning pale |  |  |

|                  |                     |        |  |
|------------------|---------------------|--------|--|
| Original English | they went forth     |        |  |
| Recorded sounds  | we                  | moltin |  |
| Algonquin words  | we                  | matin  |  |
| Old Norse        | vedr                | madin  |  |
| Norse/English    | plighted brother(s) |        |  |

|                  |            |     |  |
|------------------|------------|-----|--|
| Original English | going away |     |  |
| Recorded sounds  | palli      | aal |  |
| Algonquin words  | pala       | doo |  |
| Old Norse        | bila       | tha |  |
| Norse/English    | abandon    | it  |  |

1\* Sherwin does not offer "Pala aal" as an Algonquin word, but the Old Norse words "bila al" would make sense as "abandon all."

|                  |           |      |                       |
|------------------|-----------|------|-----------------------|
| Original English | earnestly |      |                       |
| Recorded sounds  | kit       | e    | len                   |
| Algonquin words  | kitchi    | lawe | len                   |
| Old Norse        | geysi     | lawe | lyndi(doom)           |
| Norse/English    | great     | low  | disposition (imposed) |

|                  |          |      |                        |
|------------------|----------|------|------------------------|
| Original English | grieving |      |                        |
| Recorded sounds  | apt      | e    | len                    |
| Algonquin words  | apt      | lawe | len                    |
| Old Norse        | ap       | lawe | lyndi(doom)            |
| Norse/English    | Again    | low  | dispositions (imposed) |

# SUMMARY OF DECIPHERMENT

| WALAM OLUM        | ALGONQUIN         | OLD NORSE                       |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Akhokink          | Akoores kime sik  | Uugaurvs geyma sik              |
| wapaneu           | wapanneu          | verpandi                        |
| wemoltin          | wematin           | vedr madin                      |
| palliaal          | paladoo           | bila thaa                       |
| kitelendam        | kitchi lawelendam | geysi lawe lyndi(doom)          |
| aptelendam        | apt lawe len dam  | ap lawe lyndi(doom)             |
|                   |                   |                                 |
|                   |                   | V                               |
|                   |                   | Gentle (people) hide themselves |
|                   |                   | turning pale                    |
|                   |                   | plighted brother(s)             |
|                   |                   | abandon it                      |
|                   |                   | Great low disposition imposed   |
|                   |                   | Again low dispositions imposed  |
| V                 |                   |                                 |
| To the snake land |                   | The common people               |
| in the east       |                   | in the east stole away          |
| they went forth   |                   | The brothers                    |
| going away        |                   | abandoned all                   |
| earnestly         |                   | with great discouragement       |
| grieving          |                   | and again discouragement.       |

## GENERAL COMMENTS:

There is a similarity between the paraphrase of the Old Norse words and the original English. Both English versions have people going away with low spirits. But in the Old Norse version the “snakes” are the “common” people, who have little chance to possess land. The brothers, who might eventually possess some land, abandon their rights to the homestead. The “grieving”(as for the dead) is better described as “discouragement” (as in overwhelmed by adverse circumstances.)

The Old Norse words appear to describe people leaving a land unable to support the population. The common people slip away first. Than the younger brothers give up any claim they may have on the family property.