

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	v/ 1 p. 9 & v. 2 p. 59
Old Norse	Uugaurvs geyma sik	
Norse/English	Gentle (people) hid themselves	

Original English	in the east	
Recorded sounds	wapaneu	
Algonquin words	wapanneu	v. 5 p. 154 (easterly)
Old Norse	verpandi	
Norse/English	turning pale	

Original English	they went forth	
Recorded sounds	we moltin	
Algonquin words	we matin	v. 1, p. 233
Old Norse	vedr madin	
Norse/English	plighted brother(s)	

Original English	going away	
Recorded sounds	palli aal	
Algonquin words	pala doo	v. 5 p. 100 1*
Old Norse	bila thaa	
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 dam	
Algonquin words	kitchi lawe len dam	v. 1 p.76, & v. 8 p. 45
Old Norse	geysi lawe lyndi(doom)	
Norse/English	great low disposition (imposed)	(See previous verse)

Original English	grieving	
Recorded sounds	apt e len dam	
Algonquin words	apt lawe len dam	v. 1, p. 17 & v. 8 p. 45
Old Norse	ap lawe lyndi(doom)	
Norse/English	Again low dispositions (imposed)	

SUMMARY OF DECIPHERMENT

WALAM OLUM

**Akhokink
wapanew
wemoltin
palliaal
kitelendam
aptelendam**

— v —

To the snake land
in the east
they went forth
going away
earnestly
grieving

ALGONQUIN

**Akoore kime sik
wapanneu
wematin
paladoo
kitchi lawelendam
apt lawe len dam**

OLD NORSE

Uugaurv's geyma sik
verpandi
vedr madin
bila thaa
geysi lawe lyndi(doom)
ap lawe lyndi(doom)

lv

**Gentle (people) hide themselves
turning pale
plighted brother(s)
abandon it
Great low disposition imposed
Again low dispositions imposed**

lv

**The common people
in the east stole away
The brothers
abandoned all
with great discouragement
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.