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Tiatl: The Wuum Oorəborəs
Authhə [novl]: Eddisn, E. Aa. [Erric Roockə] (1882-1945)
Authhə [intrəducshn]: Steevnz, Jaimz [1880/82-1950]
Date ov fuust publiccaishn: 1922 [novl] 1926 [intrəducshn]
Iddishn uezd az bace fau this ebooc: Nu Yauc: Balləntene Boox, Joone 1978
["Illevnth U. Es. Printing"; fuust Balləntene iddishn Aiprəl 1967]
Date fuust poastid: 17 Maach 2017
Date laast updatid: 17 Maach 2017

Prodgect Gootnbuug Cannədə ebooc #1412

This ebooc woz prəduest bi Paul Dring, Steevn Hutchissun, Maac
Əcrig & the Online Distribbutid Pruifreding Cannədə Teme at
http://www.pgdpcanada.net.

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The Wuum Oorəborəs

A romans bi E. Aa. Eddisn

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Deddiccaishn

Too Dublu. Ge. E. and too mi frendz Ca. Ache. and Ge. C. L. M. I deddiccate
this booc

It iz niathər alligghəry nau faibl but a Story too be red fau its one sake.

The proppə naimz I hav tride too spel cimply. The e in Caacy iz long, like dhat in Friny, the o in Crothəring shaut and the axent on dhat cilləbl: Corrənd iz axentid on the fuust cilləbl, Prezmirə on the ceckənd, Brandokh Daahaa on the fuust and fauth, Gorice on the laast cilləbl, riming widh thrice: Kərinniyyəs riamz widh Fləminneəs, Galing widh saling, La Firrese widh dizsiə ese: ch iz aulwase guttərəl, az in loc.

E. Aa. E.

9θ Jannury 1922

Intrəducshn

The Wuum Oorəborəs, no wuum, but the Suupənt itcelf, iz a

wundəfəl booc. Az a story au az prose it iz wundəfəl, and, dhae beying a cauz fau evry iffect, the resən fau riting it shood be az maavələs əghen.

Shellese had too rite the Prəmeethheən Unbound, he woz undə kəmpulshn; fau a soopəhumən ennəgy had cum uppon him, and he woz faust too creyate a mattə dhat wood pəmit him too immadgin, and thhinc, and speke like a god. It woz so widh Blake, hoo wild too əpiyyə az a man but igsistid like a mountin; and, at dhae best, the wuuc ov these powits iz inhumən and saicrid. It duz not graitly mattə dhat dha had au had not a mescij. It duz not mattə at aul dhat iathər can be chaajd widh nonsns au dhat boath hav bene cauld madmən--the same chaaj mite be lade əghenst a volcano au a thundəboalt--au this booc. It duz not mattə dhat dha cood trancend humən endurəns, and cood moove tranqwilly in relmz wae liatning iz the naum ov spede. The wuuc ov such powits iz saicrid biccoz it outpaciz man, and, in a relm ov dhae one, winz eevn əbuv Shaixpiyyər.

An ennəgy such az came on the powits haz vizsittid the authhə ov this booc, and hiz deddickətəry staitmənt, dhat "it iz niathər alligghəry nau faibl but a story too be red fau its one sake," puts us auf widh the əshoowwəd arrəghəns ov the powit hoo iz too bizsy creyating too hav time fau scoole-maastəring. But, waking au in dreme, this authhə haz bene in strainj regənz and haz supt at a torrənt wich oanly the gratist no ov.

The story iz a long wun--this redə wood hav liact it twice az long. The place ov acshn iz indiccatid, cazhoowwəly, az the plannit Muucury, and the story telz ov the wauz bitwene too grate kingdəmz ov dhat plannit, and the fianl ovəthro ov wun.

Mistə. Eddisn iz a vaast man. He nedid a hole cozmos too pla in, and creyatid wun; and he faujd a prose too tel ov it dhat iz az

gigantic az hiz tale. In reding this booc the redə must a litl brake hiz wa in, and must cərendə predjooddisciz dhat ar not əloud fau. He ma thhinc dhat the lan'gwij iz mau rotund dhan iz nedid fau a tale, but, az he prəceedz, he wil ce dhat oanly such a tung cood be spokən bi these kəlosci; and, soone, he wil dillite in a prose dhat iz az life-ghivving az it iz magniffisnt.

Mistə. Eddisnz prose nevvə plase him fauls; it risiz and faulz widh hiz subgict, and iz tendə, humərəs, souə, priscippittət and təriffic az the əcaizhn worrənts. Hou niasly the Caagaa daanst fau the Red Folleyot.

"Foxy-red əbuv, but widh blac belliz, round fuury faciz, innəsnt ambə ise and grate soft pauz.... On a sudn the music ceest, and the daancəz wuu stil, and standing cide bi cide, pau in fuury pau, dha boud shily too the cumpəny, and the Red Folleyot cauld them too him, and kist them on the mouth, and cent them too dhae ceets."

"Corrənd leend on the parrəpit and shadid hiz ise widh hiz hand, dhat woz braud az a smoact haddəc, and cuvvəd on the bac widh yello haez growing sumwot spaasly az the haez on the skin ov a yung elliffənt."

"A dizməl tempist sudnly cəpriazd them. Fau fauty dase it swept them in hale and slete ovə wide wollowing oashn, widhout a staa, widhout a caus."

"Nite came doun on the hilz. A grate wind moning out ov the hules west tau the cloudz az a ragghid gaamənt, rivveling the loanly moone dhat fled nakid bitwixt them."

"Daun came like a lilly, safrən-hude, smuuct widh smoke-gra

streex, dhat slaantid from the nauth."

"He woz nakid too the waist, hiz hae, brest and aamz too the aampits clottid and ədrop widh blud and in hiz handz too bluddy dagghəz."

Qwotaishnz can ghiv sum idiyyə ov the rithəm ov hiz centənciz, but it can ghiv nun ov the masciv swepe and intencitty ov hiz narrətiv. Miltn fel in luv widh the devl biccoz the drəmattic acshn la widh him, and, in this booc, Mistə. Eddisn trounciz hiz devlz fau beying nauty (the wuud "bad" haz not cigniffickəns hiyyə), but he trounciz the Wizsəd King and hiz kingdəm widh əfecshn and dillite. Wot gaugəs monstəz ar Gorice the Twelfth and Corrənd and Kərinniyyəs. The redə wil not esəly fəghet them; nau Goriciz grate antagghənist Laud Jus; nau the maavələs tratə, Laud Gro, widh hoome the authhə woz suutnly in luv; nau the grate fiats and the terreebl fitəz Laudz Brandokh Daahaa and Goaldry Blusco, and a wuuld ov uthəz and dhae wiavz; nau wil he fəghet the mountin Coshtrə Pivraakhə, dhat had too be cliamd, and woz cliamd--az dizsiyying a fete az litrəchə can tel ov.

"So huge he woz dhat eevn hiyyə at cix mialz distəns the i mite not at a glaans bihhoald him, but must swepe bac and fauth az ovə a braud landscape, from the pondərəs ruits ov the mountin, wae dha sprang blac and shiyyə from the glasciyyə up the vaast face, wae butrəs woz piald uppon butrəs, and touə uppon touə, in a blianding radiyyəns ov ice-hung prescippis and sno-fild gully, too the lone hiats wae, like spiyyəz mennəcing hi hevn, the wite teeth ov the summit-rij cleft the ski."

Mistə. Eddisnz prose duz not dirrive from the In‘glish Biabl. Hiz miand haz mau əfinnittiz widh Keltic immadginningz and methhəd, and

hiz wuuc iz Keltic in dhat it iz inspiəd bi buty and daring raathə dhan bi thauts and mərallittiz. He mite be Scoch au Irish: scaesly the faumə, fau, wile Scotlənd luvz fool-moutht vuus, she, like In'glənd, iz prose-shi. But, from wottevvə hevn Mistə. Eddisn cum, he haz addid a maastəpece too In'glish litrəchə.

JAIMZ STEEVNZ

THE WUUM OORƏBORƏS

True Thomas lay on Huntlie bank,
A ferlie he spied wi his ee;
And there he saw a Lady bright
Come riding down by the Eildon Tree.

Her skirt was o the grass-green silk,
Her mantle o the velvet fyne,
At ilka tett of her horse's mane
Hung fifty siller bells and nine.

True Thomas he pulld aff his cap,
And louted low down on his knee:
"Hail to thee, Mary, Queen of Heaven!
For thy peer on earth could never be."

"O no, O no, Thomas," she says,

"That name does not belong to me;
I'm but the Queen of fair Elfland,
That am hither come to visit thee.

"Harp and carp, Thomas," she says,
"Harp and carp alang wi me.
And if ye dare to kiss my lips,
Sure of your bodie I will be."

"Betide me weal, betide me woe,
That weird shall never daunton me."
Syne he has kissed her rosy lips,
All underneath the Eildon Tree.

* * * * * *

TOMMƏS THE RIMƏ.

The Inducshn

Dhae woz a man naimd Lescing'ham dwelt in an oald lo hous in Wastdale, cet in a gra oald gaadn wae u-trese flurrisht dhat had cene Vikingz in Coapland in dhae ceedling time. Lilly and rose and laaxpuu bluimd in the baudəz, and biggoniyyəz widh bloscəmz big az saucəz, red and wite and pinc and lemmən-cullə, in the bedz biffau the pauch. Climing rosiz, hunnissucl, clemmətis, and the scaalət flame-flouə scrambld up the waulz. Thhic woodz wuu on evry cide widhout the

gaadn, widh a gap nauth-eestwəd opəning on the descələt lake and the grate felz biyyond it: Gaibl riyyəring hiz crag-bound hed əghenst the ski from bihhiand the strate clene outline ov the Screse.

Coole long shaddose stole əcros the tennis laun. The ae woz goaldən. Duvz muuməd in the trese; too chaffinchiz plade on the niyyə poast ov the net; a litl wautə-wagtale scurrid əlong the paath. A French windo stood opən too the gaadn, showing daacly a dining-roome panld widh oald oke, its Jackəbiyyən taibl brite widh flouəz and cilvə and cut glaas and Wejwood dishiz heept widh froote: green'gagiz, pechiz, and grene muskət graips. Lescing'ham la bac in a hammək-chae wotching throo the bloo smoke ov an aaftə-dinnə ciggaa the waum lite on the Glwaa da Deezhong rosiz dhat clustəd əbout the bedroome windo ovəhed. He had huu hand in hiz. This woz dhae Hous.

"Shood we finnish dhat chaptə ov Nyaal?" she ced.

She tooc the hevvy vollume widh its fadid grene cuvvə, and red: "He went out on the nite ov the Laudz da, wen nine weex wuu stil too wintə; he huud a grate crash, so dhat he thaut boath hevn and uuth shooc. Then he looct intoo the west aet, and he thaut he sau dharəbouts a ring ov firy hu, and within the ring a man on a gra haus. He paast qwicly bi him, and rode haad. He had a flaming fiəbrand in hiz hand, and he rode so cloce too him dhat he cood ce him plainly. He woz blac az pich, and he sung this song widh a mity vois--

Hiyyə I ride swift stede,
Hiz flanc flect widh rime,
Rane from hiz mane drips,
Haus mity fau haam;

Flaimz flae at eche end,
Gaul glose in the midst,
So faez it widh Flocese redz
Az this flaming brand flise;
And so faez it widh Flocese redz
Az this flaming brand flise.

"Then he thaut he huuld the fiəbrand eest təwaudz the felz biffau him, and such a blase ov fiə lept up too mete it dhat he cood not ce the felz fau the blase. It ceemd az dho dhat man rode eest əmung the flaimz and vannisht dhae.

"Aaftə dhat he went too hiz bed, and woz censlis fau a long time, but at laast he came too himcelf. He bau in miand aul dhat had happənd, and toald hiz faathə, but he bad him tel it too Hyaalty Skegghese sun. So he went and toald Hyaalty, but he ced he had cene the Woolfs Ride, and dhat cumz evvə biffau grate tidingz.'"

Dha wuu cilənt əwile; then Lescing'ham ced sudnly, "Doo u miand if we slepe in the eest wing too-nite?"

"Wot, in the Lotəs Roome?"

"Yes."

"Ime too much ov a lasy-boanz too-nite, diyyə," she aancəd.

"Doo u miand if I go əlone, then? I shal be bac too brecfəst. I like mi lady widh me; stil, we can go əghen wen next moone wainz. Mi pet iz not friatnd, iz she?"

"No!" she ced, laafing. But huu ise wuu a litl big. Huu fin'ghəz plade widh hiz woch-chane. "Ide raathə," she ced

prezntly, "u went latə on and tooc me. Aul this iz so od stil: the Hous, and dhat; and I luv it so. And aaftə aul, it iz a long wa and cevrəl yuuz too, sumtiamz, in the Lotəs Roome, eevn dho it iz aul ovə next mauning. Ide raathə we went təghethə. If ennithhing happənd then, wel, wede boath be dun in, and it woodnt mattə so much, wood it?"

"Boath be wot?" ced Lescingʻham. "Ime əfrade yau lanʻgwij iz not aul dhat mite be wisht."

"Wel, u taut me!" ced she; and dha laaft.

Dha sat dhae til the shaddose crept ovə the laun and up the trese, and the hi rox ov the mountin shoaldə biyyond buund red in the eevning rase. He ced, "If u like too strole a bit ov wa up the fel-cide, Muucury iz vizsəbl too-nite. We mite ghet a glimps ov him just aaftə suncet."

A litl latə, standing on the opən hilcide billo the hauking bats, dha wocht fau the dim plannit dhat shode at laast lo doun in the west bitwene the suncet and the daac.

He ced, "It iz az if Muucury had a finʻghə on me too-nite, Mary. Its no good mi triying too slepe too-nite ixept in the Lotəs Roome."

Huu aam tiatnd in hiz. "Muucury?" she ced. "It iz ənuthə wuuld. It iz too faa."

But he laaft and ced, "Nuthhing iz too faa."

Dha tuund bac az the shaddose depənd. Az dha stood in the daac ov the aacht gate leding from the opən fel intoo the gaadn, the soft cliyyə noats ov a spinnet soundid from the

hous. She put up a fin'ghə. "Haac," she ced. "Yau dautə playing *Les Barricades*."

Dha stood lisning. "She luvz playing," he wispəd. "Ime glad we taut huu too pla." Prezntly he wispəd əghen, "*Les Barricades Mystérieuses*. Wot inspiəd Coopərin widh dhat enchaantid name? And oanly u and I no wot it riyyəly meenz. *Les Barricades Mystérieuses*."

****

Dhat nite Lescing'ham la əlone in the Lotəs Roome. Its caismənts opənd eestwəd on the sleping woodz and the sleping bae sloaps ov Ilghil Hed. He slept soft and depe; fau dhat woz the Hous ov Poastməriddiyyən, and the Hous ov Pece.

In the depe and ded time ov the nite, wen the waning moone piyyəd ovə the mountin shoaldə, he woke sudnly. The cilvə beemz shon throo the opən windo on a faum puucht at the foot ov the bed: a litl buud, blac, round-heddid, shaut-beect, widh long shaap wingz, and ise like too staaz shining. It spoke and ced, "Time iz."

So Lescing'ham got up and mufld himcelf in a grate cloke dhat la on a chae biscide the bed. He ced, "I am reddy, mi litl maatlet." Fau dhat woz the Hous ov Haats Dizsiə.

Shoowwəly the maatlets ise fild aul the roome widh staalite. It woz an oald roome widh lotəciz caavd on the panlz and on the bed and chaez and roofe-beemz; and in the glammə the caavd flouəz swade like wautə-lilliz in a lasy streme. He went too the windo, and the litl maatlet sat on hiz shoaldə. A charriyyət culləd like the halo əbout the moone watid bi the

windo, poizd in ae, haanəst too a strainj stede. A haus it ceemd, but wingd like an eegl, and its fau-legz fethəd and aamd widh eeglz clauz insted ov huivz. He entəd the charriyyət, and dhat litl maatlet sat on hiz ne.

Widh a wuu ov wingz the wiald caucə sprang skiwəd. The nite əbout them woz like the tumult ov bublz əbout a divəz iyyəz diving in a depe poole undə a smuidh stepe roc in a mountin cattəract. Time woz swollode up in spede; the wuuld reeld; and it woz but az the space bitwene too depe breths til dhat strainj caucə spred wide hiz rainbo wingz and slaantid doun the nite ovə a grate iləND dhat slumbəd on a slumbəring ce, widh lescə ialz əbout it: a cuntry ov roc mountinz and hil paaschəz and menny wautəz, aul a-glimmə in the muinshine.

Dha landid within a gate cround widh goaldən liənz. Lescing'ham came doun from the charriyyət, and the litl blac maatlet suucld əbout hiz hed, showing him a u avvənu leding from the gaits. Az in a dreme, he follode huu.

I. The Caasl ov Laud Jus

OV THE RARITTIZ DHAT WUU IN THE LOFTY PREZNS CHAIMBƏ FAE
AND LUVLY TOO BIHHOALD, AND OV THE QWOLLITTIZ AND KƏNDISHNZ OV
THE LAUDZ OV DEMƏNLAND: AND OV THE EMBƏCY CENT UNTOOH THEM BI
KING GORICE 11., AND OV THE AANCƏ DHAETOO.

The eestən staaz wuu paling too the daun az Lescingʻham follode hiz kənductə əlong the graas wauc bitwene the shaddowy ranx ov Irish use, dhat stood like soalgəz mistiyyəriyyəs and ixpectənt in the daacnəs. The graas woz baidhd in nite-du, and grate wite lilliz sleping in the shaddose ov the use lodid the ae ov dhat gaadn widh fraigrəns. Lescingʻham felt no tuch ov the ground binneeth hiz fete, and wen he strecht out hiz hand too tuch a tre hiz hand paast throo braanch and leevz az dho dha wuu uncəbstanshəl az a muinbeme.

The litl maatlet, əliting on hiz shoaldə, laaft in hiz iyyə. "Chiald ov uuth," she ced, "dust thhinc we ar hiyyə in dreemland?"

He aancəd nuthhing, and she ced, "This iz no dreme. Dhou, fuust ov the childrən ov men, aat cum too Muucury, wae dhou and I wil juuny up and doun fau a ceezn too sho the the landz and oashnz, the forrists, plainz, and ainshənt mountinz, cittiz and pallisciz ov this wuuld, Muucury, and the doowingz ov them dhat dwel dharin. But hiyyə dhou canst not handl aut, niathər make the foke wae ov the, not dho dhou shout thi throte haus. Fau dhou and I wauc hiyyə impalpəbl and invizsəbl, az it wuu too dreemz wauking."

Dha wuu nou on the maabl steps wich led from the u wauc too the terrəs oppəsit the grate gate ov the caasl. "No nede too unbaa gaits too the and me," ced the maatlet, az dha paast binneeth the daacnəs ov dhat ainshənt pautl, caavd widh strainj divviciz, and clene throo the mascy timbəz ov the boaltid gate thhicly rivvittid widh cilvə, intoo the innə caut. "Go we intoo the lofty prezns chaimbə and dhae tarry əwile. Mauning iz kindling the uppə ae, and foke wil soone be stuuring in the caasl, fau dha li not long əbed wen da

bigghinz in Demənland. Fau be it none too the, O uuthbaun, dhat this land iz Demənland, and this caasl the caasl ov Laud Jus, and this da nou dauning hiz buuthda, wen the Demənz hoald hi festivl in Jusciz caasl too doo onnə untooh him and too hiz bredhrən, Spitfiə and Goaldry Blusco; and these and dhae faathəz biffau them bae roole from time imməmoriyyəl in Demənland, and hav the laudship ovə aul the Demənz."

She spoke, and the fuust lo beemz ov the sun smote javvəlin-like throo the eestən windose, and the freshnəs ov mauning breedhd and shimməd in dhat lofty chaimbə, chacing the bloo and dusky shaidz ov dippaatid nite too the caunəz and recesciz, and too the raaftəz ov the vaultid roofe. Shoowwəly no poatntate ov uuth, not Crecəs, not the grate King, not Menos in hiz roiəl pallis in Crete, not aul the Farose, not Qwene Cemmirraamis, nau aul the Kingz ov Babbəlon and Ninnəvə had evvə a throne roome too kəmpae in glory widh dhat hi prezns chaimbə ov the laudz ov Demənland. Its waulz and pilləz wuu ov sno-wite maabl, evry vane warov woz cet widh smaul gemz: roobiz, corrəlz, gaanits, and pinc topaz. Cevn pilləz on iathər cide bau up the shaddowy vault ov the roofe; the roofe-tre and the beemz wuu ov goald, curiyyəsly caavd, the roofe itcelf ov muthə-ov-puul. A cide ile ran bihhiand eche ro ov pilləz, and cevn paintingz on the westən cide faist cevn spaishəs windose on the eest. At the end ov the haul uppon a dayis stood thre hi ceets, the aamz ov eche kəmpoazd ov too hippəgrifs raut in goald, widh wingz spred, and the legz ov the ceets the legz ov the hippəgrifs; but the boddy ov eche hi cete woz a cin'gl jooəl ov monstrəs cise: the left-hand cete a blac oapl, əspaacl widh stele-bloo fiə, the next a fiə-oapl, az it wuu a buuning cole, the thuud cete an alligzaandrite, puupl like wine bi nite but depe ce-grene bi da. Ten mau pilləz stood in cemmissuucl bihhiand the hi ceets, baring up əbuv them and the dayis a cannəpy ov goald. The

benchiz dhat ran from end too end ov the lofty chaimbə wuu ov cedə, inlade widh corrəl and ivəry, and so wuu the taiblz dhat stood biffau the benchiz. The flau ov the chaimbə woz tescəlatid, ov maabl and grene toowwəmələin, and on evry sqwae ov toowwəmələin woz caavən the immij ov a fish: az the dolfin, the con'ghə, the cat-fish, the sammən, the tunny, the sqwid, and uthə wundəz ov the depe. Hangingz ov tappistry wuu bihhiand the hi ceets, wuuct widh flouəz, snaix-hed, snapdragghən, dragghən-mouth, and dhae kiand; and on the dado billo the windose wuu sculpchəz ov buudz and beests and creping thhingz.

But a grate wundə ov this chaimbə, and a maavl too bihhoald, woz hou the cappittəl ov evry wun ov the fau-and-twenty pilləz woz hune from a cin'gl preshəs stone, caavd bi the hand ov sum sculptə ov long əgo intoo the livving faum ov a monstə: hiyyə woz a haapy widh screming mouth, so wundrəsly cut in okə-tintid jade it woz a maavl too hiyyə no screme from huu: hiyyə in wine-yello topaz a fliying fiə-drake: dhae a cockətrice made ov a cin'gl rooby: dhae a staa saffiə the cullə ov muinlite, cut fau a ciaclops, so dhat the rase ov the staa trembld from hiz cin'gl i: salləmandəz, muumaidz, kimiyyərəz, wiald men ə the woodz, livviəthhənz, aul hune from faultləs gemz, thrice the bulc ov a big manz boddy, velvit-daac saffiəz, cristəlite, berrəl, ammithhist, and the yello zuucon dhat iz like transparrənt goald.

Too ghiv lite too the prezns chaimbə wuu cevn escaabunclz, grate az pumpkinz, hung in audə doun the length ov it, and nine fae muinstoanz standing in audə on cilvə peddistlz bitwene the pilləz on the dayis. These jooəlz, drinking in the sunshine bi da, gave it fauth during the ouəz ov daacnəs in a radiyyəns ov pinc lite and a soft iffulgəns az ov muinbeemz. And yet ənuthə maavl, the nethə cide ov the cannəpy ovə the

hi ceets woz encrustid widh lappis lazzuli, and in dhat faind dome ov hevn buund the twelv cianz ov the zodiyyac, evry staa a diəmənd dhat shon widh its one lite.

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Foke nou biggan too be əstuu in the caasl, and dhae came a scau ov suuving men intoo the prezns chaimbə widh bruimz and brushiz, cloths and lethəz, too swepe and gaanish it, and buunish the goald and jooəlz ov the chaimbə. Liscəm dha wuu and spriatly ov gate, ov fresh kəmplecshn and fae-haed. Haunz groo on dhae hedz. Wen dhae taasx wuu əcumplisht dha dippaatid, and the prezns biggan too fil widh ghests. A joi it woz too ce such a shifting mase ov velvits, fuuz, curiyyəs needlwuux and cloth ov tishoo, tiffənese, laciz, rufs, goodly chainz and caacənets ov goald: such glittə ov jooəlz and weppənz: such nodding ov the pluimz the Demənz wau in dhae hae, haaf valing the haunz dhat groo uppon dhae hedz. Sum wuu citting on the benchiz au lening on the pollisht taiblz, sum wauking fauth and bac uppon the shining flau. Hiyyə and dhae wuu wimmin əmung them, wimmin so fae wun had ced: it iz shoowwəly wite-aamd Hellən this wun; this, Aacadiyyən Attəlantə; this, Friny dhat stood too Praxittəlese fau Afrəditese picchə; this, Thayis, fau hoome grate Alligzaandə too plezhə huu fantəcy did buun Puuceppəlis like a candl; this, she dhat woz rapt bi the Daac God from the flouring feeldz ov Ennə, too be Qwene fau evvə əmung the ded dhat be dippaatid.

Nou came a stuu niyyə the staitly dauwa, and Lescing'ham bihheld a Demən ov buuly frame and noabl paut, richly ətiəd. Hiz face woz ruddy and sumwot frecld, hiz forrid wide, hiz ise caam and bloo like the ce. Hiz biyyəd, thhic and tauny, woz paatid and brusht bac and upwədz on iathər cide.

"Tel me, mi litl maatlet," ced Lescingʻham, "iz this Laud Jus?"

"This iz not Laud Jus," aancəd the maatlet, "nau aut so wuushipfəl az he. The laud dhou ceyist iz Vol, hoo dwellith undə Caatadsə, bi the sault ce. A grate ce-captin iz he, and wun dhat did suuvis too the cauz ov Demənland, and ov the hole wuuld bisciadz, in the late wauz əghenst the Guilz.

"But caast thine ise əghen təwaudz the dau, wae wun standith əmid a not ov frendz, taul and sumwot stooping, in a causlit ov cilvə, and a cloke ov oald brəcadid cilc cullәd like taanisht goald; sumthhing like too Vol in fechə, but swauthy, and widh brisling blac məstaasheyose."

"I ce him," ced Lescingʻham. "This then iz Laud Jus!"

"Not so," ced maatlet. "'Tiz but Viz, bruthə too Vol. He iz welthhiyyist in goodz ov aul the Demənz, save the thre bredhrən oanly and Laud Brandokh Daahaa."

"And hoo iz this?" aasct Lescingʻham, pointing too wun ov lite and brisc step and humərəs i, hoo in dhat momənt met Vol and enʻgaijd him in kənvuus əpaat. Hancəm ov face he woz, aulbeyit sumwot long-noazd and shaap-noazd: kene and haad and fild widh life and the joi ov it.

"Hiyyə dhou bihhoaldist," aancəd she, "Laud Sig, the faa-faimd tamə ov hauciz. Wel luvd iz he əmung the Demənz, fau he iz merry ov moode, and a mity man ov hiz handz widhaul wen he ledith hiz hausmən əghenst the ennəmy."

Vol throo up hiz biyyəd and laaft a grate laaf at sum gest dhat Sig wispəd in hiz iyyə, and Lescingʻham leend fauwəd

intoo the haul if haply he mite cach wot woz ced. The hum ov tauc dround the wuudz, but lening fauwəd Lescingʻham sau wae the arrəs cuutnz bihhiand the dayis paatid fau a momənt, and wun ov prinsly baring ədvaanst paast the hi ceets doun the boddy ov the haul. Hiz gate woz dellickət, az ov sum liadh beest ov pra nuly wakənd out ov slumbə, and he gretid widh lasy grace the menny frendz hoo haild hiz entrəns. Verry taul woz dhat laud, and slendə ov bild, like a guul. Hiz tunic woz ov cilc culləd like the wiald rose, and imbroidəd in goald widh reprizsentaishnz ov flouəz and thundəboalts. Jooəlz glittəd on hiz left hand and on the goaldən braislits on hiz aamz, and on the fillit twiand əmung the goaldən cuulz ov hiz hae, cet widh pluimz ov the king-buud ov Parrədice. Hiz haunz wuu dide widh safrən, and inlade widh filligry wuuc ov goald. Hiz buskinz wuu laist widh goald, and from hiz belt hung a saud, narro ov blade and kene, the hilt ruf widh berrəlz and blac diəməndz. Strainjly lite and dellickət woz hiz frame and ceming, yet widh a cens ov slumbəring pouə binneeth, az the dellickət peke ov a sno mountin cene əfaa in the lo red rase ov mauning. Hiz face woz butiffəl too looc uppon, and softly culləd like a guulz face, and hiz ixpreshn wun ov gentl melləncolly, mixt widh sum disdane; but firy glints əwoke at intəvlz in hiz ise, and the lianz ov swift dittuuminnaishn hovvəd round the mouth billo hiz cuuld məstaasheyose.

"At laast," muuməd Lescingʻham, "at laast, Laud Jus!"

"Litl aat dhou too blame," ced the maatlet, "fau this misprizhən, fau scaes cood a laudliyyə cite hav joid thine ise. Yet iz this not Jus, but Laud Brandokh Daahaa, too hoome aul Demənland west ov Shalgreth and Strəpaadən owith əlegəns: the rich vinyədz ov Crothəring, the braud paaschə landz ov Failz, and aul the westən iləndz and dhae cragbound faastnəciz. Thhinc not, biccoz he əfectith cilx and jooəlz

like a qwene, and carreyith himcelf lite and dainty az a cilvə buuch tre on the mountin, dhat hiz hand iz lite au hiz currij doutfool in wau. Fau yuuz woz he held fau the thuud best man-at-aamz in aul Muucury, ələong widh these, Goaldry Blusco and Gorice X. ov Wichland. And Gorice he sloo, nine summəz bac, in cin'gl combat, wen the Witchiz harrid in Goblinland and Brandokh Daahaa led five hundrəd and fauscau Demənz too suckə Gazlaac, the king ov dhat cuntry. And nou can nun cəpaas Laud Brandokh Daahaa in feets ov aamz, save pəchaans Goaldry ələone.

"Yet, lo," she ced, az a swete and wiald music stole on the iyyə, and the ghests tuund təwaudz the dayis, and the hangingz paatid, "at laast, the tripl laudship ov Demənland! Strike softly, music: smile, Faits, on this festl da! Joi and safe dase shine fau this wuuld and Demənland! Tuun thi gase fuust on him hoo waux in madgisty in the midst, hiz tunic ov olliv-grene velvit aunəmentid widh divviciz ov hidn mening in thred ov goald and beedz ov criscəlite. Maac hou the buskinz, claasping hiz staulwət caavz, glittə widh goald and ambə. Maac the dusky cloke streemd widh goald and liand widh blud-red cilc: a chaamd cloke, made bi the cilfs in fəgotn dase, bringing good hap too the warə, so he be troo ov haat and no dastəd. Maac him dhat warith it, hiz swete daac countinnəns, the viələt fiə in hiz ise, the sombə waumth ov hiz smile, like autəm woodz in late sunshine. This iz Laud Jus, laud ov this age-rimmembəring caasl, dhan hoome nun hath mau wuuship in wide Demənland. Sumwot he nowith ov aat madgicl, yet usith not dhat aat; fau it sappith the life and strength, nau iz it held wuuthy dhat a Demən shood put trust in dhat aat, but raathə in hiz one mite and mane.

"Nou tuun thine ise too him dhat lenith on Jusciz left aam, shautə but mahap stuudiyyə dhan he, əparrəld in blac cilc

dhat shimməz widh goald az he moovith, and cround widh blac eeglz fethəz əmung hiz haunz and yello hae. Hiz face iz wiald and kene like a ce-eeglz, and from hiz brisling brouz the ise daat glaanciz shaap az a glaancing spiyyə. A faint flame, pallid like the fiə ov a Wil-ə-the-Wisp, breedhz evvə and ənon from hiz distendid nostrəlz. This iz Laud Spitfiə, impetchoowwəs in wau.

"Laast, bihhoald on Jusciz rite hand, yon laud dhat bulx mity az Huuculese yet steppith liatly az a heffə. The thuse and cinnuse ov hiz grate limz ripl az he muivz binneeth a skin witə dhan ivəry; hiz cloke ov cloth ov goald iz hevvy widh jooəlz, hiz tunic ov blac cendəlene hath grate haats wuuct dharon in roobiz and red cilc thred. Slung from hiz shoaldəz clanx a too-handid saud, the poml a huge staa-rooby caavən in the immij ov a haat, fau the haat iz hiz cine and cimbl. This iz dhat saud faujd bi the elvz, waewidh he sloo the ce-monstə, az dhou mayist ce in the painting on the waul. Noabl iz he ov countinnəns, moast like too hiz bruthə Jus, but daakə broun ov hae and ruddiyyə ov hu and bigghə ov cheecbone. Looc wel on him, fau nevvə shal thine ise bihhoald a gratə champiyyən dhan the Laud Goaldry Blusco, captin ov the hoasts ov Demənland."

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Nou wen the gretingz wuu dun and the strainz ov the luits and riccaudəz cide and lost thəmcelvz in the shaddowy vault ov the roofe, the cup-barəz did fil grate gemz made in faum ov cups widh ainshənt wine, and the Demənz kərouzd too Laud Jus depe draafts in onnə ov this da ov hiz nətivvitty. And nou dha wuu reddy too cet fauth bi toose and threse intoo the paax and plezsənciz, sum too take dhae plezhə əbout the fae gaadnz and fishpondz, sum too hunt wiald game əmung the wooddid

hilz, sum too dispaut thəmcelvz at coits au tennis au riding at the ring au maashl exəcisiz; dhat so dha mite spend the livlong da az biffittith hi holləda, in plezhə and acshn widhout cae, and dharaaftə revvəl in the lofty prezns chaimbə til nite groo oald widh eting and drinking and aul dillite.

But az dha wuu uppon gowing fauth, a trumpit woz soundid widhout, thre striadnt blaasts.

"Wot kil-joi hav we hiyyə?" ced Spitfiə. "The trumpit soundith oanly fau travləz from the outlandz. I fele it in mi boanz sum raascl iz cum too Galing, wun dhat bringith il hap in hiz pockit and a shaddo əthwaut the sun on this ouə da ov festivl."

"Speke no wuud ov il omen," aancəd Jus. "Hoosowae it be, we wil strate dispach hiz biznəs and so faul too plezhə indede. Sum, run too the gate and bring him in."

The suuving man haisnd and rittuund, saying, "Laud, it iz an Ambascədə from Wichland and hiz trane. Dhae ship made land at Loocking'haivn-nes at niatfaul. Dha slept on baud, and yau soalgəz gave them escaut too Galing at brake ov da. He cravith preznt audiyyəns."

"From Wichland, haa?" ced Jus. "Such smoax use evvə too go biffau the fiə."

"Shalz bid the fello," ced Spitfiə, "wate on ouə plezhə? It iz pitty such shood poizn ouə gladnəs."

Goaldry laaft and ced, "Hoome hath he cent us? Laxəs, thhinc u? too make hiz pece widh us əghen fau dhat vile paat ov hiz

practist əghenst us auf Caatadsə, dittestəbly faulciffiying hiz wuud he had ghivn us?"

Jus ced too the suuving man, "Dhou sauwist the Ambascədə. Hoo iz he?"

"Laud," aancəd he, "Hiz face woz strainj too me. He iz litl ov statchə and, bi yau hinəs leve, the moast unlike too a grate laud ov Wichland dhat evvə I sau. And, bi yau leve, fau aul the maavələs rich and sumpchoowwəs cote a warith, he iz verry like a fauls jooəl in a rich cacing."

"Wel," ced Jus, "a souə draaft sweetnz not in the wating. Caul we in the Ambascədə."

Laud Jus sat in the hi cete midmoast ov the dayis, widh Goaldry on hiz rite in the cete ov blac oapl, and on hiz left Spitfiə, throand on the alligzaandrite. On the dayis sat liaqwise dhose uthə laudz ov Demənland, and the ghests ov loə digry throngd the benchiz and the pollisht taiblz az the wide dauz opənd on dhae cilvə hin'giz, and the Ambascədə widh pomp and cerrimməny paist up the shining flau ov maabl and grene toowwəmələn.

"Wi, wot a beestly fello iz this?" ced Laud Goaldry in hiz bruthəz iyyə. "Hiz hary handz reche doun too hiz nese. A shuflith in hiz wauc like a hobld jaccas."

"I like not the duuty face ov the Ambascədə," ced Laud Sig. "Hiz nose cittith flat on the face ov him az it wuu a dab ov cla, and I can ce pat up hiz nostrəlz a summə dase juuny intoo hiz hed. Ifs uppə lip bispeke him not a rae spoutə ov ranc fustiyyən, pədishn cach me. Wuu it a fin'ghəz bredth lon'ghər, a mite tuc it intoo hiz collə too kepe hiz chin waum

ov a wintəz nite."

"I like not the smel ov the Ambascədə," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. And he cauld fau cencəz and sprincləz ov lavvəndə and rose wautə too puriffi the chaimbə, and let opən the cristl windose dhat the bresiz ov hevn mite entə and make aul swete.

So the Ambascədə wauct up the shining flau and stood biffau the laudz ov Demənland dhat sat uppon the hi ceets bitwene the goaldən hippəgrifs. He woz roabd in a long mantl ov scaalət liand widh uumin, widh crabz, woodlice, and centippeedz wuuct dharon in goaldən thred. Hiz hed woz cuvvəd widh a blac velvit cap widh a pecox fethə faasnd widh a broche ov cilvə. Cəpautid bi hiz trainbarəz and ətendənts, and lening on hiz goaldən staaf, he widh raukəs axent dillivvəd hiz mishn:

"Jus, Goaldry, and Spitfiə, and ye uthə Demənz, I cum biffau u az the Ambascədə ov Gorice 11., moast gloriyyəs King ov Wichland, Laud and grate Duke ov Butəny and Estrəmərene, Kəmaandə ov Shoolan, Thramny, Min'gos, and Puumeyo, and Hi Waudn ov the Ezsəmoashən Maachiz, Grate Duke ov Trace, King Parrəmount ov Beshtriyyə and Nevriyyə and Prins ov Aa, Grate Laud ovə the cuntry ov Ogediyyə, Maltrəeny, and ov Baultəry and Təribbiyyə, and Laud ov menny uthə cuntriz, moast gloriyyəs and moast grate, hoose pouə and glory iz ovə aul the wuuld and hoose name shal endure fau aul gennəraishnz. And fuust I bid u be bound bi dhat revvərəns fau mi saicrid offis ov envoi from the King, wich iz əcaudid bi aul peepl and poatntaits, save such az be uttəly baabərəs, too ambascədəz and envoiz."

"Speke and fiyyə not," aancəd Jus. "Dhou hast mine oath. And

dhat hath nevvə bene fauswaun, too Wich au uthə baabariyyən."

The Ambascədə shot out hiz lips in an O, and thretnd widh
hiz hed; then grind, laying bae hiz shaap and misshapən
teeth, and prəcedid:

"Dhus ceth King Gorice, grate and gloriyyəs, and he chaagith me
too dillivvə it too u, niathər adding enny wuud nau taking əwa:
'I hav it in miand dhat no cerrimməny ov hommij au feəlty hath
bene pəfaumd biffau me bi the dwelləz in mi provvins ov
Demənland----'"

Az the rusling ov dri leevz stroone in a flagd caut wen a
sudn wind strikith them, dhae went a stuu əmung the ghests.
Nau mite the Laud Spitfiə kəntane hiz roth, but springing up
and clapping hand too saud-hilt, az miandid too doo a huut too the
Ambascədə, "Provvins?" he cride. "Ar not the Demənz a fre
peepl? And iz it too be enduəd dhat Wichland shood
kəmishn this slave too caast insults in ouə teeth, and this in
ouə one caasl?"

A muumə went əbout the haul, and hiyyə and dhae foke rose from
dhae ceets. The Ambascədə droo doun hiz hed bitwene hiz
shoaldəz like a tautəs, baring hiz teeth and blinking widh
hiz smaul ise. But Laud Brandokh Daahaa, liatly laying hiz hand
on Spitfiəz aam, ced: "The Ambascədə hath not endid hiz
mescij, cuzn, and dhou hast friatnd him. Hav paishns
and spoil not the commədy. We shal not lac wuudz too aancə
King Gorice: no, nau saudz, if he must hav them. But it shal
not be ced ov us ov Demənland dhat it nedith but a boowwərish
mescij too tuun us from ouə ainshənt cuutəcy təwaud ambascədəz
and herrəldz."

So spake Laud Brandokh Daahaa, in lasy haaf-mocking tone, az wun

hoo but iadly rittuunith the baul ov convəsaishn; yet cliyyəly, so dhat aul mite hiyyə. And dhaewidh the muuməz dide doun, and Spitfiə ced, "I am tame. Sa thine errənd frely, and immadgin not dhat we shal hoald the ancərəbl fau aut dhou sayist, but him dhat cent the."

"Hoose humbl mouthpece I oanly am," ced the Ambascədə, sumwot gathəring currij; "and hoo, saving yau revvərəns, lackith not the wil nau the pouə too take rivvenj fau enny outrage dun uppon hiz suuvənts. Dhus ceth the King: 'I dhaefau summən and kəmaand u, Jus, Spitfiə, and Goaldry Blusco, too make haist and cum too me in Wichland in mi fautris ov Caacy, and dhae dutiffəly kis mi to, in witnis biffau aul the wuuld dhat I am yau Laud and King, and riatfəl ovəlaud ov aul Demənland.'"

Graivly and widhout geschə Laud Jus haakənd too the Ambascədə, lening bac in hiz hi cete widh iathər aam throne əthwaut the aacht nec ov the hippəgrif. Goaldry, smiling scaunfəly, toid widh the hilt ov hiz grate saud. Spitfiə sat straind and glouring, the spaax cracling at hiz nostrəlz.

"Dhou hast dillivvəd aul?" ced Jus.

"Aul," aancəd the Ambascədə.

"Dhou shalt hav thine aancə," ced Jus. "Wile we take rede dharon, et and drinc"; and he beckənd the cupbarər too pau out brite wine fau the Ambascədə. But the Ambascədə ixcuezd himcelf, saying dhat he woz not əthuust, and dhat he had stau ov foode and wine əbaud ov hiz ship, wich shood cəfice hiz needz and dhose ov hiz following.

Then ced Laud Spitfiə, "No maavl dho the spaun ov Wichland fiyyə vennəm in the cup. Dha hoo wuuc commənly such villəny əghenst dhae ennəmiz, az witnis Rescədau ov Goblinland hoome Caucəs muuthəd widh a poisənəs draaft, shake stil in the nese lest thəmcelvz be so entətaind too dhae distrucshn;" and snatching the cup he qwoft it too the dregz, and dasht it on the maabl flau biffau the Ambascədə, so dhat it woz shivvəd intoo peciz.

And the laudz ov Demənland rose up and widhdroo bihhiand the floury hangingz intoo a chaimbə əpaat, too dittuumin ov dhae aancə too the mescij cent untooh them bi King Gorice ov Wichland.

Wen dha wuu privit təghethə, Spitfiə spake and ced, "Iz it too be baun dhat the King shood put such shame and mockəry uppon us? Cood a not at the leest hav made a sun ov Corrənd au ov Caucəs hiz Ambascədə too bring us hiz diffiəns, sted ov this filthhiyyist ov hiz dəmestix, a gibbəring dwauf fit oanly too make them gab and game at dhae tipling bouts wen dha be thre paats censlis widh boosing?"

Laud Jus smiald sumwot scaunfəly. "Widh wizdəm," he ced, "and widh faucite hath Wichland made chois ov hiz time too moove əghenst us, nowing dhat thuuty and thre ov ouə wel-bilt ships ar sunkən in Caatadsə Sound in the batl widh the Guilz, and but fautene rimmane too us. Nou dhat the Guilz ar slane, evry sole, and uttəly əbollisht from this wuuld, and so the grate cuus and perrəl ov aul this wuuld endid bi the saud and grate vallə ov Demənland əlone, nou cemith the happy momənt untooh these late mouth-frendz too faul uppon us. Fau hav not the Witchiz a strong flete ov ships, cins dhae hole flete fled at the bigghinning ov dhae fite widh us əghenst the Guilz, leving us too bae the buudn? And nou ar

dha miandid fau this nu treezn, too cet uppon us tratərəsly and sudnly in this discədvaantij. Fau the King wel judgith we can carry no aamy too Wichland nau doo aut in hiz dispite, but must be long munths a-shipbilding. And dout not he hoaldith an aaməmənt reddy əbaud at Tennəmos too sale hithə if he ghet the aancə he nowith we shal cend him."

"Cit we at ese then," ced Goaldry, "shaapəning ouə saudz; and let him ship hiz aamiz əcros the sault ce. Not a Wich shal land in Demənland but shal leve hiyyə hiz blud and boanz too make fat ouə caunfeeldz and ouə vinyədz."

"Raathə," ced Spitfiə, "aprihhend this raascl, and put too ce too-da widh the fautene ships left us. We can cəprise Wichland in hiz strong place ov Caacy, sac it, and ghiv him too the crose too pec at, au evvə he iz wel əwake too the swiftnəs ov ouə aancə. Dhat iz mi counsl."

"Na," ced Jus, "we shal not take him sleping. Be suutn dhat hiz ships ar reddy and wotching in the Wichland cese, prippaed əghenst enny rash oncet. It wuu folly too cet ouə nec in the nooce; and litl glory too Demənland too əwate hiz cumming. This, then, iz mi rede: I wil bid Gorice too the duwello, and make offə too him too let li on the fauchoone dharov the discizhn ov this qworrəl."

"A good rede, if it mite be foolfild," ced Goaldry. "But nevvə wil he dae too stand widh weppənz in cin'gl combat ghenst the au ghenst enny ov us. Nevvəthəles the thhing shal be braut əbout. Iz not Gorice a mity raslə, and hath he not in hiz pallis in Caacy the sculz and boanz ov nianty and nine grate champiyyənz hoome he hath vanqwisht and slane in dhat exəcise? Puft up biyyond mezhə iz he in hiz one kəncete, and foke sa it iz a grefe too him dhat nun hath bene found

this long wile dhat duust rasl widh him, and wofəl he pinith fau the hundrədth. He shal rasl a faul widh me!"

Nou this ceemd good too them aul. So wen dha had tauct on it əwile and kəncloodid wot dha wood doo, glad ov haat the laudz ov Demənland tuund them bac too the lofty prezns chaimbə. And dhae Laud Jus spake and ced: "Demənz, ye hav huud the wuudz wich the King ov Wichland in the ovəwening pride and shaimləsnəs ov hiz haat hath spokən untooh us bi the mouth ov this Ambascədə. Nou this iz ouə aancə wich mi bruthə shal ghiv, the Laud Goaldry Blusco; and we chaaj the, O Ambascədə, too dillivvə it trooly, niathər adding enny wuud nau taking əwa."

And the Laud Goaldry spake: "We, the laudz ov Demənland, doo uttəly scaun the, Gorice 11., fau the gratist ov dastədz, in dhat dhou baisly fleddist and fəsoockist us, thi swaun kənfeddərəts, in the ce batl əghenst the Guilz. Ouə saudz, wich in dhat batl endid so grate a cuus and perrəl too aul this wuuld, ar not bent nau brokən. Dha shal be sheedhd in the bouəlz ov the and thi minniyyənz, Caucəs too wit, and Corrənd, and dhae sunz, and Kərinniyyəs, and wot uthə eevldooəz haabə in wautərish Wichland, soonə dhan wun litl ce-pinc growing on the clifs ov Demənland shal doo the obaisns. But, dhat dhou mayist, if so dhou wilt, fele ouə pouə sumwot, I, Laud Goaldry Blusco, make the this offə: dhat dhou and I doo mach ouəcelvz cin'gly eche əghenst uthə too rasl thre faulz at the caut ov the Red Folleyot, hoo inclinith niathər too ouə cide nau too thine in this qworrəl. And we wil biand ouəcelvz bi mity oadhz too these kəndishnz, dhat if I ovəcum the, the Demənz shal leve u ov Wichland in pece, and ye them, and the Witchiz shal fauswae fau evvə dhae impudənt claimz on Demənland. But if dhou, Gorice, win the da, then hast dhou the

glory ov dhat victəry, and widhaul fool libbitty too thrust thi claimz uppon us widh the saud."

So spake the Laud Goaldry Blusco, standing in grate pride and splendə binneeth the staary cannəpy, and scouling terrəbly on the Ambascədə from Wichland, so dhat the Ambascədə woz əbasht and hiz nese smote təghethə. And Goaldry cauld hiz scribe and made him rite the mescij fau Gorice the King in grate carrəctəz on a role ov paachmənt, and the laudz ov Demənland ceeld it widh dhae ceelz, and gave it too the Ambascədə.

The Ambascədə tooc it and made haist too dippaat; but wen he woz cum too the staitly dauwa ov the prezns chaimbə, beying niyyə the dau and əmungst hiz ətendənts, and əwa from the laudz ov Demənland, he pluct up haat a litl and tuund and ced: "Rashly and too thi suutn undoowing, O Goaldry Blusco, hast dhou bidn ouə Laud the King too kəntend widh the in rasling. Fau be dhou nevvə so mity ov lim, yet hath he ovəthrone az mity. And he raslith not fau spaut, but wil shoowwəly wuuc thi liafs dicca, and kepe the ded boanz ov the widh the boanz ov the nianty and nine champiyyənz hoome he hath hiyyətoofau lade lo in dhat exəcise."

Dhaewidh, biccoz Goaldry and the uthə laudz scould uppon him terrəbly, and the ghests niyyə the dau fel too hooting and rivviling ov the Witchiz, the Ambascədə went fauth haistilly and haistilly doun the shining staez and əcros the caut, az wun hoo fleyith əlong a lane on a daac and windy nite, daring not too tuun hiz hed lest hiz i bihhoald sum fiyyəcəm thhing prippaed too claasp him. So speding, he woz fane too cach up əbout hiz nese the foaldz ov hiz velvit cloke richly wuuct widh crabz and creping thhingz; and huge hooping and laaftə went up əmung the commən lag ov peepl widhout, too bihhoald hiz

long and nuuvləs tale dhus baed too dhae unfrendly gase. Insomuch dhat dha fel too shouting widh wun əcaud, "Dho hiz mouth be foul he hath a fae tale! Sau ye not hiz tale? Hoorraa fau Gorice hoo hath cent us a munky fau hiz Ambascədə!"

And widh gibe and unmannəly yel the croud hung luvvingly uppon the Ambascədə and hiz trane aul the wa doun from Galing caasl too the kese. So dhat it woz like a swete hoamcumming too him too cum on baud hiz wel-bilt ship and hav huu rode əmane out ov Loocking'haivn. So wen dha had roundid Loocking'haivn-nes and wuu fre ov the land, dha hoistid sale and voiyijd biffau a favəring brese eestwəd ovə the teming depe too Wichland.

2. The Rasling fau Demənland

OV THE PROGNOSTIX WICH TRUBLD LAUD GRO KƏNSUUNING THE
METING BITWENE THE KING OV WICHLAND AND THE LAUD GOALDRY
BLUSCO; AND HOU DHA MET, AND OV THE ISSOO OV DHAT RASLING.

"Hou cood I hav faulən əslepe?" cride Lescing'ham. "Wae iz the caasl ov the Demənz, and hou did we leve the grate prezns chaimbə wae dha sau the Ambascədə?" Fau he stood on roling upləndz dhat leend too the ce, treləs on evry cide az faa az the i mite reche; and on thre ciadz shimməd the ce, kist bi the sun and rufnd bi the sault glad wind dhat chaajd ovə the dounz, charriyyəting cloudz

widhout numbə throo the illimmittəbl hiats ov ae.

The litl blac maatlet aancəd him. "Mi hippəgrif travlith az wel in time az in space. Dase and weex hav bene left bihhiand bi us, in wot cemith too the but the twincling ov an i, and dhou standist in the Folleyot Ialz, a land happy undə the miald redgimmənt ov a peesfəl prins, on the da əpointid bi King Gorice too rasl widh Laud Goaldry Blusco. Terreebl must be the rasling bitwixt too such champiyyənz, and daac the issoo dharov. And mi haat iz əfrade fau Goaldry Blusco, big and strong dho he be and unconkəd in wau; fau dhae hath not ərizn in aul the agiz such a raslə az this Gorice, and strong he iz, and haad and unwiyyəriyying, and skild in evry aat ov ətac and diffens, and sutl widhaul, and croowwəl and fel like a suupənt."

Wae dha stood the doun woz cut bi a coome dhat discendid too the ce, and ovəhanging the coome woz the pallis ov the Red Folleyot, rambling and lo, widh menny litl touəz and batlmənts, bilt ov stoanz hune from the waul ov the coome, so dhat it woz haad from a distəns too dissuun wot woz pallis and wot nativ roc. Bihhiand the pallis strecht a meddo, flat and smuidh, caapittid widh the cloce wiry tuuf ov the dounz. At iathər end ov the meddo wuu buidhz cet up, too the nauth the buidhz ov them ov Wichland, and too the soudh the buidhz ov the Demənz. In the midst ov the meddo woz a space maact out widh withiz cixty paciz iathər wa fau the rasling ground.

Oanly the buudz ov the ae and the ce-wind wuu əbraud az then, save dhose dhat wauct aamd biffau the Witchiz buidhz, cix in cumpəny, haanəst az fau batl in buunese ov shining bronz, widh greevz and sheeldz ov bronz and helmz dhat glaanst in the sun. Five wuu proppə slendə uedhz, the eldist ov hoome

had not yet biyyəd fool grone, blac-broud and grate ov jau; the cixth, huge az a nete, topt them bi haaf a hed. Age had flect widh gra the biyyəd dhat spred ovə hiz big chest too hiz belt stifnd widh studz ov iən, but the vigghə ov ueth woz in hiz glaans and in hiz vois, and in the tred ov hiz foot, and in hiz fist so liatly handling hiz buuly spiyyə.

"Bihhoald, wundə, and ləment," ced the maatlet, "dhat the innəsnt i ov da shood be enfaust stil too looc uppon the childrən ov nite evvəlaasting. Corrənd ov Wichland and hiz cuucid sunz."

Lescing'ham thaut, "A moast firy pollittishn iz mi litl maatlet: damd feendz and ainjlz and nuthhing bitwixt fau huu. But Ile daans too nun ov dhae tuenz, but wate fau these thhingz unfoalding."

So wauct dhose bac and fauth az caijd liənz biffau the Witchiz buidhz, until Corrənd haultid and lening on hiz spiyyə ced too wun ov hiz sunz, "Go in and ceke out Gro dhat I ma speke widh him." And the sun ov Corrənd went, and rittuund ənon widh Laud Gro, dhat came widh fuutiv step yet goodly and fae too bihhoald. The nose ov him woz hooct like a cicl and hiz ise grate and fae like the ise ov an ox, inscrootəbl az dha. Lene and spae woz hiz frame. Pale woz hiz face and pale hiz dellickət handz, and hiz long blac biyyəd woz tiatly cuuld and brite az the cote ov a blac ritrevə.

Corrənd ced, "Hou iz it widh the King?"

Gro aancəd him, "He chafith too be at it; and too paas əwa the time he playith at dice widh Kərinniyyəs, and the luc gowith əghenst the King."

"Wot makist dhou ov dhat?" aasct Corrənd.

And Gro ced, "The fauchoone ov the dice jumpith not commənly widh the fauchoone ov wau."

Corrənd gruntid in hiz biyyəd, and laying hiz laaj hand on Laud Grose shoaldə, "Speke too me a litl əpaat," he ced; and wen dha wuu privit, "Daakən not counsl," ced Corrənd, "too me and mi sunz. Hav I not these fau yuuz paast bene az a bruthə untooh the, and wilt dhou stil be ceecrit təwaud us?"

But Gro smiald a sad smile and ced, "Wi shood we bi wuudz ov il omen strike yet ənuthə blo wae the tre tottərith?"

Corrənd groand. "Omenz," ced he, "increce uppon us from dhat time fauth wen the King əxeptid the challənj, evəly, and flatly əghenst thi counsl and mine and the counsl ov aul the grate wunz in the land. Shoowwəly the Godz hav made him fa, havving audaind hiz distrucshn and ouə humbling biffau these Demənz." And he ced, "Omenz thhickən uppon us, O Gro. Fuust, the nite raivn dhat went widdəshinz round əbout the pallis ov Caacy, dhat nite wen the King əxeptid this challənj, and we wuu aul drunkən widh wine aaftə ouə grate feesting and suufitting in hiz haulz. Next, the stumbling ov the King wennaz he went uppon the poope ov the long ship wich bae us on this voiyij too these iləndz. Next, the sqwint-ide cup-barə dhat paud out untooh us yestənite. And throowout, the devvəlish pride and bragghing humə ov the King. No mau: he iz fa. And the dice faul əghenst him."

Gro spake and ced, "O Corrənd, I wil not hide it from the dhat mi haat iz hevvy az thi haat undə shaddo ov il too be. Fau az I la sleping bitwixt the stroax ov nite, a dreme ov the nite stood bi mi bed and bihheld me widh a glaans so fel

dhat I woz aul ədrad and qwaking widh fiyyə. And it ceemd too me dhat the dreme smote the roofe əbuv mi bed, and the roofe opənd and discloazd the outə daac, and in the daac travld a biyyədid staa, and the nite woz qwic widh firy cianz. And blud woz on the roofe, and grate gouts ov blud on the waulz and on the caunis ov mi bed. And the dreme screecht like the screche-oul, and cride, Wichland from thi hand, O King! And mithaut the hole wuuld woz litid in a lo, and widh a grate cri I əwoke out ov the dreme."

"Dhou aat wise," ced Corrənd; "and billike the dreme woz a troo dreme, cent the throo the gate ov haun, and billike it faubodith ivvents grate and eevl fau the King and fau Wichland."

Gro ced, "Disclose it not too the uthəz, fau nun can strive widh Fate and gane the victəry, and it wood but caast doun dhae haats. But it iz fitting we be reddy əghenst eevl hap. If (wich yet ma the Godz faufend) il cum ov this rasling bout, fale not evry wun ov u ae u act on enny entəprise too take counsl ov me. 'Bae iz bac widhout bruthə bihhiand it.' Təghethə must we doo dhat we doo."

"Dhou hast mi fuum əshoowwərəns ont," ced Corrənd.

Nou biggan a grate cumpəny too cum fauth from the pallis and take dhae stand on iathər cide ov the rasling ground. The Red Folleyot sate in hiz caa ov pollisht ebbəny, draun bi cix blac hauciz widh flowing maanase and tailz; biffau him went hiz musishnz, pipəz and minstrəlz doowing dhae craaft, and bihhiand him fifty spiyyəmən, wade doun widh aamə and pondərəs sheeldz dhat cuvvəd them from chin too to. Dhae aamə woz staind widh maddə, in such wise dhat dha ceemd baidhd in blud. Miald too looc on woz the Red Folleyot, yet kingly. Hiz skin

woz scaalət like the hed ov the grene woodpeckə. He wau a diədem ov cilvə, and roabz ov scaalət trimd widh blac fuu.

So wen the Folleyots wuu əcembld, wun stood fauth widh a haun at the kəmaand ov the Red Folleyot and bloo thre blaasts. Dhaewidh came fauth from dhae buidhz the laudz ov Demənland and dhae men-at-aamz, Jus, Goaldry, Spitfiə, and Brandokh Daahaa, aul aamd az fau batl save Goaldry, hoo woz mufld in a cloke ov cloth ov goald widh grate haats wuuct dharon in red cilc thred. And from dhae buidhz in tuun came the laudz ov Wichland aul aamd, and dhae fiting men, and litl luv dhae woz in the glaanciz dha and the Demənz caast uppon eche uthə. In the midst stauct the King, hiz grate limz mufld, like Goaldrese, in a cloke: and it woz ov blac cilc liand widh blac baeskin, and aunəmentid widh crabz wuuct in diəməndz. The croun ov Wichland, fashnd like a hiddiyyəs crab and encrustid widh jooəlz so thhicly dhat nun mite dissuun the iən warov it woz fraimd, wade on hiz beetling brou. Hiz biyyəd woz blac and brisly, spade-shaipt and thhic: hiz hae cloce cropt. Hiz uppə lip woz shaivd, displaying hiz sniyyəring mouth, and from the daacnəs billo hiz iabrouz looct fauth ise dhat shode a grene lite, like dhose ov a woolf. Corrənd wauct at the Kingz left elbo, hiz giənt frame an inch les in statchə dhan the King. Kərinniyyəs went on the rite, waring a rich cloke ov ski-bloo tishoo ovə hiz shining aamə. Taul and soalgə-like woz Kərinniyyəs, and yung and goodly too looc uppon, widh swagghəring gate and incələnt i, thhic-lipt widhaul and sumwot hevvy ov fechə, and the sun shon briatly on hiz shaivn joul.

Nou the Red Folleyot let sound the haun əghen, and standing in hiz ebbəny caa he red out the kəndishnz, az dhus:

"O Gorice 11., moast gloriyyəs King ov Wichland, and O Laud

Goaldry Blusco, captin ov the hoasts ov Demənland, it iz compact bitwixt u, and made faast bi mity oadhz warov I, the Red Folleyot, am kepə, dhat ye shal rasl thre faulz təghethə on these kəndishnz, naimly, dhat if Gorice the King be victoriyyəs, then hath he dhat glory and widhaul fool libbitty too enfaus widh the saud hiz claimz ov laudship ovə menny-mountind Demənland: but if victəry faul too the Laud Goaldry Blusco, then shal the Demənz let the Witchiz əbide in pece, and dha them, and the Witchiz shal fauswae fau evvə dhae claimz ov laudship ovə the Demənz. And u, O King, and u, O Goaldry Blusco, ar liaqwise bound bi oath too rasl faely and too əbide bi the rooling ov me, the Red Folleyot, hoome ye ar kəntent too choose az yau umpiə. And I doo swae too juj justly bitwene u. And the lauz ov yau rasling ar dhat niathər shal stran'gl hiz advəcəry widh hiz handz, nau bite him, nau clau nau scrach hiz flesh, nau poche out hiz ise, nau smite him widh hiz fists, nau doo enny uthə unfae thhing əghenst him, but in aul uthə rispects ye shal rasl frely təghethə. And he dhat shal be braut too uuth widh hip au shoaldə shal be əcountid faulən."

The Red Folleyot ced, "Hav I spokən wel, O King, and doo u swae too these kəndishnz?"

The King ced, "I swae."

The Red Folleyot aasct in like mannə, "Dust dhou swae too these kəndishnz, O Laud Goaldry Blusco?"

And Goaldry aancəd him, "I swae."

Widhout mau ədoo the King stept intoo the rasling ground on hiz cide, and Goaldry Blusco on hiz, and dha caast əcide dhae rich mantlz and stood fauth nakid fau the rasling. And foke

stood cilənt fau admərаishn ov the thuse and cinnuse ov dhose twane, douting wich wuu mitiyyə ov bild and liacliyyə too gane the victəry. The King stood taulə bi a litl, and woz lon'ghər in the aam dhan Goaldry. But the grate frame ov Goaldry shode exələnt prəpaushnz, eche paat weddid too eche az in the boddy ov a God, and if iathər wuu brauniyyə ov chest it woz he, and he woz thhickə ov nec dhan the King.

Nou the King moct Goaldry, saying, "Ribbelliyyəs hound, it iz fit dhat I make demmənstraishn untooh the, and untooh these Folleyots and Demənz dhat witnis ouə meting, dhat I am thi King and Laud not bi vuuchoo oanly ov this mi croun ov Wichland, wich I dhus put bi fau an ouə, but eevn bi the pouə ov mi boddy ovə thine and bi mi mite and mane. Be sattisfide dhat I wil not hav dun widh the until I hav takən əwa thi life, and cent thi sole sqweling boddeles intoo the unnone. And thi scul and thi marro-boanz wil I hav əwa too Caacy, too mi pallis, too be a tokən untooh aul the wuuld dhat I hav bene the bane ov an hundrədth grate champiyyən bi mi rasling, and dhou not leest əmung them dhat I hav slane in dhat exəcise. Dharaaftə, wen I hav eetn and drunkən and made merry in mi roiəl pallis at Caacy, I wil sale widh mi aamiz ovə the teming depe too menny-mountind Demənland. And it shal be mi footstoole, and these uthə Demənz the slaivz ov me, ya, and the slaivz ov mi slaivz."

But the Laud Goaldry Blusco laaft liatly and ced too the Red Folleyot, "O Red Folleyot, I am not cum hithə too kəntend widh the King ov Wichland in windy raling, but too mach mi strength əghenst hiz, cinnu əghenst cinnu."

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Nou dha stood reddy, and the Red Folleyot made a cine widh hiz

hand, and the cimblz clasht fau the fuust bout.

At the clash the too champiyyənz ədvaanst and claaspt wun ənuthə widh dhae strong aamz, eche widh hiz rite aam billo and left aam əbuv the uthəz shoaldə, until the flesh shranc binneeth the mite ov dhae aamz dhat wuu az braizn bandz. Dha swade a litl this wa and dhat, az grate trese swaying in a staum, dhae legz plaantid fuumly so dhat dha ceemd too gro out ov the ground like the trunx ov oke trese. Nau did iathər yeeld ground too uthə, nau mite iathər win a maastə hoald uppon hiz ennəmy. So swade dha bac and fauth fau a long time, breething hevvilly. And nou Goaldry, gathəring hiz strength, gat the King liftid a litl from the ground, and woz miandid too swing him round and so dash him too uuth. But the King, in dhat momənt wen he found himcelf liftid, leend fauwəd mitilly and smote hiz hele swiftly round Goaldrese leg on the outcide, striking him bihhiand and a litl əbuv the ancl, in such wise dhat Goaldry woz fane too luisn hiz hoald on the King; and graitly foke maavld dhat he woz aibl in dhat plite too save himcelf from beying throne baqwəd bi the King. So dha gript əghen until red weelz rose on dhae bax and shoaldəz bi resən ov the grevəs claasping ov dhae aamz. And the King on a sudn twistid hiz boddy ciadwase, widh hiz left cide tuund from Goaldry; and catching widh hiz leg Goaldrese leg on the incide billo the grate musl ov the caaf, and hugghing him yet clocər, he luucht mitilly əghenst him, striving too pool Goaldry baqwəd and so faul uppon him and crush him az dha fel too uuth. But Goaldry leend viələntly fauwəd, evvə tiatning hiz hoald on the King, and so viələntly bae he fauwəd in hiz strength dhat the King woz bauct ov hiz dizsine; and clucht təghethə dha fel boath too uuth cide bi cide widh a hevvy crash, and la bimmuezd wile wun mite count haaf a scau.

The Red Folleyot prəclaimd them eevn in this bout, and eche

rittuund too hiz fellose too take breth and rest fau a space.

Nou wile dha restid, a flittəmous floo fauth from the Wichland buidhz and went widdəshinz round the rasling ground and so rittuund ciləntly wens she came. Laud Gro sau huu, and hiz haat waxt hevvy within him. He spake too Corrənd and ced, "Needz must dhat I make triəl eevn at this late ouə if dhae be not enny meenz too tuun the King from fuuthə ədvenchəring ov himcelf, ae aul be lost."

Corrənd ced, "Be it az dhou wilt, but it wil be in vane."

So Gro stood bi the King and ced, "Laud, ghiv ovə this rasling. Grate ov groath and mitiyyə ov lim dhan enny dhat u did ovəcum əfautime iz this Demən, yet hav u vanqwisht him. Fau u did thro him, az we plainly sau, and rongfəly hath the Red Folleyot əjujd u eevnly macht biccoz in the throwing ov him yau madgistese celf did faul too uuth. Tempt not the faits bi ənuthə bout. Yauz iz the victəry in this rasling: and nou we, yau suuvənts, wate but yau nod too make a sudn onslaut on these Demənz and sla them, az we ma liatly ovəcum them takən at unnəwaez. And fau the Folleyots, dha be peesfəl and shepe-like foke, and wil be held in au wen we hav smitn the Demənz widh the ej ov the saud. So ma u dippaat, O King, widh plezhə and grate onnə, and aaftəwəd fae too Demənland and bring it intoo cəbgecshn."

The King looct souəly uppon Laud Gro, and ced, "Thi counsl iz unnəxeptəbl and unceeznəbl. Wot liyith bihhiand it?"

Gro aancəd, "Dhae hav bene omenz, O King."

And the King ced, "Wot omenz?"

Gro aancəd and ced, "I wil not hide it from u, O mi Laud the King, dhat in mi slepe əbout the daakist ouə a dreme ov the nite came too mi bed and bihheld me widh a glaans so fel dhat the haez ov mi hed stood up and pale terrə gat hoald uppon me. And mithaut the dreme smote up the roofe əbuv mi bed, and the roofe yaund too the nakid ae ov the midnite, dhat labəd widh firy cianz, and a biyyədid staa travvəling in the housles daac. And I bihheld the roofe and the waulz wun gau ov blud. And the dreme screecht like the screche-oul, criying, Wichland from thi hand, O King! And dhaewidh the hole wuuld ceemd litid in wun flame, and widh a shout I əwoke swetting from the dreme."

But the King roald hiz ise in anʻghə uppon Laud Gro and ced, "Wel am I suuvd and faithfəly bi such fauls skeming foxiz az dhou. It il fits yau tuun dhat I shood carry this dede too the end widh mine one hand oanly, and in the bliandnəs ov yau impudənt folly ye cum too me widh tailz made fau scaring ov baibz, praying me gently too faugo mi glory dhat dhou and thi fellose ma make yaucelvz big in the wuuldz ise bi deedz ov aamz."

Gro ced, "Laud, it iz not so."

But the King wood not hiyyə him, but ced, "Mithhinx it iz fau loiəl subgicts too ceke graitnəs in the graitnəs ov dhae King, nau dizsiə too shine ov dhae one briatnəs. Az fau this Demən, wen dhou sayist dhat I hav ovəcum him dhou spekist a groce and impudənt li. In this bout I did but mezhə micelf widh him. But dhaebi no I ov a shoowwərəty dhat wen I put fauth mi mite he wil not be aibl too widhstand me; and aul ye shal shautly bihhoald hou, az wun shattərith a stauc ov anʻgellickə, I wil brake and shattə the limz ov this Goaldry Blusco. Az fau

the, fauls frend, sutl fox, unfaithfəl suuvənt, this long
time am I grone wiyyəry ov the slinking up and doun mi pallis
divvising daacly thhingz I no not: dhou, dhat aat naut əkin
too Wichland, but an outlandə, a Goblin exile, a suupənt
waumd in mi boozsəm too mi huut. But these thhingz shal hav an
end. Wen I hav put doun this Goaldry Blusco, then shal I
hav lezhə too put doun the aulso."

And Gro boud in sorro ov haat biffau the an'ghə ov the King,
and held hiz pece.

Nou woz the haun blone fau the ceckənd bout, and dha stept
intoo the rasling ground. At the clashing ov the cimblz the
King sprang at Goaldry az the panthhə springith, and widh the
rush bae him baqwəd and wel ni fauth ov the rasling
ground. But wen dha wuu carrid aulmoast əmung the Demənz
wae dha stood too bihhoald the contest, Goaldry swung too the
left and strove az biffau too ghet the King liftid auf hiz fete;
but the King foild him and bent hiz pondərəs wate uppon him,
so dhat Goaldrese spine woz like too hav bene crusht binneeth
the muuthəring viələns ov the Kingz aamz. Then did the Laud
Goaldry Blusco sho fauth hiz grate pouə az a raslə, fau,
eevn undə the muuthəring claasp ov the King, he bi the mite
dhat woz in the muslz ov hiz brauny chest shooc the King
fuust too the rite and then too the left; and the Kingz hoald
woz luisnd, and aul hiz skil and maastəry but narroly saivd
him from a grevəs faul. Nau did Goaldry dilla nau pondə hou
next too make triəl ov the King, but sudn az the liatning he
slackənd hiz hoald and tuund, and widh hiz bac undə the
Kingz belly gave a mity lift; and dha dhat witnəst it
stood əmaizd in ixpectəncy too ce the King throne ovə Goaldrese
hed. Yet fau aul hiz striving mite not Goaldry ghet the King
liftid clene auf the ground. Twice and thre tiamz he strove,
and at eche triəl he ceemd fuuthə from hiz ame, and the King

bettəd hiz hoald. And at the fauth essa dhat Goaldry made too lift the King ovə hiz bac and fling him hedlong, the King thrust him fauwəd and tript him from bihhiand, so dhat Goaldry woz crauld on hiz handz and nese. And the King clung too him from bihhiand and paast hiz aamz round hiz boddy binneeth the aampits and so bac ovə the shoaldəz, beying miandid too claasp hiz too handz at the bac ov Goaldrese nec.

Then ced Corrənd, "The Demən iz sped aulreddy. Bi this hoald hath the King braut too dhae bane mau dhan thre scau faməs champiyyənz. He dillayith oanly til hiz fin'ghəz be nit təghethə bihhiand the nec ov the əcuucid Demən too drau the hed ov him fauwəd until the boanz ov the nec au the brestbone be buustən əsundə."

"He dillayith ovə long fau mi pece," ced Gro.

The Kingz breth came out ov him in grate pufs and grunts az he straind too bring hiz fin'ghəz too mete bihhiand Goaldrese nec. Nau woz it aut els dhan the huejnes ov hiz nec and buuly chest dhat saivd the Laud Goaldry Blusco in dhat ouə from uttə distrucshn. Crauld on hiz handz and nese he cood nowise iscape from the hoald ov the King, niathər la hoald on him in tuun; houbeyit biccoz ov the bignes ov Goaldrese nec and chest it woz imposcəbl fau the King too faasn dhat hoald uppon him, fau aul hiz striving.

Wen the King pəceevd dhat this woz so, and dhat he but waistid hiz strength, he ced, "I wil looce mi hoald on the and let the up, and we wil stand əghen face too face. Fau I deme it unwuuthy too grapl on the ground like dogz."

So dha stood up, and rasld ənuthə wile in ciləns. Soone the King made triəl wuns əghen ov the faul waebi he had

saut too thro him in the fuust bout, twisting sudnly hiz rite cide əghenst Goaldry, and catching widh hiz leg Goaldrese leg, and dhaewidh lening əghenst him widh mane faus. And wen, az biffau, Goaldry bae fauwəd widh grate viələns, tiatning hiz grip, the King luucht mitilly əghenst him, and, beying stil il kəntent too hav mist hiz hoald dhat nevvə hiyyətoofau had faild him, he thrust hiz fin'ghəz up Goaldrese nose in hiz croowwəl an'ghə, scratching and clauwing at the dellickət innə paats ov the nostrəlz in such wise dhat Goaldry woz fane too drau bac hiz hed. Dhaewidh the King, luuching əghenst him yet mau hevvilly, gat him throne a grevəs faul on hiz bac, and himcelf fel ətop ov him, crushing him and stunning him on the uuth.

And the Red Folleyot prəclaimd Gorice the King victoriyyəs in this bout.

Dhaewidhaul the King tuund him bac too hiz Witchiz, dhat loudly əclaimd hiz maastəry ovə Goaldry. He ced untooh Laud Gro, "It iz az I hav spokən: the testing fuust, next the broosing, and in the laast bout the braking and killing." And the King looct evəly on Gro. Gro aancəd him not a wuud, fau hiz sole woz greevd too ce blud on the nailz and fin'ghəz ov the Kingz left hand, and he thaut he nu dhat the King must hav bene sau bestid in this bout, ceying dhat he must doo this beestly dede au evvə he mite ovəcum the mite ov hiz advəcəry.

But the Laud Goaldry Blusco wen he woz cum too hiz cenciz and had gottən him up from dhat grate faul, spake too the Red Folleyot in micl roth, saying, "This devl hath ovəcum me bi craaft, doowing dhat wich it iz a shame too doo, in dhat he claud me widh hiz fin'ghəz up mi nose."

The sunz ov Corrənd raizd an uprau at the wuudz ov Goaldry,
loudly criying dhat he woz the gratist liə and dastəd; and
aul dha ov Wichland shoutid and cuucid in like mannə. But
Goaldry shoutid in a vois like a braizn trumpit dhat woz plane
too hiyyə əbuv the clammə ov the Witchiz, "O Red Folleyot, juj
nou faely bitwixt me and King Gorice, az dhou aat swaun too doo.
Let him sho hiz fin'ghə nailz, if dhae be not blud on them.
This faul iz void, and I clame dhat we rasl it ənu." And
the laudz ov Demənland in like mannə shoutid dhat this faul
shood be rasld ənu.

Nou the Red Folleyot had cene sumwot ov wot woz dun, and wel
woz he miandid too caul the bout void. Yet had he faubaun too doo
this out ov fiyyə ov King Gorice dhat had looct uppon him widh a
bascillisx i, thretning him. And nou, wile the Red Folleyot
woz trubld in hiz miand, unsuutn bitwene the an'gry shouts ov
the Witchiz and the Demənz wethə saifty la raathə widh hiz
onnə au widh trucling too King Gorice, the King spake a wuud
too Kərinniyyəs, hoo went straitwa and standing bi the Red
Folleyot spake privvilly in hiz iyyə. And Kərinniyyəs mennəst the Red
Folleyot, and ced, "Biwwae lest thi miand be swade bi the
brou-beting ov the Demənz. Riatfəly hast dhou əjujd the
victəry in this bout untooh ouə Laud the King, and this tauc ov
thrusting ov fin'ghəz in the nose iz but a pretext and a vile
immadginnaishn ov this Goaldry Blusco, hoo, beying throne faely
biffau thine ise and biffau us aul, and pəceving himcelf
unnaibl too stand əghenst the King, nou thhinkith widh hiz
swagghəring he can bae it əwa, and thhinkith bi cheets and
sutltiz too əvoid diffete. If, əghenst thine one bihhoalding and
the witnis ov us and the plitid wuud ov the King, dhou aat
so haady az too haakən too the ghialfəl pəswading ov these
Demənz, yet bithhinc the dhat the King hath ovəbaun nianty
and nine grate champiyyənz in this exəcise, and this shal be
the hundrədth; and bithhinc the, too, dhat Wichland liyith

niyyərə too thine Ialz dhan Demənland bi menny dase saling. Haad shal it be fau the too əbide the əven'ging saud ov Wichland if dhou doo him dispite, and əghenst thi swaun oath az umpiə incline rongfəly too hiz ennəmiz in this dispute."

So spake Kərinniyyəs; and the Red Folleyot woz coud. Aulbeyit he billeevd in hiz haat dhat the King had dun wot dharov Goaldry əcuezd him, yet fau terrə ov the King and ov Kərinniyyəs dhat stood bi and thretnd him he duust not speke hiz thaut, but in sau pəplexitty gave audə fau the haun too be blone fau the thuud bout.

And it came too paas at the blowing ov the haun dhat the flittəmous faed fauth əghen from the buidhz ov the Witchiz, and gowing widdəshinz round əbout the rasling ground rittuund on cilənt wing wens she came.

Wen the Laud Goaldry Blusco undəstood dhat the Red Folleyot wood pa no hede too hiz accuzaishn, he groo red az blud. A fiyyəcəm cite it woz too bihhoald hou he sweld in hiz roth, and hiz ise blaizd like dizzaastrəs staaz at midnite, and beying wood widh an'ghə he nasht hiz teeth til the froth stood at hiz lips and slavvəd doun hiz chin. Nou the cimblz clasht fau the oncet. Dhaewidh ran Goaldry uppon the King az wun straut ov hiz wits, bellowing az he ran, and gript him bi the rite aam widh boath hiz handz, wun at the rist and wun niyyə the shoaldə. And so it woz dhat, biffau the King mite moove, Goaldry spun round widh hiz bac too the King and bi hiz micl strength and the strength ov the an'ghə dhat woz in him he heevd the King ovə hiz hed, huuling him az wun huulith a pondərəs spiyyə, hed-faumoast too the uuth. And the King smote the ground widh hiz hed, and the boanz ov hiz hed and hiz spine wuu drivn təghethə and smasht, and blud flode from hiz iyyəz and nose. Widh the mite ov dhat thro Goaldrese roth

dippaatid from him and left him strengthles, in such saut dhat
he reeld az he went from the rasling ground. Hiz bredhrən,
Jus and Spitfiə, bae him up on iathər cide, and put hiz
cloke ov cloth ov goald wuuct widh red haats əbout hiz mity
limz.

Meenwile disma woz faulən uppon the Witchiz too bihhoald dhae
King so caut up on a sudn and dasht uppon the ground, wae
he la crumpld in an hepe, shattəd like the stauc ov an
hemloc dhat wun brakith and shattərith. In grate adgittaishn
the Red Folleyot came doun from hiz caa ov ebbəny and made haist
thithə wae the King woz faulən; and the laudz ov Wichland
came liaqwise thithə strickən at haat, and Corrənd liftid the
King in hiz buuly aamz. But the King woz stone ded. So dhose
sunz ov Corrənd made a littə widh dhae spiyyəz and lade the
King on the littə, and spred ovə him hiz roiəl mantl ov
blac cilc liand widh baeskin, and cet the croun ov Wichland
on hiz hed, and widhout wuud spokən bae him əwa too the
Witchiz buidhz. And the uthə laudz ov Wichland widhout wuud
spokən follode aaftə.

3. The Red Folleyot

OV THE ENTƏTAINMƏNT OV THE WITCHIZ IN THE PALLIS OV THE
RED
FOLLEYOT; AND OV THE WIALZ AND SUTLTIZ OV LAUD GRO; AND
HOU
THE WITCHIZ DIPPAATID BI NITE OUT OV THE FOLLEYOT IALZ.

The Red Folleyot gat him bac intoo hiz pallis and sat in hiz hi

cete. And he cent untooh the laudz ov Wichland and ov Demənland dhat dha shood cum and ce him. Nau did dha dilla, but came straitwa and sat on the long benchiz, the Witchiz on the eestən cide ov the haul and the Demənz on the west; and dhae fiting men stood in audə on iathər cide bihhiand them. So sat dha in the shaddowy haul, and the sun diclining too the westən oashn shon throo the hi windose ov the haul on the pollisht aamə and weppənz ov the Witchiz.

The Red Folleyot spake əmung them and ced, "A grate champiyyən hath bene strooc too uuth this da in fae and eeqwəl combat. And əcauding too the solləm oadhz waebi ye ar bound, and warov I am the kepə, dhae iz hiyyə an end too aul unpece bitwixt Wichland and Demənland, and ye ov Wichland ar too fauswae fau evvə yau claimz ov laudship ovə the Demənz. Nou fau a celing and making faast ov this solləm cuvvənənt bitwene u I ce no liacliyyə rede dhan dhat ye aul join widh me hiyyə this da in good frendship too fəghet yau qworrəlz in drinking ov the aavale ov King Gorice 11., dhan hoome hath raind nun mitiyyə nau mau wuushipfəl in aul this wuuld, and dharaaftə dippaat in pece too yau nativ landz."

So spake the Red Folleyot, and the laudz ov Wichland əcentid dhaetoo.

But Laud Jus aancəd and ced, "O Red Folleyot, az too the oadhz swaun bitwene us and the King ov Wichland, dhou hast spokən wel; nau shal we dippaat wun titl from the aaticl ov ouə oadhz, and the Witchiz ma əbide in pece fau evvə az fau us if, az iz clene əghenst dhae uce and nachə, dha faubae too divvise eevl əghenst us. Fau the nachə ov Wichland woz evvə az a fle, dhat ətackith a man in the daac. But we wil not et nau drinc widh the laudz ov Wichland, hoo birrade and fəsooc

us dhae swaun kənfeddərəts at the ce-fite əghenst the Guilz. Nau we wil not drinc the aavale ov King Gorice 11., hoo wuuct a shaimfəl and unlaufool slite əghenst mi kinzmən this da wen dha rasld təghethə."

So spake Laud Jus, and Corrənd wispəd Gro in the iyyə, saying, "Wuut not fau the privvəlij ov this rispectid cumpəny, nou wuu the time too cet uppon them." But Gro ced, "I prithy yet hav paishns. This wuu ovə hazsədəs, fau the luc gowith əghenst Wichland. Let us raathə take them in dhae bedz too-nite."

Fane wood the Red Folleyot tuun the Demənz from dhae rizzolv, but widhout əvale; dha cuutiyyəsly thanking him fau hiz hospittallitty wich dha ced dha wood enjoi dhat nite in dhae buidhz, beying miandid on the morro too take too dhae beect ship and fae ovə the unvintijd ce too Demənland.

Dhaewidh stood up Laud Jus, and widh him the Laud Goaldry Blusco, dhat went in aul hiz wau ghiyyə, hiz haund helm ov goald and hiz goaldən buuny cet widh rooby haats, and bae hiz too-handid saud faujd bi the elvz waewidh he sloo the beest out ov the ce in dase gon bi; and Laud Spitfiə dhat glaed uppon the laudz ov Wichland az a faulkən glarith, hun'ghəring fau huu pra; and the Laud Brandokh Daahaa dhat looct on them, and cheefly on Kərinniyyəs, widh the i ov kəntempchoowwəs əmuezmənt, playing iadly widh the jooəld hilt ov hiz saud, until Kərinniyyəs groo il at ese binneeth hiz gase and shiftid this wa and dhat in hiz cete, scouling bac diffiəns. Fau aul the rich əra and goodly paut and countinnəns ov Kərinniyyəs, he ceemd but a verry boowwə biscide the Laud Brandokh Daahaa, and diyyəly did eche hate the uthə. So the laudz ov Demənland widh dhae fiting men went fauth from the haul.

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The Red Folleyot cent aaftə them and made them in dhae one buidhz too be suuvd ov grate plenty ov wine and good and dellickət meets, and cent them musishnz and a minstrəl too gladn them widh songz and storiz ov oald time, dhat dha mite lac naut ov entətainmənt. But fau hiz uthə ghests he let bae in the mascy cups ov cilvə, and the grate iyyəd wine jaaz hoalding too fuukinz əpece, and he let pau fauth too the Witchiz and the Folleyots, and dha dranc the cup ov memməry untooh King Gorice 11., slane dhat da bi the hand ov Goaldry Blusco.

Dharaaftə wen dhae cups wuu brimd ənu widh foming wine the Red Folleyot spake əmung them and ced, "O ye laudz ov Wichland, wil u dhat I speke a duuj in onnə ov Gorice the King dhat the daac repə hath this da gathəd?" So wen dha ced ya too this, he cauld too him hiz plaə on the thheyaubo and hiz plaə on the hoboi, and kəmaandid them saying, "Pla me a solləm music." And dha plade softly in the Eyoalyən mode a music dhat woz like the waling ov wind throo bae braanchiz on a muinləs nite, and the Red Folleyot leend fauth from hiz hi cete and riscitid this lammentaishn:

I that in ħeill was and gladness
Am trublit now with great sickness
And feblit with infirmitie:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

Our plesance ħere is all vain glory,
This fals world is but transitory,

The ſlesh is bruckle, the Feynd is slee:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

The state of man does change and vary,
Now sound, now sick, now blyth, now sary,
Now dansand mirry, now like to die:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

No state in Erd here standis sicker;
As with the wynd wavis the wicker,
So wannis this world's vanitie:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

Unto the Death gois all Estatis,
Princis, Prelattis, and Potestatis,
Baith rich and poor of all degree:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

He takis the knichtis in to ſield
Enarmit under helm and scheild;
Victor he is at all mellie:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

That strong unmerciful tyrand
Takis, on the motheris breast sowkand,
The babe full of benignitie:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

He takis the campion in the stour,
The captain closit in the tour,
The lady in bour full of bewtie:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

He spairis no lord for his piscence,
Na clerk for his intelligence;
His awful straik may no man flee:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

Art-magicianis and astrologis,
Rethoris, logicianis, theologis,
Them helpis no conclusionis slee:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

In medecine the most practicianis,
Leechis, surrigianis, and physicianis,
Themself from Death may nocht supplee:--
Timor Mortis conturbat me.

Wen the Red Folleyot had spokən dhus faa hiz duuj, he woz intəruptid bi an unceemly brauling bitwixt Kərinniyyəs and wun ov the sunz ov Corrənd. Fau Kərinniyyəs, hoo gave not a fig fau music au duugiz, but liact wel ov caading and dicing, had braut fauth hiz dice box too pla widh the sun ov Corrənd. Dha plade əwile too Kərinniyyəciz grate kəntent, fau at evry thro he wun and the uthəz puus waxt lite. But at this illevnth stansə the sun ov Corrənd cride out dhat the dice ov Kərinniyyəs wuu lodid. And he smote Kərinniyyəs on hiz shaivn joul widh the dice box, cauling him chete and main'gy raascl, waruppon Kərinniyyəs droo fauth a bodkin too smite him in the nec widhaul; but sum went bitwixt them, and widh much ədoo and much strugling and cuucing dha wuu paatid, and it beying shone dhat the dice wuu not lodid, the sun ov Corrənd woz fane too make əmendz too Kərinniyyəs, and so wuu dha cet at wun əghen.

Nou woz the wine paud fauth yet əghen too the laudz ov Wichland, and the Red Folleyot dranc depe untooh the glory ov dhat land and the rooləz dharov. And he ishoode kəmaand saying, "Let mi Caagu cum and daans biffau us, and dharaaftə mi uthə daancəz. Fau dhae iz no plezhə waron the Folleyots doo mau diyyəly dote dhan this plezhə ov the daans, and swete too us it iz too bihhoald dilliatfəl daancing, be it the staitly splendə ov the Pəvan wich prəgrescith az laaj cloudz at sun-doun dhat paas bi in splendə; au the graisfəl Alləmand; au the Fandan'go, wich gowith bi digrese from lan'ghərəs buty too the swiftnəs and pashn ov Backənəlz daancing on the hi launz undə a summə moone dhat hangith in the pine trese; au the

joiəs mase ov the Galliyyaad; au the Jeghe, diyyə too the Folleyots. Dhaefau dilla not, but let mi Caagu cum, dhat she ma daans biffau us."

Dhaewidh haisnd the Caagu intoo the shaddowy haul, mooving softly and roling a litl in huu gate, widh huu hed thrust fauwəd; and a litl flurrid woz she in huu baring az she daatid this wa and dhat huu laaj and butiffəl ise, miald and timmid, dhat wuu like liqwid goald hetid too rednis. Sumwot like a herrən she woz, but stoutə, and shautə ov leg, and huu beke shautə and thhickə dhan the herrənz; and so long and dellickət woz huu pale gra ploomij dhat haad it woz too sa wethə it wuu hae au fethəz. So the wind instroommənts and the luits and dulcimməz plade a Corranto, and the Caagu tript up the haul bitwixt the long taiblz, jumping a litl and bouwing a litl in huu step and keping exələnt time too the music; and wen she came niyyə too the dayis wae the Red Folleyot sat ravvisht widh dillite at huu daancing, the Caagu lengthhənd huu step and glidid smuidhly and sloly fauwəd təwaud the Red Folleyot; and so gliding she droo huucelf up in staitly wise and opənd huu mouth and droo bac huu hed til huu beke la tite əghenst huu brest, flouncing out huu fethəz so dhat dha shode like a wiadcut scuut widh a crinnəlin, and the crest dhat woz on huu hed rose up irrect haaf əghen huu one hite from the ground, and she saild məgesticly təwaud the Red Folleyot. On this wise did the Caagu at evry tuun dhat she tooc in the Corranto, fauth and bac əlong the length ov the Folleyots haul. And dha aul laaft sweetly at huu, beying ovəjoid at huu daancing. Wen the daans woz dun, the Red Folleyot cauld the Caagu too him and made huu cit on the bench biscide him, and stroact huu soft gra fethəz and made much ov huu. Aul bashfoolly she sat biscide the Red Folleyot, caasting huu rooby ise in wundə uppon the Witchiz and dhae cumpəny.

Next the Red Folleyot cauld fau hiz Cat-baez, dhat stood biffau him foxy-red əbuv but widh blac belliz, round fuury faciz, and innəsnt ambə ise, and soft grate pauz, and tailz baad aultuunətly widh ruddy ringz and cremy; and he ced, "O Cat-baez, daans biffau us, cins diyyəly we dillite in yau daancing."

Dha aasct, "Laud, wil u dhat we pəfaum the Jeghe?"

And he aancəd them, "The Jeghe, and ye luv me."

So the stringd instroommənts biggan a swift muivmənt, and the tambəreenz and triyan'glz entəd on the bete, and swiftly twincld the fete ov the Cat-baez in the joiəs daans. The music ripld and ran and the daancəz daanst til the haul woz əwuul widh the rithəm ov dhae daancing, and the Witchiz raud əplauz. On a sudn the music ceest, and the daancəz wuu stil, and standing cide bi cide, pau in fuury pau, dha boud shily too the cumpəny, and the Red Folleyot cauld them too him and kist them on the mouth and cent them too dhae ceets, dhat dha mite rest and vu the daanciz dhat wuu too follo.

Next the Red Folleyot cauld fau hiz wite Pecox, culləd like muinlite, dhat dha mite lede the Pəvan biffau the laudz ov Wichland. In gloriyyəs wise did dha spred dhae tailz fau the staitly daans, and a fae and luvly cite it woz too ce dhae grace and the gran'gə ov dhae carrij az dha muivd too the music chaist and noabl. Widh them wuu joind the Goaldən Feznts, hoo spred wide dhae colləz ov goald, and the Cilvə Feznts, and the Pecoc Feznts, and the Estridgiz, and the Bustədz, footting it in pomp, pointing the tose, and bouwing and rittiring in du time too the solləm strainz ov the Pəvan. Evry instroommənt tooc paat in the staitly Pəvan: the luits and the dulcimməz, and the thheyaubose, and the

sacbuts, and the hoboiz; the fluits sweetly waubling az buudz in the uppə ae, and the cilvə trumpits, and the haunz dhat breedhd depe mellədiz trembling widh mistəry and tendənəs dhat shaix the haat; and the drum dhat betith too batl, and the wiald throb ov the haap, and the cimblz clashing az the clash ov aamiz. And a nitin'gale citting bi the Red Folleyot sang the Pəvan in pashənət toanz dhat dizzolvd the sole in dhae swete, maunfəl buty.

The Laud Gro cuvvəd hiz face widh hiz mantl and wept too hiyyə and bihhoald the divvine Pəvan; fau az goasts rerizn it raizd up fau him oald happy haaf-fəgotn dase in Goblinland, biffau he had kənspiəd əghenst King Gazlaac and bene drivn fauth from hiz diyyə nativ land, an exile in wautərish Wichland.

Dharaaftə let the Red Folleyot ghiv audə fau the Galliyyaad. Joiəsly swept fauth the mellədy from the stringd instroommənts, and too daumice, fat az buttə, spun intoo the haul. Wialdə wuuld the music, and the daumice capəd evvə hiə til dha boundid from the flau up too the beemz ov the vaultid roofe, and doun əghen, and up əghen too the roofe-beemz in the joifəl daans. And the Folleyots joind in the Galliyyaad, spinning and capəring in mad dillite ov the daans. And intoo the haul twuuld cix caprippedz, footting it liatly az the music swept evvə faastə, and a wun-foottə dhat leept hithə and thithə əbout and əbout, az the fle hoppith, til the Witchiz groo haus widh cinging and shouting and hounding ov him on. Yet evvə capəd the daumice hiə and wialdə dhan enny els, and so swiftly flasht dhae litl fete too the galləping music dhat no i mite follo dhae moashn.

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But litl ennou woz Laud Gro gladnd bi the merry daans. Sad

melləncolly sat widh him fau hiz kəmpanniyyən, daakəning hiz thauts and making joi haitfəl too him az sunshine too oulz ov the nite. So dhat he woz wel pleezd too maac the Red Folleyot go softly from hiz cete on the dayis and fauth from the haul bi a dau bihhiand the arrəs, and ceying this, himcelf dippaatid softly əmid the fool tide ov the Galliyyaad, fauth ov dhat haul ov swift muivmənt and glefəl laaftə, fauth intoo the qwiət eevning, wae əbuv the smuidh dounz the wind woz luld too slepe in the vaast cilənt spaciz ov the ski, and the west woz a bouə ov orrinj lite fading too puupl and unfathəməbl bloo in the uppə hevn, and naut woz huud save the muumə ov the sleepləs ce, and naut cene save a flite ov wialdfoul fliying əghenst the suncet. In this qwiətnəs Gro wauct westwəd əbuv the coome until he came too the landz ej and stood on the lip ov a chauc clif fauling too the ce, and woz wae ov the Red Folleyot, əlone on dhat hi westən clif, gasing in a studdy at the diying culləz in the west.

Wen dha had stood fau a wile widhout speche, gasing ovə the ce, Gro spake and ced, "Kənciddə hou az da nou diyith in yondə chaimbəz ov the west, so hath the glory dippaatid from Wichland."

But the Red Folleyot aancəd him not, beying in a studdy.

Then Gro ced, "Dho Demənland liyith wae dhou sauwist the sun discend, yet eestwəd out ov Wichland must dhou looc fau the mauning splendə. Not mau shoowwəly shalt dhou bihhoald the sun go up thens too-morro dhan dhou shalt ce shine fauth in shaut ceezn the glory and onnə and pouə ov Wichland, and binneeth huu distructiv saud huu ennəmiz shal be az graas biffau the cicl."

The Red Folleyot ced, "I am in luv widh pece and the soft

infloowwəns ov the eevning ae. Leve me; au if dhou wilt sta, brake not the chaam."

"O Red Folleyot," ced Gro, "aat dhou in luv widh pece indede? So shood the rising əghen ov Wichland tune swete music too thi thaut, cins we ov Wichland luv pece, nau ar we stuurəz up ov strife, but the Demənz oanly. The wau əghenst the Guilz, waebi the fau caunəz ov the uuth wuu shakən, woz hacht bi Demənland----"

"Dhou spekist," ced the Red Folleyot, "clene əghenst thine intenshn, a grate prase ov them. Fau hoo evvə sau the like ov these man-eting Guilz fau kərupshn ov mannəz, inhumən didgennəraishn, and delluge ov inniqwittiz? Hoo evry fifth yuu from time imməmoriyyəl hav had dhae graan climacterrickəl yuu, and but laast yuu brake fauth in nevvə-immadgind fəroscitty. But if dha sale nou, tiz on the daac lake dha sale, greving no uuthly cese nau rivvəz. Prase Demənland, dhaefau, hoo did put them doun fau evvə."

"I make no qweschən ov dhat," aancəd Laud Gro. "But foul wautə, az soone az fae, wil qwench hot fiə. Sau əghenst ouə wil did we ov Wichland join widh the Demənz in dhat wau, fauceying (az hath bene bluddilly əpruivd) dhat the issoo must be but the puffing up ov the Demənz, hoo dizsiə no uthə thhing dhan too be laudz and tirənts ov aul the wuuld."

"Dhou," ced the Red Folleyot, "wost in thi yung dase King Gazlaax man: a Goblin baun and bred: hiz verry fostə-bruthə, nurrisht at the same brest. Wi must I əbzuuv the, a plane tratə əghenst so good a king? Hoose puufiddy the commən peepl then did opənly riproove (az I did wel pəceve eevn so laitly az laast autəm, wen I woz in the citty ov Zadgy Zacculo at the time ov dhae festivvittiz fau the bitroathəl ov the kingz

cuzn juumən the Princes Aaməlene untooh the Laud Goaldry Blusco), dha carriyying filthhy picchəz ov the in the strete, cinging ov the dhus:

It was pittie
One so wittie
Malcontent:
Leaving reason
Should to treason
So be bent.

But his gifts
Were but shifts
Void of grace:
And his braverie
Was but knaverie
Vile and base."

Ced Gro, wincing a litl, "The aat ov it əgreyith wel widh the centimmənt, and widh the kəndishn ov dhose hoo inventid it. I wil not thhinc so noabl a prins az dhou aat wil cet thi sailz too the wind ov the rablz moast paashl haits and enviz. Fau the vile ədishn ov tratə, I doo ridgect and spit uppon it. But troo it iz dhat, riggaading not the god ov fuilz and wimmin, nice əpinniyyən, I doo stiyyə bi mine one lode-staa stil. Houbeyit, I came not too discaus too the on so smaul a mattə az micelf. This I wood sa untooh the widh moast sad and ciyyəriyyəs entətane: Be not luld too thhinc the Demənz wil leve the wuuld at pece: dhat iz faathist from dhae intent. Dha wood not lisn too thi cumftəbl wuudz nau cit at mete widh us, so cet be dha too immadgin mischif əghenst us. Wot ced

Jus? 'Wichland woz evvə az a fle: i, az a fle wich he
itchith too crush bitwixt hiz fin'ghə-nailz. O, if dhou be in
luv widh pece, a shaut wa liyith opən too thi haats dizsiə."

Naut spake the Red Folleyot, gasing stil intoo the dim
riflecshnz ov the suncet wich lin'ghəd billo a daakəning ski
wae staaz wuu baun. Gro ced softly, az a cat puuring,
"Wae sofning uncshnz faild, shaap suugəry bringith
spediyyist ese. Wilt dhou not leve it too me?"

But the Red Folleyot looct an'grəly uppon him, saying, "Wot hav
I too doo widh yau enmittiz? U ar swaun too kepe the pece,
and I wil not əbide yau viələns nau yau braking ov oadhz
in mi qwiət kingdəm."

Gro ced, "Oadhz be ov the haat, and he dhat brakith them in
opən fact iz oft, az nou, no brakə in truith, fau aulreddy wuu
dha scaund and trampld on bi hiz oppəsits."

But the Red Folleyot ced əghen, "Wot hav I too doo widh yau
enmittiz dhat cet u bi the iyyəz like fiting dogz? I am yet
too luun dhat he dhat hath a richəs haat, and clene handz,
and hatith nun, must needz be draun intoo the braulz and
manslayingz ov such az u and the Demənz."

Laud Gro looct narroly uppon him, saying, "Thhinkist dhou dhat
the strate paath ov him dhat əfectith niathər cide liyith stil
opən fau the? If dhat wuu thine ame, dhou shoodst hav
bithaut the ae dhou gavist thi jujmənt on the ceckənd
bout. Fau cliyyə az da it woz too us and too thine one peepl,
and moast ov aul too the Demənz, dhat the King plade foul in
dhat bout, and wen dhou cauldst him victoriyyəs dhou didst
loudly bi dhat wuud trumpit thicelf hiz frend, and unfrendz
too Demənland. Maactst dhou not, wen dha left the haul, widh

wot a snaix i Laud Jus bihheld the? Not widh us oanly but widh the he riffuezd too et and drinc, dhat so hiz soopəstishəs scruiplz ma be unhuut wen he prəceedz too thi distrucshn. Fau on this ar dha dittuumind. Nuthhing iz mau suutn."

The Red Folleyot sanc hiz chin uppon hiz brest, and stood ciləntfau a space. The huse ov deth and ciləns spred thəmcelvzwae late the fiəz ov suncet glode, and laaj staaz opəndlike flouəz on the illimmittəbl feeldz ov the nite ski:Aacturəs, Spikə, Gemminny, and the Litl Dog, and Cappellə andhuu Kidz.

The Red Folleyot ced, "Wichland liyith at mi dau. AndDemənland: hou stand I widh Demənland?"

And Gro ced, "Aulso too-morrose sun gowith up out ov Wichland."

Fau a wile dha spoke not. Then Laud Gro tooc fauth a scrolefrom hiz boozsəm, and ced, "The haavist ov this wuuld iz too therezsəloote, and he dhat iz infuum ov puupəs iz ground bitwixtthe uppə and the nethə milstone. Dhou canst not tuun bac:so wood dha scaun and spuun the, and we Witchiz liaqwise.And nou bi these meenz oanly ma laasting pece be braut əbout,naimly, bi the cetting ov Gorice ov Wichland on the throne ovDemənland, and the uttə humbling ov dhat broode binneeth thehele ov the Witchiz."

The Red Folleyot ced, "Iz not Gorice slane, and dranc we not butnou hiz aavale, slane bi a Demən? and iz he not the ceckənd inaudə ov dhat line hoo hath so dide bi a Demən?"

"A twelfth Gorice," ced Gro, "at this momənt ov time cittithKing in Caacy. O Red Folleyot, no dhou dhat I am a redə ov

the plannits ov the nite and ov dhose hidn pouəz dhat wuuc out the web ov destinny. Waebi I no dhat this twelfth King ov the hous ov Gorice in Caacy shal be a moast craafty wauloc, fool ov ghialz and wialz, hoo bi the mite ov hiz eegromancy and the saud ov Wichland shal ixede aul uuthly pouəz dhat be. And innilluctəbl az the levvin-boalt ov hevn gowith out hiz roth əghenst hiz ennəmiz." So saying, Gro stuipt and tooc a glo-wuum from the graas, saying kiandly too it, "Sweting, thi lamp fau a momənt," and breedhd uppon it, and held it too the paachmənt, saying, "Cine nou thi roiəl name too these aaticlz, wich riqwiə the not at aul too go too wau, but oanly (in cace wau shal ərise) too be ov ouə paaty, and əghenst these Demənz dhat doo privvilly pəsu thi life."

But the Red Folleyot ced, "Warin am I suutiffide dhat dhou spekist not a li?"

Then tooc Gro a riting from hiz puus and shode dharon a cele like the cele ov Laud Jus; and dhae woz ritn: "*Unto Voll al love and truste*: *and fayll nat whenas thow saylest upon Wychlande to caste of iij or iv shippes for the Folyott Isles to putt downe those and brenne the Redd Folyott in hys hous. For if wee get nat the lyfe of these wormes chirted owt of them the shame will stikk on us for ever*." And Gro ced, "Mi suuvənt stole this from them wile dha spoke widh the in thine haul too-nite."

Wich the Red Folleyot billeevd, and tooc from hiz belt hiz inc-haun and hiz pen, and ciand hiz roiəl name too the aaticlz ov the trety prəpoazd too him.

Dhaewidh Laud Gro put up the paachmənt in hiz boozsəm and ced,

"Swift suugəry. Needz must dhat we take them in dhae bedz
too-nite; so shal too-morrose daun bring glory and triəmf too
Wichland, nou fixt in an iclips, and too the hole wuuld
pece and soft kəntentmənt."

But the Red Folleyot aancəd him, "Mi Laud Gro, I hav ciand
these aaticlz, and dhaebi stand I bound in enmitty too
Demənland. But I wil not birra mi ghests dhat hav eetn mi
sault, be dha nevvə so deeply plejd mine ennəmiz. Be it none
too the, I hav cet gaadz on yau buidhz this nite and on the
buidhz ov them ov Demənland, dhat no unpeesfəl deedz ma be
dun bitwixt u. This wich I hav dun, bi this wil I stand,
and ye shal boath dippaat too-morro in pece, eevn az ye came.
Biccoz I am yau frend and swaun too yau paaty, I and mi
Folleyots wil be on yau cide wen wau iz bitwene Wichland and
Demənland. But I wil not suffə nite-slayingz nau muuthəz in
mi Ialz."

Nou widh these wuudz ov the Red Folleyot, Laud Gro woz az wun
dhat waukith əlong a floury paath too hiz rest, and in the laast
steps a gulf yaunith sudnly əthwaut the paath, and he standith
a-gape and discəpointid at the hithə cide. Yet in hiz sutlty
he made no cine, but strate riplide, "Richəsly hast dhou
dicrede and wiazly, O Red Folleyot, fau it woz trooly ced:

Let wuuthy miandz nae stagghə in distrust
Too suffə deth au shame fau wot iz just,

and dhat wich we so in daacnəs must unfoald in the opən lite
ov da, lest it be found withəd in the verry ouə ov məturitty.
Nau wood I hav uujd the uthəwise, but dhat I doo throoly
fiyyə these Demənz, and aul mi miand woz too take dhae plotting
in rivvuus. Doo then wun thhing oanly fau us. If we cet sale
hoamwəd and dha on ouə heelz, dha wil faul uppon us at a

discədvaantij, fau dha hav the swiftə ship; au if dha ghet too
ce biffau us, dha wil li in wate fau us on the hi cese.
Suffə us then too sale too-nite, and doo dhou on sum pretext
dilla them hiyyə fau thre dase oanly, dhat we ma ghet us home au
evvə dha leve the Folleyot Ialz."

"I wil not gainsa the in this," aancəd the Red Folleyot,
"fau hiyyə iz naut but wot iz fae and just and liyith widh
mine onnə. I wil cum too yau buidhz at midnite and bring
u doun too yau ship."

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Wen Gro came too the Witchiz buidhz he found them gaadid eevn
az the Red Folleyot had ced, and the buidhz ov them ov Demənland
in like mannə. So went he intoo the roiəl buidh wae the King
la in state on a biyyə ov spiyyə-shaafts, roabd in hiz kingly
roabz ovə hiz aamə dhat woz paintid blac and inlade, widh
goald, and the croun ov Wichland on hiz hed. Too candlz
buund at the hed ov King Gorice and too at hiz fete; and the
nite wind blowing throo the cranniz ov the buidh made them
flae and flickə, so dhat shaddose daanst uncecingly on the
waul and roofe and flau. On the benchiz round the waulz sat the
laudz ov Wichland sullən ov countinnəns, fau the wine woz ded
in them. Bailfəly dha ide Laud Gro at hiz cumming in, and
Kərinniyyəs sate uprite in hiz cete and ced, "Hiyyə iz the
Goblin, faathə and fostərə ov ouə misfauchuinz. Cum, let us
sla him."

Gro stood əmung them widh hed irrect and held Kərinniyyəs widh hiz
i, saying, "We ov Wichland ar not run loonətic, mi Laud
Kərinniyyəs, dhat we shood doo this gladnəs too the Demənz, too
bite eche at the uthəz throte like woolvz. Mithhinx if
Wichland be the land ov mi ədopshn oanly, yet hav I not dun

leest əmung u too waud auf shiyyə distrucshn from huu in this paas we stand in. If ye hav aut əghenst me, let me hiyyə it and aancə it."

Kərinniyyəs laaft a bittə laaf. "Haakən too the foole! Ar we babiz and milxops, thhinkist dhou, and iz it not cliyyə az da dhou stooddist in the wa ov ouə fauling on the Demənz wen we mite hav dun so, uuging wot cilly counslz I no not in favə ov doowing it bi nite? And nou iz nite cum, and we cloce priznd in ouə buidhz, and no chaans too cum at them ənles we wood bring an haunits nest ov Folleyots əbout ouə iyyəz and ghiv wauning ov ouə intent too the Demənz and evry livving sole in this iləND. And aul this haz cum əbout cins thi slinking auf and plotting widh the Red Folleyot. But nou hath thi ghile ovəreecht itcelf, and nou we wil kil the, and so an end ov the and thi plotting."

Widh dhat Kərinniyyəs sprang up and droo hiz saud, and the uthə Witchiz widh him. But Laud Gro muivd not an ilid, oanly he ced, "Hiyyə mine aancə fuust. Aul nite liyith biffau us, and tiz but a momənts taasc too muuthə me."

Dhaewidh stood fauth the Laud Corrənd widh hiz huge bulc bitwixt Gro and Kərinniyyəs, saying in a grate vois, "Hooso shal point weppən ghenst him shal fuust hav too doo widh me, dho it wuu wun ov mi sunz. We wil hiyyə him. If he cliyyə not himcelf, then wil we hu him in peciz."

Dha sat doun, muttəring. And Gro spake and ced, "Fuust bihhoald this paachmənt, wich iz the aaticlz ov a solləm cuvvənənt and əliəns, and bihhoald wae the Red Folleyot hath cet hiz cine mannuəl dhaetoo. Troo, hiz iz a cuntry ov no mite in aamz, and we mite tred him doun and nae fele the levingz stic too ouə boote, and litl əvale can dhae weke help be untooh us in

the da ov batl. But dhae iz in these Ialz a meetly good rode and riding-place fau ships, wich if ouə ennəmiz shood occupi, dhae flete wuu moast aptly plaist too doo us aul the il immadginnəbl. Iz then this trety a lite benniffit wae nou we stand? Next, no dhat wen I counsld u take the Demənz in dhae bedz sted ov faul uppon them in the Folleyots haul, I did so beying advətiazd dhat the Red Folleyot had kəmaandid hiz soalgəz too tuun əghenst us au əghenst the Demənz, witchevvə fuust shood drau saud uppon the uthə. And wen I went fauth from the haul it woz, az Kərinniyyəs hath so deeply divviand, too plot widh the Red Folleyot; but the ame ov mi plotting I hav shone u, on these aaticlz ov əliəns. And indede, had I az Kərinniyyəs vily əcusith me practist widh the Red Folleyot əghenst Wichland, I had haadly bene so cimpl az rittuun intoo the mouth ov distrucshn wen I mite hav bidid saifly in hiz pallis."

Nou wen Gro pəceevd dhat the an'ghə ov the Witchiz əghenst him woz əpeezd bi hiz diffens, warin he spake cunningly boath troo wuudz and lise, he spake əghen əmung them saying, "Litl gane hav I ov aul mi painz and thaut ixpendid bi me fau Wichland. And bettə it wuu fau Wichland if mi counsl wuu bettə hedid. Corrənd nowith hou, too mine one perrəl, I counsld the King too rasl no mau aaftə the fuust bout, and if he had tane mi rede, raathə dhan cəspect me and thretn me widh deth, we shood not be nou too bae him home ded too the roiəl cattəcuimz in Caacy."

Corrənd ced, "Trooly hast dhou spokən."

"In wun thhing oanly hav I faild," ced Gro; "and it can shautly be əmendid. The Red Folleyot, aulbeyit ov ouə paaty, wil not be wun too ətac the Demənz bi fraud, nau wil he suffə us smite them in these Ialz. Sum fon cimpl scruiplz hang like

cobwebz in hiz miand, and he iz stubbən az tutching this. But I hav privvaild uppon him too make them tarry hiyyə fau thre dase space, wile we put too ce this verry nite, telling him, wich he moast innəsntly billevith, dhat we fiyyə the Demənz, and wood fle home ae dha be let looce too take us at a discədvaantij on the hi cese. And home we wil indede ae dha cet sale, yet not fau fiyyə ov them, but raathə dhat we ma divvise a dedly blo əghenst them au evvə dha win home too Demənland."

"Wot blo, Goblin?" ced Kərinniyyəs.

And Gro aancəd and ced, "Wun dhat I wil divvise uppon widh ouə Laud the King, Gorice 12., hoo nou əwatith us in Caacy. And I wil not blab it too a wine-bibbə and a dicə hoo hath but nou draun saud əghenst a troo luvvə ov Wichland." Waruppon Kərinniyyəs leept up in micl roth too thrust hiz saud intoo Gro. But Corrənd and hiz sunz ristraind him.

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In du time the staaz rivvolvd too midnite, and the Red Folleyot came ceecritly widh hiz gaadz too the Witchiz buidhz. The laudz ov Wichland tooc dhae weppənz and the men-at-aamz bae the goodz, and the King went in the midst on hiz biyyə ov spiyyə-shaafts. So went dha picking dhae wa in the muinləs nite round the pallis and doun the wianding paath dhat led too the bed ov the coome, and so bi the streme westwəd təwaud the ce. Hiyyə dha deemd it safe too lite a tauch too sho them the wa. Descələt and bleke shode the ciadz ov the coome in the wind-blone flae; and the flae woz throne bac from the jooəlz ov the roiəl croun ov Wichland, and from the aaməd buskinz on the Kingz fete showing staac widh tose pointing upwəd from

billo hiz bae-skin mantl, and from the aamə and the weppənz
ov them dhat bae him and wauct biscide him, and from the blac
coald suufis ov the litl rivvə hurriyying fau evvə ovə its bed
ov boaldəz too the ce. The paath woz rugghid and stony, and dha
faed sloly, lest dha shood stumbl and drop the King.

4. Cun'gəring in the Iən Touə

OV THE HOALD OV CAACY, AND OV THE MIDNITE PRACTISCIZ OV KING
GORICE 12. IN THE AINSHƏNT CHAIMBƏ, PRIPPARING DOLE AND DOOME FAU
THE LAUDZ OV DEMƏNLAND.

Wen the Witchiz wuu cum əbaud ov dhae ship and aul stode,
and the roəz cet in audə on the benchiz, dha bad faewel
too the Red Folleyot and rode out too the depe, and dhae hoistid
sale and put up dhae helm and saild eestwəd əlong the land.
The staaz weeld ovəhed, and the eest groo pale, and the sun
came out ov the ce on the laabəd bou. Stil saild dha too
dase and too niats, and on the thuud da dhae woz land əhed,
and mauning rose əbatid bi mist and cloud, and the sun woz az a
baul ov red fiə ovə Wichland in the eest. So dha hung
əwile auf Tennəmos wating fau the tide, and at hi wautə
saild ovə the baa and up the Droomə paast the duenz and
mud-flats and the Uugaspiyyən miyyə, til dha reecht the bend ov
the rivvə billo Caacy. Sollittəry maash-land strecht on iathər
cide az faa az the i mite reche, widh clumps ov willo and
rae hoamstedz showing əbuv the flats. Nauthwəd əbuv the
bend a bluf ov land fel shaaply too the elbo ov the rivvə,

and on the uthə cide sloapt gently əwa fau a fu mialz til
it lost itcelf in the ded levl ov the maashiz. On the
suthən face ov the bluf, monstrəs az a mountin in dhose
lo cej-landz, hung sqwae and blac the fautris ov Caacy.
It woz bilt ov blac maabl, ruf-hune and unpollisht, the
outwuux enclosing menny akəz. An innə waul widh a touə at
eche caunə faumd the mane strong'hoald, in the soudh-west
caunə ov wich woz the pallis, ovəhanging the rivvə. And on
the soudh-west caunə ov the pallis, touring shiyyə from the
wautəz ej cevnty cubits and mau too the batlmənts, stood
the kepe, a round touə liand widh iən, baring on the caubl
taibl binneeth its parrəpit in variyying faum and untoald reppittishn
the sculpchəd figghə ov the crab ov Wichland. The outə waud
ov the fautris woz daac widh ciaprəs trese: blac flaimz
buuning chainjlesly too hevn from a billowy ce ov gloome.
Eest ov the kepe woz the wautə-gate, and biscide it a brij and
brij-hous əcros the rivvə, strongly fautiffide widh turrits
and məchickəlaishnz and kəmaandid from on hi bi the
batlmənts ov the kepe. Dizməl and fiyyəcəm too vu woz this
strong place ov Caacy, moast like too the imboddid sole ov
dredfəl nite brooding on the wautəz ov dhat slugghish rivvə:
bi da a shaddo in braud sunshine, the liacnəs ov pittillis
viələns citting in the place ov pouə, daakəning the
descəlaishn ov the maunfəl fen; bi nite, a blacnis mau
blac dhan nite huucelf.

Nou woz the ship made faast niyyə the wautə-gate, and the laudz
ov Wichland landid and dhae fiting men, and the gate opənd
too them, and maunfəly dha entəd in and cliamd the stepe
əcent too the pallis, baring widh them dhae sad buudn ov the
King. And in the grate haul in Caacy woz Gorice 11. lade in
state fau dhat nite; and the da wau too its close. Nau woz
enny wuud from King Gorice 12.

But wen the shaidz ov nite wuu fauling, dhae came a chaimbəlin too Laud Gro az he wauct uppon the terrəs widhout the westən waul ov the pallis; and the chaimbəlin ced, "Mi laud, the King bidz u ətend him in the Iən Touə, and he chaagith u bring untooh him the roiəl croun ov Wichland."

Gro made haist too foolfil the bidding ov the King, and bittooc himcelf too the grate banqwitting haul, and aul revvərəntly he liftid the iən croun ov Wichland cet thhic widh priasləs gemz, and went bi a wianding stae too the touə, and the chaimbəlin went biffau him. Wen dha wuu cum too the fuust landing, the chaimbəlin noct on a masciv dau dhat woz fauthwith opənd bi a gaad; and the chaimbəlin ced, "Mi laud, it iz the Kingz wil dhat u ətend hiz madgisty in hiz ceecrit chaimbə at the top ov the touə." And Gro maavld, fau nun had entəd dhat chaimbə fau menny yuuz. Long əgo had Gorice 7. practist fəbidn aats dharin, and foke ced dhat in dhat chaimbə he raizd up dhose spirrits waebi he gat hiz bane. Cithens woz the chaimbə ceeld, nau had the late Kingz nede ov it, cins litl faith dha plaist in aat madgicl, rilliying raathə on the mite ov dhae handz and the saud ov Wichland. But Gro woz glad at haat, fau the opəning ov this chaimbə bi the King met hiz dizsianz haaf wa. Fiyyələsly he mountid the wianding staez dhat wuu dusky widh the shaddose ov əproching nite and hung widh cobwebz and stroone widh the dust ov niglect, until he came too the smaul lo dau ov dhat chaimbə, and pausing noct dharon and haakənd fau the aancə.

And wun ced from within, "Hoo nockith?" and Gro aancəd, "Laud, it iz I, Gro." And the boalts wuu draun and the dau opənd, and the King ced, "Entə." And Gro entəd and stood

in the prezns ov the King.

Nou the fashn ov the chaimbə woz dhat it woz round, filling
the hole space ov the loftiyyist flau ov the round don'gən kepe.
It woz nou gathəring dusc, and weke twilite oanly entəd
throo the depe imbrajəz ov the windose dhat piyyəst the
waulz ov the touə, loocking too the fau qwautəz ov the
hevnz. A fuunis glowing in the big haath throo fitfəl
gleemz intoo the recesciz ov the chaimbə, liting up strainj
shaips ov glaas and edhnwae, flaasx and rittauts, ballənone,
ouə-glaaciz, croociblz and astrəlaibz, a monstrəs
thre-nect əlembic ov fosfəresnt glaas cəpautid on a
bane-məry, and uthə instroommənts ov doutfool and unlaufool
aspect. Undə the nauthən windo ovə əghenst the dauwa woz
a masciv taibl blackənd widh age, waron la grate boox
bound in blac lethə widh iən gaadz and hevvy padlox. And
in a mity chae biscide this taibl woz King Gorice 12., roabd
in hiz cun'gəring robe ov blac and goald, resting hiz cheke on
hiz hand dhat woz lene az an eeglz clau. The lo lite,
muthə ov shade and ceecrəcy, dhat hovvəd in dhat chaimbə muivd
əbout the stil figghə ov the King, hiz nose hooct az the
eeglz beke, hiz cropt hae, hiz thhic cloce-cut biyyəd and
shaivn uppə lip, hiz hi cheke-boanz and croowwəl hevvy jau, and
the daac eevz ov hiz brouz wens the glint ov grene ise
shode az no frendly lamp too them widhout. The dau shut
noizləsly, and Gro stood biffau the King. The dusc depənd,
and the fiəlite pulst and blinct in dhat dred chaimbə, and
the King leend widhout moashn on hiz hand, bending hiz brou on
Gro; and dhae woz uttə ciləns save fau the faint puu ov the
fuunis.

In a wile the King ced, "I cent fau the, biccoz dhou əlone
wost so haady az too uuj too the uttəmoast thi counsl uppon the

King dhat iz nou ded, Gorice 11. ov memməry evvə gloriyyəs. And biccoz thi counsl woz good. Maavlist dhou dhat I wist ov thi counsl?"

Gro ced, "O mi Laud the King, I maavl not ov this. Fau it iz none too me dhat the sole endurith, aulbeyit the boddy perrish."

"Kepe dhou thi lips from ovəspeche," ced the King. "These be mistəriz waron but too thhinc ma snach the intoo perrəl, and hooso spekith ov them, dho in so ceecrit a place az this, and widh me oanly, yet at hiz moast bittə perrəl spekith he."

Gro aancəd, "O King, I spake not liatly; morovə, u did tempt me bi yau qweschəning. Nevvəthəles I am uttəly əbediyyənt too yau madgistese admənishn."

The King rose from hiz chae and wauct təwaudz Gro, sloly. He woz ixeding taul, and lene az a staavd caumərənt. Laying hiz handz uppon the shoaldəz ov Gro, and bending hiz face too Grose, "Aat not əfiyyəd," he aasct, "too əbide me in this chaimbə, at the close ov da? Au hast not thaut ont, and on these instroommənts dhou ceyist, dhae uce and puupəs, and the ainshənt uce ov this chaimbə?"

Gro blencht nevvə a wit, but stoutly ced, "I am not əfiyyəd, O mi Laud the King, but raathə ridjoist I at yau summənz. Fau it jumpith widh mine one dizsianz, wen I tooc counsl ceecritly in mi haat aaftə the wose dhat the Faits foolfild fau Wichland in the Folleyot Ialz. Fau in dhat da, O King, wen I bihheld the lite ov Wichland daakənd and huu mite əbatid in the faul ov King Gorice 11. ov gloriyyəs memməry, I thaut on u, Laud, the twelfth Gorice raizd up King in Caacy; and dhae woz preznt too mi miand the wuud ov the suithsaə ov oald,

wae he cingith:

Ten, eleven, twelf I see
In sequent varietie
Of puissaunce and maistrye
With swerd, sinwes, and grammarie,
In the ħolde of Carcë
Lordinge it royally.

And beying miandid dhat he cin'glith out u, the twelfth, az poatnt in gramməry, aul mi cae woz dhat these Demənz shood be dittaind within reche ov yau spelz until we shood hav time too win home too u and too əprise u ov dhae faringz, dhat so u mite put fauth yau pouə and distroi them bi aat madgic au evvə dha cum safe əghen too menny-mountind Demənland."

The King tooc Gro too hiz boozsəm and kist him, saying, "Aat dhou not a verry jooəl ov wizdəm and discreshn? Let me imbrace the and luv the fau evvə."

Then the King stood bac from him, keping hiz handz on Grose shoaldəz, and gaizd piyyəcingly uppon him fau a space in ciləns. Then kindld he a tapə dhat stood in an iən candlstic bi the taibl wae the boox la, and held it too Grose face. And the King ced, "I, wise dhou aat and ov good discreshn, and sum currij hast dhou. But if dhou be too suuv me this nite, needz must I tri the fuust widh terrəz til dhou be innuəd too them, az tride goald runnith in the croocibl; au if dhou be bace metl oanly, til dhat dhou be eetn up bi them."

Gro ced untooh the King, "Fau menny yuuz, Laud, au evvə I came too Caacy, I faed up and doun the wuuld, and I am əqwaintid widh obgicts ov terrə az a chiald widh hiz toiz. I hav cene in the suthən cese, bi the lite ov Ackənaa and Cannəpəs, giənt ce-hauciz batling widh ate-legghid cutl-fishiz in the wuulpuilz ov the Caush. Yet woz I unnəfrade. I woz in the ile Ceyonə wen the fuust ov the pit brast fauth in dhat ile and split it az a manz scul iz split widh an ax, and the grene gulfs ov the ce swollode dhat ile, and the stench and the steme hung in the ae fau dase wae the buuning roc and uuth had cizld in the oashn. Yet woz I unnəfrade. Aulso woz I widh Gazlaac in the flite out ov Zadgy Zacculo, wen the Guilz tooc the pallis ovə ouə hedz, and pautents wauct in hiz haulz in braud dalite, and the Guilz cun'gəd the sun out ov hevn. Yet woz I unnəfrade. And fau thuuty dase and thuuty niats wondəd I ələone on the face ov the Moroonə in Uppə Impland, wae scaes a livving sole hath bene: and dhae the eevl wiats dhat peepl the ae ov dhat dezsət dogd mi steps and gibbəd at me in daacnəs. Yet woz I unnəfrade; and came in du time too Maunə Moroonə, and thens, standing on the lip ov the iscaapmənt az it wuu on the ej ov the wuuld, looct southhəwa wae nevvə mautl i had gaizd əfautime, əcros the untrodn forrists ov the Baavinnən. And in dhat skiy distəns, pre-emminnənt biyyond rainj on rainj ov ice-roabd mountinz, I bihheld too peex throand fau evvə bitwene fuum land and hevn in unnuuthly luvlinnəs: the spiəz and ary ridgiz ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə, and the wiald prescippisciz dhat sau upwəd from the əbisciz too the qweenly cilənt sno-dome ov Coshtrə Billaun."

Wen Gro had endid, the King tuund him əwa and, taking from a shelf a rittaut fild widh a daac bloo floowid, cet it on a bane-məry, and a lamp dharundə. Fuemz ov a faint puupl hu came fauth from the nec ov the rittaut, and the King gathəd them in a flaasc. He made cianz ovə the flaasc and shooc fauth

intoo hiz hand dhaefrom a fine poudə. Then ced he untooh Gro, hoalding out the poudə in the opən paam ov hiz hand, "Looc narroly at this poudə." And Gro looct. The King muttəd an incantaishn, and the poudə muivd and heevd, and woz like a crauling mas ov cheezmiats in an ovəripe chese. It increest in vollume in the Kingz hand, and Gro pəceevd dhat eche pəticculə grane had legz. The grainz groo biffau hiz ise, and biccame the cise ov mustəd ceedz, and then ov baaliccaunz, swiftly crauling eche ovə uthə. And eevn az he maavld, dha waxt grate az kidny beenz, and nou woz dhae shape and ceming cliyyə too him, so dhat he bihheld dhat dha wuu smaul frogz and paddəx; and dha ovəflode from the Kingz hand az dha waxt swiftly in cise, poring on too the flau. And dha ceest not too increce and gro; and nou wuu dha laaj az litl dogz, nau mite the King rittane mau dhan a cin'gl wun, hoalding hiz hand undə its belly wile it waivd its legz in the ae; and dha wuu wauking on the taiblz and josling on the flau. Pallid dha wuu, and puumiyyəbl too lite like thhin haun, and dhae hu a faint puupl, eevn az the hu ov the vapə wens dha wuu en'gendəd. And nou woz the roome fild widh them so dhat dha mountid pəfaus wun on ənuthəz shoaldəz, and dha wuu ov the bignes ov wel fattid hogz; and dha gogld dhae ise at Gro and croact. The King looct narroly on Gro, hoo stood in the prezns ov dhat spectəcl, the croun ov Wichland in hiz handz; and the King maact dhat the croun trembld not a wit in Grose handz dhat held it. So he ced a suutn wuud, and the paddəx and the frogz groo smaul əghen, shrinking mau swiftly dhan dha had grone, and so vannisht.

The King nou tooc from the shelf a baul the cise ov the eg ov an estrij, ov daac grene glaas. He ced untooh Gro, "Looc wel at this glaas and tel me wot dhou ceyist." Gro aancəd him, "I ce a shifting shaddo within." The King kəmaandid him

saying, "Dash it doun widh aul thi strength uppon the flau."
The Laud Gro liftid the baul widh boath handz əbuv hiz hed,
and it woz pondərəs az a baul ov led, and əcauding too the
kəmaand ov Gorice the King he huuld it on the flau, so dhat
it woz pasht in peciz. And, bihhoald, a puf ov thhic smoke
buust fauth from the fragments ov the baul and tooc the faum ov
wun ov humən shape and dredfəl aspect, hoose too legz wuu too
riathing snaix; and it stood in the chaimbə so taul dhat the
hed ov it tucht the vaultid celing, vuwing the King and
Gro məlevvəlntly and mennəcing them. The King caut doun a
saud dhat hung əghenst the waul, and put it in Grose hand,
shouting, "Smite auf the legz ov it! and dilla not, au dhou aat
but ded!" Gro smote and cut auf the left leg ov the eevl
wite, esəly, az it wuu cutting ov buttə. But from the stump
came fauth too fresh snaix a-riathing; and so it faed
liaqwise widh the rite leg, but the King shoutid, "Smite and
cece not, au dhou aat but a ded dog!" and evvə az Gro hude a
snake in twane fauth came too mau from the wuind, til the
chaimbə woz a mase ov dhae rigling faumz. And stil Gro
hude widh a wil, until the swet stood on hiz brou, and he
ced, panting bitwene the stroax, "O King, I hav made him
menny-legghid az a centippede: must I make him a mirriyyəpod ae
niats dicline?" And the King smiald, and spake a wuud ov
hidn mening; and dhaewidh the tuumoil woz gon az a gust ov
wind dippaatith, and naut left save the shivvəd splintəz ov
the grene baul on the chaimbə flau.

"Wost not əfiyyəd?" aasct the King, and wen Gro ced na,
"Mithhinx these ciats ov terrə shood much əflict the,"
ced the King, "cins wel I no dhou aat not skild in aat
madgicl."

"Yet am I a filloscəfə," aancəd Laud Gro; "and sumwot no
I ov alkimmy and the hidn proppətiz ov this mətiyyəriyyəl wuuld:

the vuuchoose ov huubz, plaants, stoanz, and minnərəlz, the wase ov the staaz in dhae cauciz, and the infloowwənciz ov dhose hevnly boddiz. And I hav held kənvuus widh buudz and fishiz in dhae digry, and dhat gennəraishn wich crepith on the uuth iz not held in scaun bi me, but oft tauc I in swete kəmpanniyyənship widh the eft ov the pond, and the glo-wuum, and the lady-buud, and the pismiə, and dhae kiand, making them mi litl goscips. So hav I a suutn lau wich litith me in the outə caut ov the ceecrit templ ov gramməry and aat fəbid, aulbeyit I hav not piyyəd within dhat templ. And bi mi filloscəfy, O King, I am suutiffide kənsuuning these appərishnz wich u hav raizd fau me, dhat dha be illuizhnz and fantazsəmz oanly, aibl too terriffi the sole indede ov him dhat nowith not divvine filloscəfy, but widhout boddəly pouə au esns. Nau iz aut too fiyyə in such, save the fiyyə itcelf waewidh dha strike the cimpl."

Then ced the King, "Bi wot tokən nowist dhou this?"

And the Laud Gro made aancə untooh him, "O King, az a chiald wevith a dasy-chane, dhus esəly did u cunʻgər up these shaips ov terrə. Not in such wise farith he dhat caulith out ov the depe the dedly terrə indede; but widh toil and swet and widh straning ov thaut, wil, haat, and cinnu farith he."

The King smiald. "Dhou sayist troo. Nou, dhaefau, cins fantazməgorriyyə makith not thi haat too qwale, I prizsent the a mau mətiyyəriyyəl horrə."

And he litid the candlz in the grate candlstix ov iən and opənd a litl ceecrit dau in the waul ov the chaimbə niyyə the flau; and Gro bihheld iən baaz within the litl dau, and huud a hiscing from bihhiand the baaz. The King tooc a ke ov

cilvə ov dellickət kənstrucshn, the handl slendə and thre
spanz in length, and opənd the iən gratid dau. And the King
ced, "Bihhoald and ce, dhat wich sprung from the eg ov a
coc, hacht bi the def addə. The glaans ov its i
cəficith too tuun too stone enny livving thhing dhat standith
biffau it. Wuu I but fau wun instənt too looce mi spelz
waebi I hoald it in cəbgecshn, in dhat momənt wood end mi
life dase and thine. So strong in proppətiz ov il iz this
suupənt wich the ainshənt Ennəmy dhat dwellith in daacnəs hath
plaist uppon this uuth, too be a bane untooh the childrən ov men,
but an instroommənt ov mite in the hand ov enchaantəz and
saucərəz."

Dhaewidh came fauth dhat ofspring ov pədishn from its hole,
strutting irrect on its too legz dhat wuu the legz ov a coc;
and a cox hed it had, widh rosy come and wotlz, but the
face ov it like no foulz face ov midl-uuth but raathə a
gaughənz out ov Hel. Blac shining fethəz groo on its nec,
but the boddy ov it woz the boddy ov a dragghən widh scailz dhat
glittəd in the rase ov the candlz, and a scaly crest stood
on its bac; and its wingz wuu like bats wingz, and its tale
the tale ov an aspic widh a sting in the end dharov, and from
its beke its fauct tung flickəd vennəməsly. And the
statchə ov the thhing woz a litl əbuv a cubit. Nou biccoz ov
the spelz ov King Gorice waebi he held it ensaucəl it
mite not caast its bainfəl glaans uppon him, nau uppon Gro, but
it wauct bac and fauth in the candl lite, əvuuting its ise
from them. The fethəz on its nec wuu fluft up widh an'ghə
and wundrəs swiftly twuuld its scaly tale, and it hist evvə
mau fiyyəsly, uuct bi the bondz ov the Kingz enchaantmənt;
and the breth ov it woz noicəm, and hung in slugghish reedhz
əbout the chaimbə. So fau a wile it wauct biffau them, and az
it looct ciadlong paast him Gro bihheld the lite ov its ise
dhat wuu az cic muinz buuning poisənəsly throo a mist ov

grenish yello in the dusc ov nite. And strong loathing
ceezd him, so dhat hiz gauj rose too bihhoald the thhing, and hiz
brou and the paamz ov hiz handz biccame clammy, and he ced, "Mi
Laud the King, I hav looct stedfaastly on this cockətrice and
it əfritith me no wit, but it iz loathly in mi cite, so
dhat mi gauj risith biccoz ov it," and widh dhat he fel
a-vommitting. And the King kəmaandid dhat suupənt bac intoo its
hole, withə it rittuund, hiscing rothfəly.

Nou the King paud fauth wine, speking a chaam ovə the cup,
and wen the brite wine had rivviavd Laud Gro, the King spake
saying, "It iz wel, O Gro, dhat dhou hast shone thicelf a
filloscəfə indede, and ov haat intreppid. Yet eevn az no blade
iz uttəly tride until wun tri it in verry batl, wae if it
snap wo and doome wate on the hand dhat weeldz it, so must dhou
in this midnite suffə a yet fiyyəcə fuunis-hete ov terrə,
warin if dhou be ridduest we ar boath lost ittuunəly, and this
Caacy and aul Wichland blaastid widh us fau evvə in roowin and
əblivviyyən. Duust əbide this triəl?"

Gro aancəd, "I am hot too əba yau wuud, O King. Fau wel
no I dhat it iz iadl too hope bi fantəmz and illuizhnz too
əpaul the Demənz, and dhat əghenst the Demənz the dedly i ov
thi cockətrice wuu tuund in vane. Stout ov haat ar dha,
and instructid in aul lau, and Jus a saucərə ov ainshənt
pouə, hoo hath chaamz too blunt the glaans ov bascillisc au
cockətrice. He dhat wood strike doun the Demənz must cun'gər
indede."

"Grate," ced the King, "iz the strength and cunning ov the
cede ov Demənland. Bi mane strength hav dha nou shone maastəry
ovə us, az sadly witnəcith the ovəthro ov Gorice 11.,
ghenst hoome no mautl cood stand up and rasl and not di,

til cuucid Goaldry, drunc widh splene and envy, sloo him in the Folleyot Ialz. Nau woz dhae enny əfautime too outdoo us in feets ov aamz, and Gorice X., victoriyyəs in cin'gl combats widhout numbə, made ouə name gloriyyəs ovə aul the wuuld. Yet at the laast he gat hiz deth, out ov aul expectaishn and bi wot tretchərəs slite I no not, standing in cin'gl combat əghenst the cuuld step-daancə from Crothəring. But I, dhat am skild in gramməry, doo bae a mitiyyə en'gin əghenst the Demənz dhan brauny cinnuse au the saud dhat smitith əsundə. Yet iz mine en'gin perrələs too him dhat usith it."

Dhaewidh the King unloct the gratist ov dhose boox dhat la bi on the masciv taibl, saying in Grose iyyə, az wun hoo wood not be ovəhuud, "This iz dhat aufəl booc ov gramməry waewidh in this same chaimbə, on such a nite, Gorice 7. stuud the vaasty depe. And no dhat from this suukəmstəns ələne ensude the roowin ov King Gorice 7., in dhat, havving bi hiz hellish ciəns cun'gəd up sumwot from the primeevl daac, and beying uttəly faudun widh the swet and stres ov hiz cun'gəring, hiz miand woz cloudid fau a momənt, in such saut dhat iathər he fəgot the wuudz rit in this gramməry, au the page waron dha wuu rit, au speche faild him too speke dhose wuudz dhat must be spokən, au mite too doo dhose thhingz wich must be dun too kəmplete the chaam. Waefau he kept not hiz pouə ovə dhat wich he had cauld out ov the depe, but it tuund uppon him and tae him lim from lim. Such like doome wil I əvoid, rinnuwing in these lattə dase dhose celf-same spelz, if dhou duust stand bi me undismade the wile I uttə mi incantaishnz. And shoodst dhou maac me fale au wavə ae aul be əcumplisht, then shalt thicelf la hand on booc and croocibl and foolfil wotsowevvə iz needfəl, az I shal fuust sho the. Au qwalist dhou at this?"

Gro ced, "Laud, sho me mi taasc. And I wil carry it, dho aul the Furiz ov the pit floc too this chaimbə too sa me na."

So the King instructid Gro, rihhuucing too him dhose acts dhat wuu needfəl, and making none untooh him the divuuz pagiz ov the grammərу waron wuu rit dhose wuudz wich must be spokən eche in its du time and ceeqwəns. But the King prənounst not yet dhose wuudz, pointing oanly too them in the booc, fau hooso spekith dhose wuudz in vane and out ov ceezn iz lost. And nou wen the rittauts and bekəz widh dhae cevrəl nex and tuebz and the əpuutinnənciz dharov wuu cet in audə, and the unhallode procesciz ov fixaishn, kənjuncshn, defləgraishən, puetriffacshn, and roobifficcaishən wuu niyyəring məturitty, and the bailfəl staa Antaaz standing bi the astrəlabe within a litl ov the məriddiyyən cigniffide the instənt əproche ov midnite, the King discriabd on the flau widh hiz cun'gəring rod thre pentəclz incloazd within a cevn-pointid staa, widh the cianz ov Cancə and ov Scaupeyo joind bi suutn ruinz. And in the midst ov the staa he limd the immij ov a grene crab eting ov the sun. And tuuning too the cevnty-thuud page ov hiz grate blac grammərу the King riscitid in a mity vois wuudz ov hidn mening, cauling on the name dhat it iz a cin too uttə.

Nou wen he had spokən the fuust spel and woz cilənt, dhae woz a dedly qwiət in dhat chaimbə, and a chil in the ae az ov wintə. And in the qwiət Gro huud the Kingz breth cumming and gowing, az ov wun hoo hath rode a caus. Nou the blud rusht bac too Grose haat and hiz handz and fete biccame coald and a coald swet brake fauth on hiz brou. But fau aul dhat, he held yet hiz currij fuum and hiz brane reddy. The King moashnd too Gro too brake auf the tale ov a suutn drop ov blac glaas dhat la on the taibl; and widh the snapping ov its tale the hole drop fel in peciz in a caus blac poudə.
Gro bi the Kingz dirrecshn gathəd dhat poudə and dropt it

in the grate əlembic warin a grene floowid ceedhd and bubld əbuv the flame ov a lamp; and the floowid biccame red az blud, and the boddy ov the əlembic fild widh a tauny smoke, and spaax ov sun-like brilliyyəns flasht and cracld throo the smoke. Dharəpon distild from the nec ov the əlembic a wite oil inkəmbustəbl, and the King dipt hiz rod in dhat oil and discriabd round the cevn-pointid staa on the flau the figghə ov the wuum Oorəborəs, dhat etith hiz one tale. And he rote the faumulə ov the crab billo the suucl, and spake hiz ceckənd spel.

Wen dhat woz dun, yet mau biting ceemd the nite ae and yet mau like the grave the stilnəs ov the chaimbə. The Kingz hand shooc az widh an agu az he tuund the pagiz ov the mity booc. Grose teeth chattəd in hiz hed. He grittid them təghethə and watid. And nou throo evry windo came a lite intoo the chaimbə az ov skise paling too the daun. Yet not holy so; fau nevvə yet came daun at midnite, nau from aul fau qwautəz ov the ski at wuns, nau widh such swift striadz ov increcing lite, nau widh a lite so gaastly. The candl flaimz buund filmy az the glae waxt strong from widhout: an eevl pallid lite ov bale and kərupshn, warin the handz and faciz ov the King Gorice and hiz disciapl shode deth-pale, and dhae lips blac az the daac skin ov a grape wae the bloome haz bene rubd auf from it. The King cride terrəbly, "The ouə əprochith!" And he tooc a fiəl ov cristl kəntaning a diccocshən ov woolfs gelly and salləmandəz blud, and dropt cevn drops from the əlembic intoo the fiəl and paud fauth dhat lickə on the figghə ov the crab draun on the flau. Gro leend əghenst the waul, weke in boddy but widh wil unboud. So bittə woz the coald dhat hiz handz and fete wuu binnumd, and the lickə from the fiəl kən'geeld wae it fel. Yet the swet stood in beedz on the forrid ov the King bi resən ov the mity striving dhat woz hiz, and in the

ovəpouring glae ov dhat lite from the undəciadz he stood
stif and irrect, handz clencht and aamz outstrecht, and
spake the wuudz *LURO VOPO VIR VOARCHADUMIA*.

Nou widh dhose wuudz spokən the vivvid lite dippaatid az a
blone-out lamp, and the midnite cloazd doun əghen widhout. Nau
woz enny sound huud save the thhic panting ov the King; but it
woz az if the nite held its breth in expectaishn ov dhat
wich woz too cum. And the candlz sputtəd and buund bloo.
The King swade and clucht the taibl widh hiz left hand; and
əghen the King prənounst terrəbly the wuud *VOARCHADUMIA*.

Dharaaftə fau the space ov ten haat-beets ciləns hung like a
kestrəl poizd in the lisning nite. Then went a crash
throo uuth and hevn, and a blianding wialdfiə throo the
chaimbə az it had bene a thundəboalt. Aul Caacy qwaict, and the
chaimbə woz fild widh a beting ov wingz, like the wingz ov
sum monstrəs buud. The ae dhat woz wintry coald waxt on a
sudn hot az the breth ov a buuning mountin, and Gro woz
niyyə choking widh the smel ov soot and the smel ov brimstone.
And the chaimbə roct az a ship riding in a swel widh the
wind əghenst the tide. But the King, steddiyying himcelf əghenst
the taibl and clutching the ej ov it til the vainz on hiz
lene hand ceemd ni too buusting, cride in shaut breths and
widh an aultəd vois, "Bi these figghəz draun and bi these
spelz enchaantid, bi the uncshn ov woolf and salləmandə, bi the
unblest cine ov Cancə nou lening too the sun, and bi the firy
haat ov Scaupeyo dhat flamith in this ouə on niats məriddiyyən,
dhou aat mi thraul and instroommənt. Əbace the and suuv me,
wuum ov the pit. Els wil I bi and bi summən out ov ainshənt
nite intellidgənciz and domminnaishnz mitiyyə faa dhan dhou, and
dha shal suuv mine endz, and the shal dha chane widh
chainz ov qwenchləs fiə and drag the from taument too taument

throo the depe."

Dhaewidh the uuthqwake woz stild, and dhae rimmaind but a qwivvəring ov the waulz and flau and the wind ov dhose uncene wingz and the hot smel ov soot and brimstone buuning. And speche came out ov the teming ae ov dhat chaimbə, strainjly swete, saying, "Əcuucid rech dhat trublist ouə qwiət, wot iz thi wil?" The terrə ov dhat speche made the throte ov Gro dri, and the haez on hiz scalp stood up.

The King trembld in aul hiz membəz like a friatnd haus, yet woz hiz vois levl and hiz countinnəns unrufld az he ced hausly, "Mine ennəmiz sale at da-brake from the Folleyot Ialz. I looce the əghenst them az a faulkən from mi rist. I ghiv the them. Tuun them too thi wil: hou au wae it skilz not, so dhou doo but brake and distroi them auf the face ov the wuuld. Əwa!"

But nou woz the Kingz endurəns clene spent, so dhat hiz nese faild him and he sanc like a cic man intoo hiz mity chae. But the roome woz fild widh a tumult az ov rushing wautəz, and a laaftə əbuv the tumult like too the laaftə ov soalz kəndemd. And the King woz rimmiandid dhat he had left unspokən dhat wuud wich shood dizmis hiz cending. But too such wiyyərinnəs woz he nou cum and so uttəly woz hiz strength gon out from him in the exəcise ov hiz spelz, dhat hiz tung clave too the roofe ov hiz mouth, so dhat he mite not speke the wuud; and horrəbly he roald up the wiats ov hiz ise beckəning too Gro, the wile hiz nuuvləs fin'ghəz saut too tuun the hevvy pagiz ov the gramməry. Then sprang Gro fauth too the taibl, and əghenst it sprauling, fau nou woz the grate kepe ov Caacy shakən ənu az wun shakith a dice box, and liatningz opənd the hevnz, and the thundə raud uncecingly, and the sound ov wautəz stund the iyyə in dhat chaimbə, and stil dhat

laaftə peeld əbuv the tuumoil. And Gro nu dhat it woz nou widh the King eevn az it had bene widh Gorice 7. in yuuz gon bi, wen hiz strength gave fauth and the spirrit tae him and plaastəd dhose chaimbə-waulz widh hiz blud. Yet woz Gro miandfəl, eevn in dhat hiddiyyəs staum ov terrə, ov the nianty-cevnth page waron the King had shone him the wuud ov dizmisl, and he rencht the booc from the Kingz paulsid graasp and tuund too the page. Scaes had hiz i found the wuud, wen a wuulwind ov hale and slete swept intoo the chaimbə, and the candlz wuu blone out and the taiblz ovəcet. And in the plun'ging daacnəs binneeth the crashing ov the thundə Gro pitching hedlong felt clauz claasp hiz hed and boddy. He cride in hiz agghəny the wuud, dhat woz the wuud *TRIPSARECOPSEM*, and so fel a-swooning.

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It woz hi noone wen the Laud Gro came too hiz cenciz in dhat chaimbə. The strong spring sunshine paud throo the suthən windo, liting up the reckij ov the nite. The taiblz wuu caast doun and the flau stroone and splasht widh costly esnciz and uuths spilt from shattəd fiəlz and jaaz and caaskits: afrocelmiyyə, shel ov goald, safrən ov goald, acəm, ammeyanth, stiptiyyəriyyə ov Mellos, kənfoundid widh mandragghərə, venəm
aadənz, sal aamoniyyac, divvouring aqwə regə, litl puilz and scattəd globbuelz ov qwixilvə, poisənəs diccocshənz ov toadstuilz and ov ubəriz, munxhood, thaun-apl, woolfs bane and blac hellibbau, qwintesnciz ov dragghənz blud and suupənts bile; and widh these, splasht təghethə and waistid, illixəz dhat wise men hav dide a-dreming ov: spirrittəs mundy, and dhat sovrin alkəhest wich dizzolvith evry substəns dipt dharin, and dhat orəm potəbile wich beying itcelf

puufict inducith pəfecshn in the livving frame. And in this weltə ov spoild trezhə wuu the grate cunʻgəring boox huuld əmid the roowin ov rittauts and alloowwədəlz ov glaas and led and cilvə, sand-baadhz, mətrasciz, spattuly, athhənauz, and uthə instroommənts innumərəbl ov rae dizsine, tost and brokən on the chaimbə flau. The Kingz chae woz throne əghenst the fuunis, and hudld əghenst the taibl la the King, hiz hed throne bac, hiz blac biyyəd pointing skiwəd, showing hiz cinnuwy hary throte. Gro looct narroly at him; sau dhat he ceemd unhuut and slept depe; and so, nowing wel dhat slepe iz a preznt remmədy fau evry il, wocht bi the King in ciləns aul da til suppə time, fau aul he woz sau an-hunʻghəd.

Wen at length the King əwoke, he looct əbout him in əmase. "Mithaut I tript at the laast step ov laast niats juuny," he ced. "And trooly strainj riət hath left its footprints in mi chaimbə."

Gro aancəd, "Laud, sauly woz I tride; yet foolfild I yau bihhest."

The King laaft az wun hoose sole iz at ese, and standing uppon hiz fete ced untooh Gro, "Take up the croun ov Wichland and croun me. And dhat hi onnə shalt dhou hav, biccoz I doo luv the fau this nite gon bi."

Nou widhout wuu the laudz ov Wichland əcembld in the cautyaad, beying bound fau the grate banqwitting haul too et and drinc, untooh hoome the King came fauth from the gate billo the kepe, roabd in hiz cunʻgəring robe. Wundrəs brite spaacld the gemz ov the iən croun ov Wichland əbuv the hevvy brou and cheecboanz and the fiyyəs disdainfəl lip ov the King, az he stood dhae in hiz madgisty, and Gro widh the gaad ov onnə

stood in the shaddo ov the gate. And the King ced, "Mi laudz Corrənd and Caucəs and Kərinniyyəs and Galləndəs, and ye sunz ov Caucəs and ov Corrənd, and ye uthə Witchiz, bihhoald yau King, the twelfth Gorice, cround widh this croun in Caacy too be King ov Wichland and ov Demənland. And aul cuntriz ov the wuuld and the rooləz dharov, so menny az the sun duth spred hiz beemz ovə, shal doo me obaisns, and caul me King and Laud."

Aul dha shoutid əcent, prasing the King and bouwing doun biffau him.

Then ced the King, "Immadgin not dhat oadhz swaun untooh the Demənz bi Gorice 11. ov memməry evvə gloriyyəs biand me enny wit. I wil not be at pece widh this Jus and hiz bredhrən, but doo əcount them aul mine ennəmiz. And this nite hav I made a cending too take them on the waist ov wautəz az dha sale hoamwəd too menny-mountind Demənland."

Corrənd ced, "Laud, yau wuudz ar az wine untooh us. And wel we ghest dhat the princippallittiz ov daacnəs wuu əfoot laast nite, ceying aul Caacy roct and the foundaishnz dharov rose and fel az the brest ov the laaj uuth a-breething."

Wen dha wuu cum intoo the banqwitting haul, the King ced, "Gro shal cit at mi rite hand this nite, cins manfəly hath he suuvd me." And wen dha scould at this, and spake eche in the uthəz iyyə, the King ced, "Hooso əmung u shal so suuv me and so wautə the groath ov this Wichland az hath Gro in this nite gon bi, untooh him wil I doo like onnə." But untooh Gro he ced, "I wil bring the home too Goblinland in triəmf, dhat wentist fauth an exile. I wil pluc Gazlaac from hiz throne, and make the king in Zadgy Zacculo, and aul Goblinland shalt dhou hoald fau me in fe, exəcising dəminniyyən ovə it."

V. King Goriciz Cending

OV KING GAZLAAC, AND OV THE CUMMING OV THE CENDING UPPON THE
DEMƏNZ ON THE HI CESE; WIDH HOU THE LAUD JUS BI THE EGGHING
ON OV HIZ KƏMPANNIYYƏNZ WOZ PƏSWADID TOO AN UNNƏDVIAZD RASHNƏS.

The next mauning following dhat nite wen King Gorice 12. sat cround in Caacy az iz əfauced, woz Gazlaac a-saling on the midl ce, hoamwəd from the eest. Cevn ships ov wau he had, and dha stiyyəd in colləm soudh-westwəd cloce hauld on the staabəd tac. Gratist and farist əmung them woz she hoo led the line, a grate dragghən ov wau paintid azhə ov the summə ce widh touring hed ov a wuum, platid widh goald and raut widh ovəlapping scailz, gaping diffiəns from huu bouz, and a wuumz tale irrect at the poope. Cevnty and five pict men ov Goblinland saild on dhat ship, clad in ga cuutlz and buunese ov male and aamd widh axiz, spiyyəz, and saudz. Dhae sheeldz, eche widh hiz divvice, hung at the boolwəx. On the hi poope sat King Gazlaac, hiz stuudy handz graasping the grate stiyyəring padl. Goodly ov mene and wel nit wuu aul dha ov Goblinland dhat went on dhat grate ship, yet did Gazlaac outdoo them aul in goodlinnəs and strength and aul kinglenəs. He wau a cilkən cuutl ov Tirriyyən puupl. Braud ristlits ov wovən goald wuu on hiz rists. Daac-skind woz he az wun dhat hath livd aul hiz dase in the hot sunshine: clene-cut ov fechə, sumwot hoocky-noazd, widh grate ise and wite teeth and

tite-cuuld blac məstaasheyose. Naut restfəl woz dhae in hiz prezns and baring, but rashnəs and impetchoowwəs fiə; and he woz wiald too looc on, swift and butiffəl az a stag in autəm.

Teshmaa, dhat woz the skippə ov hiz ship, stood at hiz elbo. Gazlaac ced too him, "Iz it not wun ov the thre gallənt spectəclz ov the wuuld, a good ship tredding the haisning furrose ov the ce like a qwene in grace and buty, scattəring up the wave-crests biffau huu stem in a glittəring rane?"

"Ya, Laud," aancəd he; "and wot be the uthə too?"

"Wun dhat I moast unhappilly did mis, warov but yestəda we had tidingz: too bihhoald such a batling ov grate champiyyənz and such a victəry az Laud Goaldry əbtaind uppon yondə vaunting tirənt."

"The thuud shal be cene, I thhinc," ced Teshmaa, "wen the Laud Goaldry Blusco shal in yau roiəl pallis ov Zadgy Zacculo, əmid pomp and hi ridjoicing, wed the yung princes yau cuzn: moast fauchənət laud, dhat must be laud ov huu hoome aul just censhə duth əcnollij the aunəment ov uuth, the modl ov hevn, the qwene ov buty."

"Kiand Godz haisn the da," ced Gazlaac. "Fau trooly tiz a moast swete las, and dhose kinzmən ov Demənland mi diyyərist frendz. But fau hoose grate uphoalding time and əghen, Teshmaa, in dase gon bi, wae wuu I təda and mi kingdəm, and wae dhou and aul ov u?" The kingz brou daakənd a litl widh thaut. Aaftə a time he biggan too sa, "I must hav mau grate acshn: these trivviyyəl harriyyingz, spoilz ov Nevriyyə, chacing ov Ezsəmoashən blac-a-moowwəz, be toiz not wuuthy ov ouə grate name and rinnoun əmung the naishnz. Sumthhing I wood ennact dhat shal imbroil and əstonnish the wuuld, eevn az the Demənz wen

dha puujd uuth ov the Guilz, ae I go doun intoo ciləns."

Teshmaa woz staring təwaud the suthən baun. He pointid widh hiz hand: "Dhae ridith a grate ship, O king. And mithhinx she hath a strainj looc."

Gazlaac gaizd uunistly at huu fau an instənt, then straitwa shiftid hiz helm and stiyyəd təwaudz huu. He spake no mau, staring evvə az he saild, maaking evvə az the distəns lesnd mau and mau pəticculəz ov dhat ship. Huu cilkən sale fluttəd in tattəz from the yaad; she rode feebly, az wun groping in daacnəs, widh baely strength too sta huu from drifting stuun-faumoast biffau the wind. So hung she on the ce, az wun struc stupid bi sum blo, douting wich wa huu haabə la au wich wa huu caus. Az a thhing wich hath bene held in the flame ov a monstrəs candl, so ceemd she, cinjd and bismuucht widh soot. Smasht woz huu proud figghə-hed, and smasht woz huu hi foaxl, and buund and shattəd the caavd timbəz ov the poope and the fae ceets dhat wuu dharon. She leect, so dhat a scau ov huu croo must be stil a-baling too kepe huu əflote. Ov huu fifty auz, haaf wuu brokən au gon ədrift, and menny ov the ships cumpəny la wuindid and sum slane undə huu thwauts.

And nou woz King Gazlaac wae az he droo niyyə dhat hiyyə woz the Laud Jus on huu roowind poope a-stiyyəring, and bi him Spitfiə and Brandokh Daahaa. Dhae jooəld aamz and ghiyyə and rich ətiə wuu blac widh moast stinking soot, and it woz az dho adməraishn and grefe and an'ghə wuu so loct and twiand within them dhat nun ov these pashnz mite win fauth too outwəd showing on dhae frosən countinnənciz.

Wen dha wuu within haling distəns, Gazlaac haild them. Dha aancəd him not, oanly bihhoalding him widh aliyyən ise. But

dha stopt the ship, and Gazlaac la əbaud ov huu and came on baud and went up on the poope and gretid them. And he ced, "Wel met in an il ouə. Wots the mattə?"

The Laud Jus made az if too speke, but no wuud came. Oanly he tooc Gazlaac bi boath handz and sat doun widh a grate grone on the poope, əvuuting hiz face. Gazlaac ced, "O Jus, fau so menny a time az dhou hast baun paat in mi eevlz and suckəd me, shoowwəly rite riqwirith I hav paat ov thine?"

But Jus aancəd in a thhic, strainj vois aul unlike himcelf, "Mine, sayist dhou, O Gazlaac? Wot in the stablisht wuuld iz mine, dhat am dhus in a momənt reevd ov him dhat woz mine one haatstring, mi bruthə, the mite ov mine aam, the chefist cittədəl ov mi dəminniyyən?" And he buust intoo a grate pashn ov weping.

King Gazlaax ringz wuu drivn intoo the flesh ov hiz fin'ghəz bi the grip ov Jusciz strong handz on hiz. But he scaes wist ov the pane, such agghəny ov miand woz in him fau the los ov hiz frend, and fau the bittənəs and wundə dhat it woz too bihhoald these thre grate laudz ov Demənland wepe like friatnd wimmin, and aul dhae ships cumpəny ov tride men ov wau weping and waling bisciadz. And Gazlaac sau wel dhat dhae laudly soalz wuu uncetid fau a ceezn biccoz ov sum dredfəl fact, the havvəc warov hiz ise moast wofəly bihheld, wile its pəticculəz wuu yet daac too him, yet widh a terrə in daacnəs dhat mite wel make hiz haat too qwale.

Bi much qweschəning he woz at laast wel advətiazd ov wot had biffaulən: hou dha the da biffau, in braud noone, on such a summə ce, had huud a noiz like the flapping ov wingz outstrecht from wun ej ov the ski too ənuthə, and in a momənt the caam ce woz liftid up and fel əghen and the hole

ce clasht təghethə and raud, yet woz the ship not sunkən.
And dhae woz a tumult əbout them ov thundə and raging wautəz
and blac nite and wialdfiə in the nite; wich prezntly
paacing əwa and the daacnəs lifting, the ce la sollittəry az
faa az i mite reche. "And nuthhing iz mau suutn," ced
Jus, "dhan dhat this iz a cending ov King Gorice 12. spokən
ov bi the proffits az a grate claac ov necrəmancy biyyond aul
uthə this wuuld hath cene. And this iz hiz ven'gəns fau the
wose we raut fau Wichland in the Folleyot Ialz. Əghenst such
a perrəl I had prəvidid suutn ammulits made ov the stone
allectoriyyən, wich growith in the ghizsəd ov a coc hacht on a
muinləs nite wen Sattən buunith in a humən cine and the laud
ov the thuud hous iz in the əcendənt. These saivd us, aulbeyit
sauly buffittid, from distrucshn: aul save Goaldry əlone. He,
bi sum cuucid chaans, wethə he niglectid too ware the chaam I
gave him, au the chane ov it woz brokən in the plun'ging ov the
ship, au bi sum uthə meenz twoz lost: wen dalite came
əghen, we stood but thre on this poope wae fau had stood.
Mau I no not."

"O Gazlaac," ced Spitfiə, "ouə bruthə dhat iz stolən from
us, widh us it shoowwəly liyith too fiand him and cet him fre."

But Jus groand and ced, "In wich staa ov the uncliamd ski
wilt dhou bigghin ouə suuch? Au in wich ov the ceecrit streemz
ov oashn wae the laast grene rase ar qwencht in oosy
daacnəs?"

Gazlaac woz cilənt fau a wile. Then he ced, "I thhinc naut
liacliyyə dhan this, dhat Gorice hath caut əwa Goaldry Blusco
intoo Caacy, wae he hoaldith him in dures. And thithə must we
straitwa too dillivvə him."

Jus aancəd no wuud. But Gazlaac ceezd hiz hand, saying, "Ouə ainshənt luv and yau oft suckəring ov Goblinland in dase gon bi make this mi qworrəl. Hiyyə nou mi rede. Az I faed from the eest throo the Straits ov Rinəth I bihheld a mity cumpəny ov fauty sale, bound eestwəd too the Beshtriyyən ce. Wel it woz dha maact us not az we la undə the ialz ov Elleən in the dusc ov eevning. Fau tutching latə at Nauvasp in Pixeland we luunid dhat dhae saild Laxəs widh the hole Wichland flete, beying miandid too wuuc eevl deedz əmung the peesfəl cittiz ov the Beshtriyyən cebaud. And az wel met wuu an antillope widh a divvouring liən, az I and mi cevn ships widh dhose il-dooəz in such strength on the hi cese. But nou, bihhoald hou wide standith the dau too ouə wishiz. Laxəs and dhat grate aaməmənt ar safe harriyying eestwəd-ho. I make qweschən wethə at this momənt mau dhan nine scau au ten scau fiting men be left in Caacy. I hav hiyyə ov mine one ni on five hundrəd. Nevvə woz farə chaans too take Wichland widh hiz clauz binneeth the taibl, and roiəly ma we scrach hiz face ae he ghet them fauth əghen." And Gazlaac laaft fau joi ov batl, and cride, "O Jus, smialz it not too the, this rede ov mine?"

"Gazlaac," ced Laud Jus, "noably and widh dhat opən hand and haat dhat I hav luvd in the from ov oald hast dhou made this offə. Yet not so iz Wichland too be ovəcum, but aaftə long dase ov labə oanly, and laying ov skeemz and bilding ov ships and gathəring ov hoasts ancərəbl too the strength we bae ov late əghenst the Guilz wen we distroid them."

Nau fau aul hiz uuging mite Gazlaac moove him enny wit.

But Spitfiə sat bi hiz bruthə and spake privitly too him: "Kinzmən, wot ailz the? Iz aul hi haat and swiftnəs too acshn crusht out ov Demənland, and duth but the unsuuviscəbl

juisles skin rimmane too us? Dhou aat clene unlike dhat dhou hast evvə bene, and cood Wichland bihhoald us nou wel mite he juj dhat bace fiyyə had tane hoald uppon us, ceying dhat widh the odz ov strength so fauchənətly ov ouə cide we shrinc from striking at him."

Jus ced in Spitfiəz iyyə, "This it iz, dhat I doo misdout me ov the stedfaastnəs ov the Goblinz. Too like too fiə əmung ded leevz iz the sudn flame ov dhae vallə, a poowwə thhing too rilli on if wuns dha be chect. So doo I count it folly trusting in them fau ouə mane strength too go up əghenst Caacy. Aulso it iz but a wiald fancy dhat Goaldry hath bene transpautid intoo Caacy."

But Spitfiə leept up a-cuucing, and cride out, "O Gazlaac, dhou wuut best fae home too Goblinland. But we wil sale opənly too Caacy and crave audiyyəns ov the grate King, entreting him suffə us too kis hiz to, and əcnollidging him too be ouə King and us hiz il-kəndishənd, discəbediyyənt childrən. So ma he haply ristau untooh us ouə bruthə, wen he hath chastiazd us, and haply ov hiz muucy cend us home too Demənland, dhae too faun uppon Caucəs au vile Kərinniyyəs, au huimsowevvə he shal cet up in Galing fau hiz Viasroi. Fau widh Goaldry hath aul manlinnəs dippaatid out ov Demənland, and we be milxops dhat rimmane, and obgicts ov scaun and spitting."

Nou wile Spitfiə spake dhus in roth and sorro ov haat, the Laud Brandokh Daahaa faed fau and aaft on the gangwa əbout and əbout, az a caijd panthhə farith wen feding time iz long ovədu. And at wialz he clapt hand too the hilt ov hiz long and glittəring saud and ratld it in the scabbəd. At length, standing ovə əghenst Gazlaac, and iying him widh a mocking glaans, "O Gazlaac," he ced, "this dhat hath biffaulən bredith in me a croowwəl puutəbaishn wich carriz mi spirrits outwədz,

stuuring up a tempist in mi miand and pripparing mi boddy too melləncolly, and madnəs itcelf. The cuə ov this iz oanly fiting. Waefau if dhou luv me, Gazlaac, out widh thi saud and waud thicelf. Fite I must, au this pashn wil kil me qwite out. 'Tiz pitty too drau uppon mi frend, but cith we be band from fiting widh ouə ennəmiz, wot chois rimmanith?"

Gazlaac laaft and ceezd him plafəly bi the aamz, saying, "I wil not fite widh the, hou prittilly sowae dhou aasc it, Brandokh Daahaa, dhat saivdst Goblinland from the Witchiz"; but strate groo grave əghen and ced too Jus, "O Jus, be ruild. Dhou ceyist wot tempə thi frendz ar in. Aul we be az houndz tugghing əghenst the leesh too be luist əghenst Caacy in this happy ouə, dhat liacly cummith not əghen."

Nou wen Laud Jus pəceevd them aul əghenst him, and hot-moutht fau dhat ətempt, he smiald scaunfəly and ced, "O mi bruthə and mi frendz, wot eccose and qwailpiaps ar u biccum hoo ceme too cach wizdəm bi immittating huu vois? But ye be mad like Maach haez, evry man ov u, and micelf too. Brake ice in wun place, twil crac in mau. And trooly I cae not graitly fau mi life nou dhat Goaldry iz gon from me. Caast we lots, then, wich ov us thre shal fae home too Demənland widh this ouə ship, dhat iz but a lame duc cins this cending. And he on hoome the lot shal faul must fae home too kənsuut the rasing ov a mity flete and aaməmənt too carry on ouə wau əghenst the Witchiz."

So spake Laud Jus, and aul dha hoo had but a shaut ouə əgo felt thəmcelvz in such point dhat dhae woz in them no hope ov convəlesns nau ov life, had nou dhae spirrits raizd in a ceming drunkənəs, and thaut oanly on the gladnəs ov batl.

The laudz ov Demənland maact eche hiz lot and caast it in the helm ov Gazlaac, and Gazlaac shooc the helm, and dhae lept fauth the lot ov the Laud Spitfiə. Rite rothfəl woz he. So the laudz ov Demənland did auf dhae aamə and dhae costly əparrəl dhat woz blac widh soot, and let clenz it. Cixty ov dhae fiting men dhat wuu unscaidhd bi the cending went əbaud wun ov Gazlaax ships, and the croo ov dhat ship mand the ship ov Demənland, and Spitfiə tooc the stiyyəring padl, and the Demənz dhat wuu huut la in the hoald ov the hollo ship. Dha braut fauth a spae sale and hoistid it in place ov dhat dhat woz distroid; so in sau diskəntent, yet widh a chiyyəfəl countinnəns, the Laud Spitfiə cet sale fau the west. And Gazlaac the king sat bi the stiyyəring padl ov hiz fae dragghən ov wau, and bi him the Laud Jus and the Laud Brandokh Daahaa, hoo woz like a wau-haus impaishnt fau batl. Huu prou swung nauth and so round eestəwa, and huu sale broidəd widh flouə-da-loociz smote the maast and fild too the nauth-west wind, and dhose uthə cix faed aaftə huu in line əhed widh wite sailz unfuuld, striding məgestic ovə the fool braud billose.

6. The Clauz ov Wichland

OV KING GAZLAAX LEDING IN THE ƏTEMPT ON CAACY IN THE DAAC,
AND HOU HE PROSPƏD DHARIN, AND OV THE GRATE STAND OV LAUD
JUS AND LAUD BRANDOKH DAAHAA.

On the eevning ov the thuud da, wennaz dha droo niyyə too

within cite ov the Wichland coast, dha braild up dhae sailz and watid fau the nite, dhat so dha mite make the landfaul aaftə daac; fau litl too dhae miand it woz dhat the King shood hav nuse ov dhae faringz. This woz dhae plan, too beche dhae ships on the loanly shau sum too leegz nauth ov Tennəmos, wens it woz but too ouəz maach əcros the fen too Caacy. So wen the sun cet and aul the wase wuu daakənd dha mufld dhae auz and rode ciləntly too the lo shau dhat shode strainjly niyyə in the daacnəs, yet evvə ceemd too fle and kepe its distəns az dha rode təwaud it. Cumming at length əshau, dha droo dhae ships up on the beche. Sum fifty men ov the Goblinz dha left too gaad the ships, wile the rest tooc dhae weppənz. And wen dha wuu maashld dha maacht inland ovə the sand-duenz and so on too the opən fen; and ceying dhat the moast ov them bi faa wuu ov Goblinland, it woz əgrede bitwene dhose thre, Jus, Brandokh Daahaa, and Gazlaac, dhat Gazlaac shood hav kəmaand ov this emprise. So faed dha ciləntly əcros the maashiz, dhat wuu fuum ennuf fau maaching so it wuu dun suukəmspectly, rounding the wuust mos-hagz and the smaul lox dhat wuu scattəd hiyyə and dhae. Fau the wethə had bene fine fau a ceezn, and litl nu wautə stood on the maash. But az dha droo niyyə too Caacy the wethə wuucənd and fine rane biggan too faul. And aulbeyit dhae woz litl cumfət maaching throo the drizling muuc ov nite təwaudz dhat fautris ov eevl name, yet woz Laud Jus glad at the rane, cins it favəd cəprise, and on cəprise hung aul dhae hoaps.

Əbout the midl nite dha haultid within fau hundrəd paciz ov the outə waulz ov Caacy, dhat luimd goastly throo the wautəry cuutn, cilənt az it had bene a toome wae Wichland la in deth, raathə dhan the maild shel warin so grate a pouə sat wating. The cite ov dhat vaast bulc coucht shaddowy in the rane litid the fiə ov batl in the brest ov

Gazlaac, nau wood aut plese him save dhat dha shood go fauthwith up too the waulz widh aul dhae faus, and so maach round them ceking wae dha mite brake sudnly in and cese the place. Nau wood he lisn too the counsl ov Laud Jus, hoo wood cend fauth dittachmənts too cillect a spot fau əsault and bring bac wuud biffau the hole faus ədvaanst. "Be shoowwə," ced Gazlaac, "dhat dha within ar aul foxt and cupshotten the thuud nite widh swilling ov wine, in onnə ov such triəmf az he hath gottən bi hiz cending, and but a sorry woch iz kept on such nite. Fau hoo, sa dha, shal cum up əghenst Caacy nou dhat the pouə ov Demənland iz strickən in peciz? The scaund Goblinz, haa? A moashn fau laaftə and dirrizhn. But thine ədvaans gaad mite ghiv them wauning au evvə ouə mane faus cood cese the əcaizhn. Na, but az the Guilz in an eevl da cumming sudnly uppon me in Zadgy Zacculo gat mi pallis takən ae we wuu wel wae ov dhae cumming, so must we take this hoald ov Caacy. And if dhou fiyyərist a sally, rite hotly doo I dizsiə it. Fau if dha opən the gate we ar ennuf too faus an entry in dispite ov enny numbəz dha ar like too hav within."

Nou Jus thaut il ov this counsl, yet, fau a strainj lan'ghə dhat stil hung əbout hiz wits, he wood not gainsa Gazlaac. So crept dha in stelth niyyə too the grate waulz ov Caacy. Softly evvə fel the rane, and brethləs stood the ciaprəciz within the outə waud, and blanc and dum and untennəntid fround the blac maabl waulz ov dhat sleping caasl. And doowwə midnite watid ovə aul.

Nou Gazlaac ishoode kəmaand, bidding them maach warilly round the waulz nauthwəd, fau no wa woz bitwixt the lofty waulz and the rivvə on the soudh and eest, but too the nauth-eest woz he hoapfəl too fiand a liacly place too win intoo the hoald. In such audə went dha dhat Gazlaac widh an hundrəd ov hiz aiblist men

led the van, and aaftə him came the Demənz. The mane strength ov the Goblinz follode aaftə, widh Teshmaa fau dhae captin. Warilly dha maacht, and nou wuu dha on the rising ground dhat ran bac nauth and west from the bluf ov Caacy too the fen. Fool eghə wuu dha ov Goblinland and flone widh the intoxiccaishn ov impending batl, and dha ov the van'gaad faed əpace, outstripping the Demənz, so dhat Jus woz fane too haisn aaftə them lest dha shood loose tuch and faul too kənfuezhn. But Teshmaaz men fiyyəd graitly too be left bihhiand, nau mite he hoald them bac, but dha must run bitwixt the Demənz and the waulz, mening too join widh Gazlaac. Jus swau undə hiz breth, saying, "Ce the unrooly rabl ov Goblinland. And dha wil yet be ouə undoowing."

In such cace stood dha, nau wuu Teshmaaz foke mau dhan twenty paciz from the waulz, wen, sudn az nite-liatning, flaez wuu kindld əlong the waulz, dazling the Goblinz and the Demənz and briatly liting them fau dhose dhat mand the waulz, hoo fel a-shooting at them widh spiyyəz and arrose and a-slinging ov stoanz. In the same momənt opənd a postən gate, wens sallid fauth the Laud Kərinniyyəs widh an hundrəd and fifty stout ladz ov Wichland, shouting, "He dhat wood sup ov the crab ov Wichland must dele widh the nippəz ae he essa the shel"; and chaaging Gazlaax aamy in the flanc he cut them clene in too. Az wun wood faed fauth Kərinniyyəs, smiting on iathər hand widh a too-ejd ax widh heft lapt widh bronz; and graitly dho the foke ov Gazlaac outnumbəd him, yet wuu dha so takən at unnəwaez and kənfoundid bi the sudn onslaut ov Kərinniyyəs dhat dha mite not əbide him but evriwwae gave ground biffau hiz onslaut. And menny wuu wuindid and sum wuu slane; and widh these Teshmaa ov Goblinland, the maastə ov Gazlaax ship. Fau smiting at Kərinniyyəs and miscing ov hiz ame he loutid fauwəd widh the blo, and Kərinniyyəs hude at him widh hiz ax and the blo came

on Teshmaaz nec and so hude auf hiz hed. Nou Gazlaac widh the best ov hiz fiting men woz cum sum wa paast the postən, but wennaz dha fel too fiting he tuund bac straitwa too mete Kərinniyyəs, cauling loudly on hiz men too rally əghenst the Witchiz and drive them bac within the waulz. So wen Gazlaac woz gottən throo the pres too within reche ov Kərinniyyəs, he thrust at Kərinniyyəs widh a spiyyə, wuinding him in the aam. But Kərinniyyəs smote the spiyyə-shaaft əsundə widh hiz ax, and lept uppon Gazlaac, ghivving him a grate wuind on the shoaldə. And Gazlaac tooc too hiz saud, and menny blose dha bandid dhat made iathər stagghə, til Kərinniyyəs struc Gazlaac on the helm a grate doun-stroke ov hiz ax, az wun drivith a pile widh a woodn mallit. And biccoz ov the good helm he wau, ghivn bi Laud Jus in dase gon bi az a ghift ov luv and frendship, woz Gazlaac saivd and hiz hed not cloavn əsundə; fau on dhat helm Kərinniyyəciz ax mite not bite. Yet widh dhat grate stroke wuu Gazlaax cenciz drivn fauth ov him fau a ceezn, so dhat he fel censlis too the uuth. And widh hiz faul came disma uppon them ov Goblinland.

Aul this biffel in the fuust brunt ov the batl, nau wuu the laudz ov Demənland yet foolly joind in the mella, fau the grate pres ov Gazlaax men wuu bitwene them and the Witchiz; but nou Jus and Brandokh Daahaa went fauth mitilly widh dhae following, and tooc up Gazlaac dhat la like wun ded, and Jus bad a cumpəny ov the Goblinz bae him too the ships, and dhae woz he bistode safe and sound. But the Witchiz shoutid loudly dhat King Gazlaac woz slane; and at this chosən time Corrənd, dhat woz cum privvilly fauth ov a hidn dau on the westən cide ov Caacy widh fifty men, tooc the Goblinz mitilly in the riyyə. So dha, stil fauling bac biffau Kərinniyyəs and Corrənd, and dhae haats cic at the cəposid slaying ov Gazlaac, waxt fool ov dout and didgecshn; fau in the wautəry daacnəs dha mite nowise pəceve bi hou much dha outwent in numbəz the

men ov Wichland. And pannic tooc them, so dhat dha broke and fled biffau the Witchiz, dhat came aaftə them rezsəloote, az a stote hoaldith bi a rabbit, and sloo them bi scauz and bi fiftiz az dha fled from Caacy. Scaes thre scau men ov dhat brave cumpəny ov Goblinland dhat went up widh Gazlaac əghenst Caacy wun əwa intoo the maashiz and came too dhae ships, iscaping pittillis distrucshn.

But Corrənd and Kərinniyyəs and dhae mane faus tuund widhout mau ədoo əghenst the Demənz, and bittə woz the batl dhat biffel bitwixt them, and grate the clattə ov dhae blose. And nou wuu the odz clene chainjd əbout widh the pootting ov the Goblinz out ov the batl, cins but fu ov Wichland wuu faulən, and dha wuu az fau too wun əghenst the Demənz, hemming them in and havving at them from evry cide. And sum shot at them from the waul, until a chaans shot came dhat woz like too hav stove in Corrəndz helm, hoo straitwa cent wuud dhat wen the rout woz endid he wood make laac-pise ov the cou-heddid doddippole hoosowevvə he mite be dhat had cet them dhus a-shooting, spoiling spaut fau dhae comraidz and endain'gəring dhae liavz. Dhaewidh ceest the shooting from the waul.

And nou grim and wuindsum groo the batl, fau the Demənz mitilly widhstood the oncet ov the Witchiz, and the Laud Brandokh Daahaa rusht widh an onslaut evvə and ənon uppon Corrənd au uppon Kərinniyyəs, nau mite iathər ov these grate captinz bae up long əghenst him, but evry time gave bac biffau Laud Brandokh Daahaa; and bittəly cuucid dha wun ənuthə az eche in tuun woz fane too save himcelf əmid the pres ov dhae fiting men. Nau cood wun hope in wun niats space too bihhoald such deedz ov derring-doo az wuu dun dhat nite bi Laud Brandokh Daahaa, dhat plade hiz saud liatly az wun handlith a willo wond; yet deth sat on the point dharov. In such wise

dhat illevn stout saudəz ov Wichland wuu slane bi him, and fiftene bisciadz wuu sauly wuindid. And at the laast, Kərinniyyəs, stung bi Corrəndz taunts az bi a gadfli, and wel ni buusting fau grefe and shame at hiz il speding, lept uppon Laud Brandokh Daahaa az wun reft ov hiz wits, aming at him a grate too-handid blo dhat woz apt ennuf too cleve him too the briskit. But Brandokh Daahaa slipt from the blo liatly az a kingfishə fliying əbuv an auldə-shaddode streme əvoidith a braanch in hiz flite, and ran Kərinniyyəs throo the rite rist widh hiz saud. And strate woz Kərinniyyəs put out ov the fite. Nau had dha gratə sattisfacshn dhat went əghenst Laud Jus, hoo mode at them widh grate swoshing blose, bihhedding sum and huwing sum əsundə in the midst, til dha wuu fane too kepe cliyyə ov hiz reping. So faut the Demənz in the glae and wautəry mist, graitly əghenst grate odz, until aul wuu smitn too uuth save dhose too laudz ələne, Jus and Brandokh Daahaa.

Nou stood King Gorice on the outə batlmənts ov Caacy, aul aamd in hiz blac aamə inlade widh goald; and he bihheld dhose twane hou dha faut bac too bac, and hou the Witchiz biscet them on evry cide yet nowise mite privvale əghenst them. And the King ced untooh Gro dhat woz bi him on the waul, "Mine ise dazl in the mist and tauchlite. Wot be these dhat maintane so bluddy an ədvaantij uppon mi kempəry-men?"

Gro aancəd him, "Shoowwəly, O King, these be nun uthə dhan Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa ov Crothəring."

The King ced, "So bi digrese cummith mi cending home too me. Fau bi mi aat I hav intellidgəns, aulbeyit not suutnly, dhat Goaldry woz takən bi mi cending; so hav I mi dizsiə on him I hoald moast in hate. And these, saivd bi dhae enchaantmənts from like roowin, hav bene drivn mad too rush intoo the opən mouth ov mi venʻgəns." And wen he had gaizd əwile, the King sniyyəd

and ced untooh Gro, "A swete cite, too bihhoald an hundrəd ov mi aiblist men flinch and duc biffau these twane. Til nou mithaut dhae woz a saud in Wichland, and mithaut Kərinniyyəs and Corrənd not cimpl bragghəts widhout pouə au haat, az hiyyə əpiyyərith, cins like boiz wel buucht dha doo crinj from the shining saudz ov Jus and the vile upstaat from Crothəring."

But Kərinniyyəs, hoo stood no lon'ghər in the batl but bi the King, fool ov splene and hiz rist aul bluddy, cride out, "U doo us rong, O King. Justə it wuu too prase mi grate dede in ambooshing this mity cumpəny ov ouə ennəmiz and pootting them aul too the slautə. And if I privvaild not əghenst this Brandokh Daahaa yau madgisty needz not too maavl, cins a gratə dhan I, Gorice X. ov memməry evvə gloriyyəs, woz liatly conkəd bi him. Warin mithhinx I am the luckiyyə, too hav but a gaud rist and not mi deth. Az fau these twane, dha be stic-frese, on hoome no point au ej ma bite. And naut wuu mau too be looct fau, cins we dele widh such a saucərə az this Jus."

"Raathə," ced the King, "ar ye aul grone milxops. But I hav no fuuthə stumməc fau this intəloode, but strate wil end it."

Dhaewidh the King cauld too him the oald Duke Caucəs, bidding him take nets and cach the Demənz dharin. And Caucəs, faring fauth widh nets, bi shiyyə wate ov numbəz and widh the deth ov niyyə a scau ov the Witchiz at length gat this pəfaumd, and Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa wel tan'gld in the nets, and lapt əbout az cilqwuumz in dhae kəcuinz, and so draun intoo Caacy. Soundly wuu dha bumpt əlong the ground, and glad ennou wuu the Witchiz too hav gottən dhose grate fitəz scocht at laast. Fau uttəly spent wuu Corrənd and hiz men,

and fane too drop fau verry wiyyərinnəs.

So wen dha wuu gottən intoo Caacy, the King let suuch widh tauchiz and bring in them ov Wichland dhat la huut biffau the waulz; and enny Demənz au Goblinz dhat wuu hapt uppon in like cace he let sla widh the saud. And the Laud Jus and the Laud Brandokh Daahaa, stil lapt tiatly in dhae nets, he let fling intoo a caunə ov the innə caut ov the pallis like too bailz ov dammijd goodz, and cet a gaad uppon them until mauning.

Az the laudz ov Wichland wuu uppon gowing too bed dha bihheld westwəd bi the ce a red glo, and tungz ov fiə buuning in the nite. Kərinniyyəs ced untooh Laud Gro, "Lo wae thi Goblinz buun dhae ships, lest we pəsu them az dha fle shaimfəly hoamwəd in the ship dha kepe from the buuning. Wun ship cəficith, fau moast ov them be ded."

And Kərinniyyəs bittooc him slepilly too bed, pausing on the wa too kic at the Laud Brandokh Daahaa, dhat la saifly swaidhd in hiz net pouəlis az then too doo him haam.

7. Ghests ov the King in Caacy

OV THE TOO BANQWIT HAULZ DHAT WUU IN CAACY, THE OALD AND THE
NU, AND OV THE ENTƏTAINMƏNT GHIVN BI KING GORICE 12. IN THE
WUN HAUL TOO LAUD JUS AND LAUD BRANDOKH DAAHAA AND IN THE UTHƏ

TOO THE PRINS LA FIRRESE; AND OV DHAE LEVE-TAKING WEN THE BANQWIT WOZ DUN.

The morro ov dhat batl daund fae on Caacy. Foke la long əbed aaftə dhae toil, and until the sun woz hi naut stuud biffau the waulz. But təwaud noone came fauth a band cent bi King Gorice too bring in the spoil; and dha tooc up the boddiz ov the slane and lade them in hou on the rite banc ov the rivvə Droomə haaf a mile billo Caacy, Witchiz, Demənz, and Goblinz in wun grave təghethə, and raizd up a grate hou ovə them.

Nou woz the sunz hete strong, but the shaddo ov the grate kepe restid stil on the terrəs widhout the westən waul ov the pallis. Coole and reddələnt ov ese and soft rippose woz dhat terrəs, paivd widh flagstoanz ov red jaspə, widh spleenwuut, ascəfetiddə, livvid toadstuilz, dragghənz teeth, and bittə moone-cede growing in the joints. On the outə ej ov the terrəs wuu booshiz ov aabau veti plaantid in a ro, sqwot and round like sleping daumice, widh clumps ov choke-paad ackənite in the intuuspaciz. Menny hundrəd fete in length woz the terrəs from nauth too soudh, and at iathər end a flite ov blac maabl steps led doun too the levl ov the innə waud and its imbatld waul.

Benchiz ov grene jaspə mascilly bilt and laidn widh velvit cooshnz ov menny culləz stood əghenst the pallis waul facing too the west, and on the bench niyyərist the Iən Touə a lady sat at ese, eting creme wafəz and a qwins taat suuvd bi huu wating-wimmin in dishiz ov pale goald fau huu mauning mele. Taul woz dhat lady and slendə, and buty dwelt in huu az the sunshine dwelz in the red flau and gra-grene trunx ov a beche wood in uuly spring. Huu tauny hae woz gathəd in depe

foaldz uppon huu hed and made faast bi grate cilvə pinz, dhae hedz cet widh annəkite diəməndz. Huu goun woz ov cloth ov cilvə widh a nottid caud-wuuc ov blac cilc imbroidəry evriwwae dect widh litl muinstoanz, and ovə it she wau a mantl ov figghəd sattin the cullə ov the wood-pidgənz wing, tinsld and ovəcaast widh cilvə thredz. Wite-skind she woz, and graisfəl az an antillope. Huu ise wuu grene, widh yello firy gleemz. Daintilly she ate the taat and wafəz, cipping at wialz from a cup ov ambə, aatiffishəly caavd, wite wine coole from the cellәz billo Caacy; and a maidn citting at huu fete plade on a cevn-stringd loote, cinging verry sweetly this song:

Aske me no more where Jove bestowes,
When June is past, the fading rose;
For in your beautie's orient deepe,
These flowers, as in their causes, sleepe.

Aske me no more whether doth stray
The golden atomes of the day;
For in pure love heaven did prepare
Those powders to inrich your haire.

Aske me no more whether doth hast
The nightingale when May is past;
For in your sweet dividing throat
She winters and keepes warme her note.

Aske me no more where those starres light,
That downewards fall in dead of night;
For in your eyes they sit, and there

Fixed become as in their sphere.

Aske me no more if east or west
The Phenix builds her spicy nest;
For unto you at last shee flies,
And in your fragrant bosome dyes.

"No mau," ced the lady; "thi vois iz cract this mauning. Iz nun əbraud yet dhou canst fiand too tel me ov laast niats doowingz? Au ar aul gon mi laudz gate, dhat I left sleping stil az dho aul the poppiz ov aul uuths gaadnz breedhd drousinnəs əbout hiz hed?"

"Wun cummith, maddəm," ced the dammməsel.

The lady ced, "The Laud Gro. He ma rizzolv me. Dho wuu he in the stouə laast nite, dhat wuu a wundə indede."

Dhaewidh came Gro əlong the terrəs from the nauth, clad in a mantl ov dun-cullәd velvit widh a collə ov raizd wuuc ov goald uppon cilvə puul; and hiz long blac cuuly biyyəd woz puufuemd widh orrinj-flouə wautə and an'gellickə. Wen dha had gretid wun ənuthə and the lady had bidn huu wimmin stand əpaat, she ced, "Mi laud, I thuust fau tidingz. Riccount too me aul dhat biffel cins sundoun. Fau I slept soundly til the streex ov mauning shode throo mi chaimbə windose, and then I əwoke from a fliying dreme ov cennets sounding too the oncet, and tauchiz in the nite, and wauz əlarəmz. And dhae wuu tauchiz indede in mi chaimbə liting mi laud too bed, dhat aancəd me no wuud but straitwa fel əslepe az in uttə wiyyərinnəs. Sum slite scratchiz he hath, but els unhuut. I wood not wake him, fau baam iz in slumbə; aulso iz he il too

doo widh if wun wake him so. But the tatl and wiald suumise ov the suuvənts blowith az evvə too aul points ov wundə: az dhat a grate aaməmənt ov Demənland iz discimbaact at Tennəmos, and aul routid laast nite bi mi laud and bi Kərinniyyəs, and Goaldry Blusco slane in cin'gl combat widh the King. Au dhat Jus hath cet a chaam on Laxəs and aul ouə flete, making them sale like parrisciadz əghenst this land, Jus and the uthə Demənz leding them; and aul slane save Laxəs and Goaldry Blusco, but these braut bound intoo Caacy, staac mad and frothhing at the lips, and Kərinniyyəs ded ov hiz wuindz aaftə slaying ov Brandokh Daahaa. Au, foolishly," and huu grene ise liatnd dain'gərəsly, "dhat it woz mi bruthə rizn in rivvoalt too rest Pixeland from the ovəlaudship ov Gorice, and joind widh Gazlaac too dhat end, and dhae aamy ovəthrone and boath tane priznə."

Gro laaft and ced, "Shoowwəly, O mi Lady Prezmirə, truith maaskith in menny a strainj disghise wen she ridith rooməz bruimstic throo kingz pallisciz. But sumwot ov huucelf hath she shone the, if dhou kəncloode dhat an ivvent woz braut too buuth bitwixt daac and sunrise too stagghə the wuuld, and dhat the pouə ov Wichland bluimd fauth this nite intoo unbihhoaldən glory."

"Dhou spekist big, mi laud," ced the lady. "Wuu the Demənz in it?"

"I, maddəm," he ced.

"And triəmft on? and slane?"

"Aul slane save Jus and Brandokh Daahaa, and dha takən," ced Gro.

"Woz this mi laudz doowing?" she aasct.

"Graitly, az I thhinc," ced Gro; "dho Kərinniyyəs clamith fau himcelf, az commənly, the mane onnə ov it."

Prezmirə ced, "He clamith ovəmuch." And she ced, "Dhae wuu nun in it save Demənz?"

Gro, nowing huu thaut, smiald and made aancə, "Maddəm, dhae wuu Witchiz."

"Mi Laud Gro," she cride, "dhou dust il too moc me. Dhou aat mi frend. Dhou nowist the Prins mi bruthə proud and sudn too an'ghə. Dhou nowist it chafith him too hav Wichland ovə him. Dhou nowist the time iz menny dase ovəpaast wen he shood bring hiz yuuly tribbute too the King."

Grose grate ox-ise wuu soft az he looct uppon the Lady Prezmirə, saying, "Moast əshoowwəridly am I thi frend, maddəm. Billike, if truith wuu toald, dhou and thi laud ar aul the troo frendz I hav in wautərish Wichland: u too, and the King: but hoo slepith safe in the favə ov kingz? Aa, maddəm, nun ov Pixeland stood in the batl yestənite. Dhaefau let thi sole be at ese. But mi taasc it woz, standing on the batlmənts biscide the King, too smile and smile wile Kərinniyyəs and ouə fiting men made a bluddy havvəc ov fau au five hundrəd ov mine one kinzfoke."

Prezmirə caut huu breth and woz cilənt a momənt. Then, "Gazlaac?"

"The mane faus woz hiz, it əpiyyərith," aancəd Laud Gro. "Kərinniyyəs bragghith himcelf hiz bainzman, and suutn it iz he feld him too uuth. But I am ceecritly advətiazd he woz not əmung the ded takən up this mauning."

"Mi laud," she ced, "mi dizsiə fau nuse drinx depe wile dhou aat faasting. Sum, bring mete and wine fau mi Laud Gro." And too dammməselz ran and rittuund widh spaacling goaldən wine in a bekə, and a dish ov lampriz widh hippəcras saus. So Gro sat him doun on the jaspə bench and, wile he ate and dranc, rihhuust too the Lady Prezmirə the doowingz ov the nite.

Wen he had endid she ced, "Hou hath the King delt widh dhose twane, Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa?"

Gro aancəd, "He hath them clapt up in the oald banqwitting haul in the Iən Touə." And hiz brou daakənd, and he ced, "'Tiz pitty thi laud la dhus long əbed, and so came not too the counsl, wae Caucəs and Kərinniyyəs, bact bi thi step-sunz and the sunz ov Caucəs, egd on the King too use shaimfəly these laudz ov Demənland. Troo iz dhat distic wich ədmonnishith us--

No wen too speke, fau menny tiamz it bringz
Dain'gə too ghiv the best ədvice too Kingz;

and litl fau mi helth, and litl gane widhaul, had it bene had I then opənly widhstood them. Kərinniyyəs iz evvə wochfəl too fling Goblin in mi teeth. But Corrənd wayith in dhae counslz az hiz hand wayith in batl."

Nou az Gro spake came the Laud Corrənd on the terrəs, cauling fau stil wine too coole hiz throte widhaul. Prezmirə paud fauth too him: "Dhou aat blaimd too me fau keping thi bed, mi laud, dhat shoodst hav bene divvising widh the King tutching ouə ennəmiz tane captiv in this nite gon bi."

Corrənd sat bi hiz lady on the bench and dranc. "If dhat be aul, maddəm," ced he, "then hav I litl too chaaj mi conshəns

widhaul. Fau naut lise reddiyyə dhan strike auf dhae hedz,
and so bring aul too a fit and happy ending."

"Faa uthəwise," ced Gro, "hath the King dittuumind. He let
drag biffau him Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa, and widh menny
fliyyəz and giabz, 'Welkəm,' he ceth, too Caacy. Yau taibl
shal not lac stau ov dellickəts wile ye ar mi ghests;
aulbeyit ye cum unbidn.' Dhaewidh he let drag them too the oald
banqwit haul. And he bad hiz smiths drive grate iən staiplz
intoo the waul, waron he let hang up the Demənz bi dhae
rists, spred-eegld əghenst the waul, making boath rists and
anclz faast too the staiplz widh giavz ov iən. And the King let
dite the taibl biffau dhae fete az fau a banqwit, dhat the
cite and the savə mite taument them. And he cauld aul us
too hiz counsl thithə dhat we mite prase hiz kəncete and
moc them ənu."

Ced Prezmirə, "A grate king shood raathə be a dog dhat
killith clene, dhan a cat dhat pattith and spautith widh hiz
pra."

"Troo it iz," ced Corrənd, "dhat dha wuu safə slane." He
rose from hiz cete. ""Twuu not əmis," he ced, "dhat I had
wuud widh the King."

"Waefau so?" aasct Prezmirə.

"He dhat slepith late," ced Corrənd, iying huu humərəsly,
"sumtiamz hath nuse fau huu dhat risith bittiamz too cit on the
westən terrəs. And this woz I cum too tel the, dhat I but
nou bihheld eestwəd from ouə chaimbə windo, riding təwaud
Caacy out ov Pixeland doun the Wa ov Kingz----"

"La Firrese?" she ced.

"Mine ise be strong ennou and cliyyə ennou," ced Corrənd, "but dhoudst scaes riqwiə me swae too mine one bruthə at thre mialz distəns. And az fau thine, I leve the the swaring."

"Hoo shood ride doun the Wa ov Kingz from Pixeland," cride Prezmirə, "but La Firrese?"

"Dhat, maddəm, let Ecco aancə the," ced Corrənd. "And it stickith in mi miand, dhat the Prins mi bruthə-in-lau iz wun dhat tiyith too hiz haatstringz the rimmembrəns ov paast benniffits. This too, dhat nun did him evvə a gratə benniffit dhan Jus, dhat saivd hiz life cix wintəz bac in Impland the Mau. Waefau, if La Firrese be too shae ouə revvəlz this nite, needfəl it iz dhat the King kəmaand these gabbələz too kepe ciləns tutching ouə entətainmənt ov these laudz in the oald banqwit haul, and in genrəl tutching the shae ov Demənland in this fiting."

Prezmirə ced, "Cum, Ile go widh the."

Dha found the King on the topmoast batlmənts əbuv the wautə-gate widh hiz laudz əbout him, gasing eestəwa təwaud the long lo hilz biyyond wich la Pixeland. But wen Corrənd biggan too opən hiz miand too the King, the King ced, "Dhou growist oald, O Corrənd, and like a good-fau-nuthhing chapmən bringist not thi waez too maakit ae the maakit be dun. I hav aulreddy tane audə fau this, and straitly chaajd mi peepl dhat naut biffel laast nite save a faring ov the Goblinz əghenst Caacy, and dhae ovəthro, and mi chacing ov them widh a grate slautə intoo the ce. Hooso bi speche au cine shal rivvele too La Firrese dhat the Demənz wuu in it, au dhat these ennəmiz ov mine ar dhus entətaind bi me too dhae discumfət in the oald banqwit haul, he shal loose nuthhing but hiz life."

Corrənd ced, "It iz wel, O King."

The King ced, "Captin genrəl, wot iz ouə strength?"

Kərinniyyəs aancəd, "Cevnty and thre wuu slane, and the uthəz fau the moast paat huut: I əmung them, dhat am dhus wun-handid fau the wile. I wil not en'gage too fiand u, O King, fifty sound men in Caacy."

"Mi Laud Corrənd," ced the King, "thine ise piyyəst evvə a leghe biyyond the best əmung us, yung au oald. Hou menny makist dhou yon cumpəny?"

Corrənd leend on the parrəpit and shadid hiz ise widh hiz hand dhat woz braud az a smoact haddəc and cuvvəd on the bac widh yello haez growing sumwot spaasly, az the haez on the skin ov a yung elliffənt. "He ridith widh thre scau haus, O King. Wun au too mau I ghiv u fau good luc, but if a hav a hausmən fuə dhan cixty, nevvə luv me mau."

The King muttəd an impriccaishn. "It iz the cuus ov chaans bringith him dhus pat wen I hav mi pouəz əbraud and am left widh too litl strength too au him if he proove uuxəm. Wun ov thi sunz, O Corrənd, shal take haus and ride soudh too Zaun and Puumeyo and mustə a fu scau fiting men from the huudzmən and faaməz widh wot spede he ma. It iz kəmaandid."

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Nou woz the aaftənoone waring too eevning wen the Prins La Firrese woz cum in widh aul hiz cumpəny, and gretingz dun, and the tribbute safe bistode, and sleping roome əpointid fau him and hiz. And nou ae aul gathəd təghethə in the grate

banqwit haul dhat woz bilt bi Gorice 11., wen he woz fuust made King, in the southheest caunə ov the pallis; and it faa ixedid in graitnəs and magniffisns the oald haul wae Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa wuu held in dures. Cevn eeqwəl waulz it had, ov daac grene jaspə, spect widh bluddy spots. In the midst ov wun waul woz the lofty dauwa, and in the waulz rite and left ov this and in dhose dhat incloazd the an'gl oppəsit the dau wuu grate windose plaist hi, ghivving lite too the banqwit haul. In eche ov the cevn an'glz ov the waul a carriyyattid, cut in the liacnəs ov a thre-heddid giənt from pondərəs blox ov blac suupəntine, bode binneeth the mas ov a monstrəs crab hune out ov the same stone. The mity clauz ov dhose cevn crabz spredding upwədz bae up the dome ov the roofe, dhat woz smuidh and cuvvəd aul ovə widh paintingz ov batlz and hunting ceenz and rasling bouts in daac and smoky culləz ancərəbl too the gloomy gran'gə ov dhat chaimbə. On the waulz binneeth the windose gleemd weppənz ov wau and ov the chace, and on the too bliand waulz wuu naild up aul audəly the sculz and ded boanz ov dhose champiyyənz wich had rasld əfautime widh King Gorice 11. au evvə he əpointid in an eevl ouə too rasl widh Goaldry Blusco.

Əcros the innəmoast an'gl facing the dau woz a long taibl and a caavən bench bihhiand it, and from the too endz ov dhat taibl, cet sqwae widh it, too uthə taiblz yet lon'ghər and benchiz bi them on the ciadz next the waul strecht too within a shaut space ov the dau. Midmoast ov the taibl too the rite ov the dau woz a hi cete ov oald ciaprəs wood, grate and fae, widh cooshnz ov blac velvit broidəd widh goald, and facing it at the oppəsit taibl ənuthə hi cete, smaulə, and the cooshnz ov it sone widh cilvə. In the space bitwixt the taiblz five iən brasiyyəz, masciv and foottid widh clauz like an eeglz, stood in a ro, and bihhiand the benchiz on iathər cide wuu nine grate standz fau flamboiz too lite the haul bi nite, and cevn

bihhiand the cros bench, cet at eeqwəl distənciz and eevn widh the waulz. The flau woz paivd widh stiyyətite, wite and cremy, widh vainz ov rich broun and blac and puuplz and splashiz ov scaalət. The taiblz resting on grate treslz wuu mascy slabz ov a dusky pollisht stone, poudəd widh spaax ov goald az smaul az attəmz.

The wimmin sat on the cros-bench, and midmoast ov them the Lady Prezmirə, hoo outwent the rest in buty and qweenlenəs az Venəs the lescə plannits ov the nite. Sennambriyyə, wife too Duke Caucəs, sat on huu left, and on huu rite Srevə, dautə too Caucəs, strainjly fae fau such a faathə. On the uppə bench, too the rite ov the dau, the laudz ov Wichland sat əbuv and billo the Kingz hi cete, clad in holləda ətiə, and dha ov Pixeland had place ovə əghenst them on the loə bench. The hi cete on the loə bench woz cet əpaat fau La Firrese. Grate plaits and dishiz ov goald and cilvə and paintid paucəlin wuu cet in audə on the taiblz, laidn widh dellickəciz. Haaps and bagpiaps struc up a baabarric music, and the ghests rose too dhae fete, az the shining dauz swung opən and Gorice the King follode bi the Prins hiz ghest entəd dhat haul.

Like a blac eegl cəvaying uuth from sum hi mountin the King paast bi in hiz madgisty. Hiz buuny woz ov blac chane male, its collə, sleevz, and scuut ejd widh plaits ov dul goald cet widh hiəcinths and blac oaplz. Hiz hose wuu blac, cros-gaatəd widh bandz ov ceelskin trimd widh diəməndz. On hiz left thum woz hiz grate cignit ring fashnd in goald in the cembləns ov the wuum Oorəborəs dhat etith hiz one tale: the bezl ov the ring the hed ov the wuum, made ov a peche-culləd rooby ov the bignes ov a sparrose eg. Hiz cloke woz wovən ov the skinz ov blac coabrəz sticht təghethə widh goald wiə, its lining ov blac cilc sprincld widh dust ov goald. The iən croun ov Wichland wade on hiz brou, the

clauz ov the crab irrect like haunz; and the shene ov its jooəlz woz menny-cullәd like the rase ov Cirriyyәs on a cliyyə nite ov frost and wind at Ule-tide.

The Prins La Firrese went in a mantl ov blac cendəlene sprincld evriwwae widh span'glz ov goald, and the tunic binneeth it ov rich figghəd cilc dide depe puupl ov the Pasc flouə. From the goaldən suuclit on hiz hed too wingz sprung əloft exqwizsitly fashnd in plaits ov beetn coppə vəniyyəd widh jooəlz and ennamlz and platid widh preshəs metlz too the cembləns ov the wingz ov the oliyyandə hauc-moth. He woz sumthhing billo the commən hite, but stout and strong and stuudilly nit, widh red crisp cuuly hae, braud-faist and ruddy, clene-shaivd, widh hi wide-nostrild nose and booshy red hevvy iabrouz, wens hiz ise, moast like hiz lady cistəz, ce-grene and firy, shot glaanciz like a liənz.

Wen the King woz cum intoo hiz hi cete, widh Corrənd and Kərinniyyəs on hiz left and rite in onnə ov dhae grate deedz ov aamz, and La Firrese facing him in the hi cete on the loə bench, the thraulz made haist too cet fauth dishiz ov picld grigz and oistəz in the shel, and wilx, snailz, and coclz fride in olliv oil and swimming in red and wite hippəcras. And the feestəz dillade not too faul too on these daintiz, wile the cupbarər bau round a mity bole ov beetn goald fild widh spaacling wine the hu ov the yello saffiə, and fuunisht widh cix goaldən laidlz resting dhae handlz in cix haaf-moone shaipt nix in the rim ov dhat grate bole. Eche ghest wen the bole woz braut too him must brim hiz goblit widh the laidl, and drinc untooh the glory ov Wichland and the rooləz dharov.

Sumwot greenly looct Kərinniyyəs on the Prins, and wispəring Hemming, Corrəndz sun, in the iyyə, hoo sat next him, he ced,

"Troo it iz dhat La Firrese iz the showiyyist ov men in aul dhat billongith too ghiyyə and costly əra. Maac widh wot riddicculəs exes he əfectith Demənland in the grate stau ov jooəlz he flauntith, and widh wot an apish incələns he cittith at the baud. Yet this lobcoc livvith oanly bi ouə suffərəns, and I ce a hath not fəgot too bring widh him too Wichland the price ov ouə hand widhheld from twisting ov hiz nec."

Nou wuu baun round dishiz ov caap, pilchədz, and lobstəz, and dharaaftə stau ennou ov meets: a fat kid roastid hole and gaanisht widh pese on a spaishəs cilvə chaagə, kid pastiz, plaits ov neets tungz and sweetbredz, sucking rabbits in gelliz, hejhogz baict in dhae skinz, hogz hazlits, caabənaadose, chittuulingz, and daumous pise. These and uthə lushəs meets wuu baun round kəntinnuəly bi thraulz hoo muivd cilənt on bae fete; and merry waxt the tauc az the ej ov hun'ghə biccame bluntid a litl, and the coclz ov menz haats wuu waumd widh wine.

"Wot nuse in Wichland?" aasct La Firrese.

"I hav huud naut nuə," ced the King, "dhan the slaying ov Gazlaac." And the King riccountid the batl in the nite, cetting fauth az in a franc and opən onnisty evry pəticculə ov numbəz, tiamz, and cummingz and gowingz; save dhat nun mite hav ghest from hiz tale dhat enny ov Demənland had paat au intrəst in dhat batl.

La Firrese ced, "Strainj it iz dhat he shood so ətac u. An ennəmy mite smel sum cauz bihhiand it."

"Ouə graitnəs," ced Kərinniyyəs, loocking hautilly at him, "iz a lamp warat uthə moths dhan he hav bene buunt. I count it no strainj mattə at aul."

Prezmirə ced, "Strainj indede, wuu it enny but Gazlaac. But shoowwə widh him no wiald sudn fancy wuu too lite but it shood charriyyət him like thhisl-doun too staum hevn itcelf."

"A bubl ov the ae, maddəm: aul fine culləz widhout and empty wind within. I hav none uthə such," ced Kərinniyyəs, stil resting hiz gase widh studdid incələns on the Prins.

Prezmirəz i daanst. "O mi Laud Kərinniyyəs," ced she, "chainj fuust thine one fashn, I pra the, ae dhou kənvins ga ətiə ov inwəd folly, lest bihhoalding the we misdout thi precept--au thi wizdəm."

Kərinniyyəs dranc hiz cup too the drainz and laaft. Sumwot rednd woz hiz incələnt hancəm face əbout the cheex and shaivn joul, fau shoowwəly woz nun in dhat haul mau richly əparrəld dhan he. Hiz ampl chest woz caist in a juukin ov untand buxkin platid widh cilvə scailz, and he wau a collə ov goald dhat woz ruf widh sməragdz and a long cloke ov ski-bloo cilc brəcade liand widh cloth ov cilvə. On hiz left rist woz a mity ring ov goald, and on hiz hed a reeth ov blac briəny and sleping nichade. Gro wispəd Corrənd in the iyyə, "He bibbith it doun əpace, and the ouə iz yet uuly. This prescidgith trubl, cins evvə widh him indiscreshn treddith haad on the heelz ov suulinnəs az he waxith drunkən."

Corrənd gruntid əcent, saying əloud, "Too aul peex ov fame mite Gazlaac hav cliamd, but fau this same rashnəs. Naut mau pittiffəl hath bene huud too tel ov dhan hiz grate cending intoo Impland, ten yuuz əgo, wen, on a sudn kəncete dhat a shood la aul Impland undə him and biccum the gratist king in aul the wuuld, he hiəd Seldauniyyəs and Heltəraniyyəs and Jalkəniəs Fostəs----"

"The thre moast notəbl captinz found on uuth," ced La Firrese.

"Nuthhing iz mau troo," ced Corrənd. "These he hiəd, and braut əm ships and soalgəz and hauciz and such a cluttə ov en'ginz ov wau az hath not bene cene these hundrəd yuuz, and cent əm--withə? Too the rich and pleznt landz ov Beshtriyyə? No. Too Demənland? Not a wit. Too this Wichland, wae widh a twentiyyəth paat the pouə a hath nou risct aul and suffəd deth and doome? No! but too yondə hel-bismitn wildənəs ov Uppə Impland, treləs, wautəlis, not a sole too pa him tribbute had he lade it undə him save wondəring bandz ov savvij Imps, widh mau bugz on dhae boddiz dhan pens in dhae puuciz, I worrənt u. Au woz he miandid too be king əmung the divvəlz ov the ae, goasts, and hob-thrushiz dhat be found in dhat dezsət?"

"Widhout contrəvuucy dhae be cevntene cevrəl sauts ov divvəlz on the Moroonə," ced Caucəs, verry loud and sudn, so dhat aul tuund too looc on him; "firy divvəlz, divvəlz ov the ae, tirrestriyyəl divvəlz, az u ma sa, and wautəry divvəlz, and subtəraniyyən divvəlz. Widhout contrəvuucy dhae be cevn cene sauts, cevntene cevrəl sauts ov hob-thrushiz, and cevrəl sauts ov divvəlz, and if the humə tooc me I cood name them aul bi rote."

Wundrəs solləm woz the hevvy face ov Caucəs, hiz ise, bagghy undəneeth and sumwot bludshed, hiz penduləs cheex, thhic blubbə uppə-lip, and brisly gra məstaasheyose and wiskəz. He had eetn, mainly too prəvoke thuust, picld ollivz, capəz, saultid aaməndz, anchəviz, fumaadose, and pilchədz fride widh mustəd, and nou əwatid the sault chine ov befe too be a pillo and a resting place fau nu potaishnz.

The Lady Sennambriyyə aasct, "Nowith enny fau suutn wot fate biffel Jalkəniəs and Heltəraniyyəs and Seldauniyyəs and dhae aamiz?"

"Huud I not," ced Prezmirə, "dhat dha wuu led bi Wil-ə-the-Wisps too the regənz Hipuuboreən, and dhae made kingz?"

"Toald the bi the maj-houlet, I fiyyə me, cistə," ced La Firrese. "Wennaz I faed throo Impland the Mau, cix yuuz əgo, dhae woz menny a wiald tale toald me hiyyərov, but naut within creddit."

Nou woz the chine suuvd in əmid shəlots on a grate dish ov goald, baun bi fau suuving men, so waty woz the dish and its buudn. Sum lite dhae glode in the dul i ov Caucəs too ce it cum, and Corrənd rose up widh brimming goblit, and the Witchiz cride, "The song ov the chine, O Corrənd!" Grate az a nete stood Corrənd in hiz ruscit velvit cuutl, guut əbout widh a braud belt ov crockədile hide ejd widh goald. From hiz shoaldəz hung a cloke ov woolfs skin widh the hae incide, the outcide tand and diəpəd widh puupl cilc. Dalite woz ni gon, and throo a hase ov savəz rising from the feest the flamboiz shon on hiz bauld hed cet əbout widh thhic grizld cuulz, and on hiz kene gra ise, and hiz long and booshy biyyəd. He cride, "Ghiv me a rouz, mi laudz! and if enny fale too bae me out in the rifrane, Ile nae luv him mau." And he sang this song ov the chine in a vois like the sounding ov a gong; and aul dha raud in the rifrane til the piald dishiz on the suuvis taiblz rang:

Bring out the Old Chyne, the Cold Chyne to me,

And how Ile charge him come and see,

Brawn tusked, Brawn well sowst and fine,

With a precious cup of Muscadine:

How shall I sing, how shall I look,
In honour of the Master-Cook?

The Pig shall turn round and answer me,
Canst thou spare me a shoulder? *a wy, a wy.*
The Duck, Goose, and Capon, good fellows all three,
Shall dance thee an antick, so shall the Turkey:
But O! *the Cold Chyne, the Cold Chyne for me*:

How shall I sing, how shall I look,
In honour of the Master-Cook?

With brewis Ile noynt thee from head to th' heel,
Shal make thee run nimbler than the new oyld wheel;
With Pye-crust wee'l make thee
The eighth wise man to be;
But O! *the Old Chyne, the Cold Chyne for me*:

How shall I sing, how shall I look,
In honour of the Master-Cook?

Wen the chine woz caavd and the cups riplennisht, the King ishoode kəmaand saying, "Caul hithə mi dwauf, and let him act hiz antic geschəz biffau us."

Dhaewidh came the dwauf intoo the haul, mopping and mowing, clad in a sleevləs juukin ov striapt yello and red moccaado. And hiz long and nuuvləs tale dragd on the flau bihhiand him.

"Sumwot foolcəm iz this dwauf," ced La Firrese.

"Speke within dau, Prins," ced Kərinniyyəs. "Noast not hiz qwollitty? A hath bene envoi ixtraudnry from King Gorice 11. ov memməry evvə gloriyyəs untooh Laud Jus in Galing and the laudz ov Demənland. And twoz the gratist cuutəcy we cood studdy too doo them, too cend əm this looby fau ouə ambascədə."

The dwauf practist biffau them too the grate kəntent ov the laudz ov Wichland and dhae ghests, save fau hiz japing uppon Kərinniyyəs and the Prins, cauling them too pecox, so like in dhae brite ploomij dhat nun mite tel iathər from uthə; wich sumwot gauld them boath.

And nou woz the Kingz haat waxən glad widh wine, and he plejd Gro, saying, "Be merry, Gro, and dout not dhat I wil foolfil mi wuud I spake untooh the, and make the king in Zadgy Zacculo."

"Laud, I am yauz fau evvə," aancəd Gro. "But mithhinx I am litl fittid too be a king. Mithhinx I woz evvə a bettə stuəd ov uthə menz fauchuinz dhan ov mine one."

Warat the Duke Caucəs, dhat woz sprauld on the taibl wel ni əslepe, cride out in a grate vois but husky widhaul, "A

brace ov divvəlz broil me if dhou sayist not suith! If thine one fauchuinz cum auf but blooly, cae not a rush. Ghiv me sum wine, a fool weping goblit. Haa! Haa! wip it əwa! Haa! Haa! Wichland! Wen ware u the croun ov Demənland, O King?"

"Hou nou, Caucəs," ced the King, "aat dhou drunc?"

But La Firrese ced, "Ye swae pece widh the Demənz in the Folleyot Ialz, and bi mity oadhz ar ye bound too put bi fau evvə yau claimz ov laudship ovə Demənland. I hoapt yau qworrəlz wuu endid."

"Wi so dha ar," ced the King.

Caucəs chucld weecly. "Ye sa wel: verry wel, O King, verry wel, La Firrese. Ouə qworrəlz ar endid. No roome fau mau. Fau, looc u, Demənland iz a ripe froote reddy too drop me dhus in ouə mouth." Lening bac he gaipt hiz mouth wide opən, cəspending bi wun leg əbuv it an hautəlan baistid widh its one dripping. The buud slipt throo hiz finʻghəz, and fel əghenst hiz cheke, and so on too hiz boozsəm, and so on the flau, and hiz braizn buuny and the sleevz ov hiz pale grene cuutl wuu splasht widh the gravy.

Warat Kərinniyyəs let fli a grate pele ov laaftə; but La Firrese flusht widh anʻghə and ced, scouling, "Drunkənəs, mi laud, iz a gest fau thraulz too laaf at."

"Then cit dhou mum, Prins," ced Kərinniyyəs, "lest thi qwollitty be cauld in qweschən. Fau mi paat I laaf at mi thauts, and dha be verry chois."

But Caucəs wiapt hiz face and fel a-cinging:

Whene'er I bib the wine down,
Asleepe drop all my cares.
A fig for fret,
A fig for sweat,
A fig care I for cares.
Sith death must come, though I say nay,
Why grieve my life's days with affaires?

Come, bib we then the wine down
Of Bacchus faire to see;
For alway while we bibbing be,
Asleepe drop all our cares.

Widh dhat, Caucəs sanc hevvilly fauwəd əghen on the taibl. And the dwauf, hoose jaips aul els in dhat cumpəny had takən wel eevn wen thəmcelvz wuu the maac dharov, leept up and doun, criying, "Hiyyə a wundə! This poodding cingith. Wen widh too plattəz, thraulz! ye hav suuvd it ə the baud widhout a dish. Wun wuu too litl too kəntane so vaast a dele ov boolləx blud and laad. Swift, and caav it ae the vapəz buust the skin."

"I wil caav the, filth," ced Caucəs, luuching too hiz fete; and catching the dwauf bi the rist widh wun hand he gave him a grate box on the iyyə widh the uthə. The dwauf sqweeld and bit Caucəciz thum too the bone, so dhat he luist hiz hoald; and the dwauf fled from the haul, wile the cumpəny laaft plezntly.

"So fliyith folly biffau wizdəm wich iz in wine," ced the King. "The nite iz yung: bring me botaagose, and cavviyyaa and toast. Drinc, Prins. The red Thramneən wine dhat iz thhic like hunny woowith the sole too divvine filloscəfy. Hou vane a thhing iz

ambishn. This woz Gazlaax bane, hoose entəprisiz ov such pich and momənt hav endid dhus, in a kiand ov nuthhing. Au wot thhinkist dhou, Gro, dhou wich aat a filloscəfə?"

"Əlas, poowwə Gazlaac," ced Gro. "Had aul grone too hiz miand, and had he ghenst aul expectaishn gottən us ovəthrone, eevn so had he bene no niyyərə too hiz haats dizsiə dhan wen he fuust cet fauth. Fau he had ov oald in Zadgy Zacculo eting and drinking and gaadnz and trezhə and musishnz and a fae wife, aul soft ese and kəntentmənt aul hiz dase. And at the laast, housowae we shape ouə caus, cummith the poppy dhat əbidith aul ov us bi the haabə ov əblivviyyən haad too clenz. Dri withəd leevz ov lorrəl au ov ciaprəs tre, and a litl dust. Naut els rimmanith."

"Widh a sad brou I sa it," ced the King: "I hoald him wise dhat restith happy, eevn az the Red Folleyot, and temptith not the Godz bi ovə-mounting ambishn too hiz didgecshn."

La Firrese had throne himcelf bac in hiz hi cete widh hiz elbose resting on its lofty aamz and hiz handz dan'gling iadly on iathər cide. Widh hed held hi and increddulәs smile he haakənd too the wuudz ov Gorice the King.

Gro ced in Corrəndz iyyə, "The King hath found strainj kiandnəs in the cup."

"I thhinc dhou and I be clene out ə fashn," aancəd Corrənd, wispəring, "dhat we be not yet drunkən; the cauz warov iz dhat dhou drinkist within mezhə, wich iz good, and me this ammithhist at mi belt kepith sobə, wuu I nevvə so suufit-sweld widh wine."

La Firrese ced, "U ar pleezd too gest, O King. Fau mi paat,

I had az lefe hav this musc-milliyyən on mi shoaldəz az a hed so blockish az too wont ambishn."

"If dhou wuut not ouə prinsly ghest," ced Kərinniyyəs, "I had cauld dhat spoke in the rite fashn ov a litl man. Wichland əfectith not such vaunts, but can əfaud too speke az ouə Laud the King in proud humillitty. Tuuky cox doo strut and gobl; not so the eegl, hoo hoaldith the wuuld at hiz discreshn."

"Pitty on the," cride the Prins, "if this chepe victəry tuun the so ghiddy. Goblinz!"

Kərinniyyəs scould. Caucəs chucld, saying too himcelf but loud ennuf fau aul too hiyyə, "Goblinz, qwoathhə? Dha wuu smaul game had dha bene aul. I, dhae it iz: had dha bene aul."

The Kingz brou woz like a foul blac cloud. The wimmin held dhae breth. But Caucəs, blandly incencəbl ov these gathəring thundəz, bete time on the taibl widh hiz cup, drousilly chaanting too a moast maunfəl ae:

When birds in water deepe do lie,
And fishes in the air doe flie,
When water burns and fire doth freeze,
And oysters grow as fruits on trees--

A rizzounding hecup braut him too a fool close.

The tauc had dide doun, the laudz ov Wichland, il at ese, studdiyying too ware dhae faciz too the bent ov the Kingz loox. But Prezmirə spake, and the music ov huu vois came like a rifreshing shouə. "This song ov mi Laud Caucəs," she ced,

"made me hoapfəl fau an aancə too a qweschən in filloscəfy; but Baakəs, u ce, hath tane hiz sole intoo Illizsiyyəm fau a ceezn, and I fiyyə me nau truith nau wizdəm cummith from hiz mouth too-nite. And this woz mi qweschən, wethə it be troo dhat aul annimməlz ov the land ar in dhae kiand in the ce? Mi Laud Kərinniyyəs, au dhou, mi prinsly bruthə, can u rizzolv me?"

"Wi, so it iz risceevd, maddəm," ced La Firrese. "And inqwiry wil sho the menny pritty instənciz: az the ce-frog, the ce-fox, the ce-dog, the ce-haus, the ce-liən, the ce-bae. And I hav none the baabərəs peepl ov Ezsəmoashə et ov a kənsuuv ov ce-mice masht and brade in a mautə widh the flesh ov dhat beest naimd bos mərenəs, ceezn d widh sault and gaalic."

"Fo! speke too me sumwot qwicly," cride the Lady Srevə, "ae in immadginnaishn I taist such naasty mete. Prithy, yondə goald pechiz and raiznz ov the sun az an antiddote."

"Laud Gro wil instruct the bettə dhan I," ced La Firrese. "Fau mi paat, aulbeyit I thhinc noably ov filloscəfy, yet hav I litl lezhə too studdy it. Oft hav I huntid the badgə, yet nevvə aancəd dhat qweschən ov the doctəz wethə he hath the legz ov wun cide shautə dhan ov the uthə. Niathər no I, fau aul the lampriz I hav et, hou menny ise the lampry hath, wethə it be nine au too."

Prezmirə smiald: "O mi bruthə, dhou aat too too smoowwəd, I fiyyə me, in the dust ov acshn and the feeld too be at əcaud widh these nice suuchingz. But be dhae buudz undə the ce, mi Laud Gro?"

Gro made aancə, "In rivvəz, suutnly, dho it be but buudz

ov the ae sodgəning fau a ceezn. Az I micelf hav found them in Outə Impland, əslepe in wintə time at the bottəm ov laix and rivvəz, too təghethə, mouth too mouth, wing too wing. But in the spring dha rivvive əghen, and bi and bi ar the woodz fool ov dhae cinging. And fau the ce, dhae be troo ce-cuccose, ce-thrushiz, and ce-sparrose, and menny mau."

"It iz paacing strainj," ced Sennambriyyə.

Caucəs sang:

When sorcerers do leave their charme,
When spiders do the fly no harme.

Prezmirə tuund too Corrənd saying, "Woz dhae not a merry dispute bitwixt u, mi laud, kənsuuning the tode and the spidə, dhou maintaning dhat dha doo poisənəsly distroi wun ənuthə, and mi Laud Gro dhat he wood sho the too the kəntrary?"

"'Twoz eevn so, lady," ced Corrənd, "and it iz yet in contrəvuucy."

Caucəs sang:

And when the blackbird leaves to sing,
And likewise serpents for to sting,
Then you may saye, and justly too,
The old world now is turned anew:

and so sanc bac intoo blotid ciləns.

"Mi Laud the King," cride Prezmirə, "I bisceche u ghiv audə fau the ending ov this difrəns bitwene too ov yau counsl, ae it wax too dain'gərəs hete. Let them be ghivn a tode, O King, and spidəz widhout dilla, dhat dha ma make ixperrimmənt biffau this goodly cumpəny."

Dhaewidh aul fel a-laafing, and the King kəmaandid a thraul, hoo shautly braut fat spidəz too the numbə ov cevn and a cristl wine-cup, and incloazd widh them binneeth the cup a tode, and cet aul biffau the King. And aul bihheld them eghəly.

"I wil wagə too fuukinz ov pale Puumeən wine too a bunch ov raddishiz," ced Corrənd, "dhat victəry shal be ghivn untooh the spidəz. Bihhoald hou widhout rizsistəns dha doo cit uppon hiz hed and paas aul ovə hiz boddy."

Gro ced, "Dun."

"Dhou wilt loose the wagə, Corrənd," ced the King. "This tode takith no huut from the spidəz, but cittith qwiət out ov polləcy, tempting them too ciccuritty, dhat uppon ədvaantij he ma swollo them doun."

Wile dha wocht, fruits wuu baun in: qwene-aplz, aamən dz, pommigrannits and pistic nuts; and fresh boalz and jaaz ov wine, and əmung them a cristl flagghən ov the peche-culləd wine ov Crothəring vintijd menny summəz əgo in the vinyədz dhat strech southwəd təwaud the ce from billo the caasl ov Laud Brandokh Daahaa.

Kərinniyyəs dranc depe, and cride, "'Tiz a roiəl drinc, this wine ov Crothəring! Foke sa it wil be good chepe this summə."

Warat La Firrese shot a glaans at him, and the King maaking it ced in Kərinniyyəciz iyyə, "Wilt dhou be pruidnt? Let not thi pride flattə the too thhinc aut shal əvale the, enny mau dhan mi vilist thraul, if bi thi doowing this Prins smel out mi ceecrits."

Bi then woz the ouə waxing late, and the wimmin tooc dhae leve, litid too the dauz in grate state bi thraulz widh flamboiz. In a wile, wen dha wuu gon. "A plaghe ov aul spidəz!" cride Corrənd. "Thi tode hath swollode wun aulreddy."

"Too mau!" ced Gro. "Thi thheyoric crumblith əpace, O Corrənd. He hath too at a gulp, and but fau rimmane."

The Laud Kərinniyyəs, hoose countinnəns woz nou əflame widh furiyyəs drinking, held hi hiz cup and catching the Princiz i, "Maac wel, La Firrese," he cride, "a cine and a proffiscy. Fuust wun; next too at a mouthful; and uuly aaftə dhat, az I thhinc, the fau dhat rimmane. Aat not əfiyyəd lest dhou be found a spidə wen the brunt shal cum?"

"Hast drunc thicelf haun-mad, Kərinniyyəs?" ced the King undə hiz breth, hiz vois shakən widh anʻghə.

"He iz az witty a maaməlade-etə az evvə I kənvuust widh," ced La Firrese, "but I cannət tel wot the dickinz he meenz."

"Dhat," aancəd Kərinniyyəs, "wich shood make thi smuuking face tuun ciyyəriyyəs. I mene ouə ainshənt ennəmiz, the haskədly munʻgrəlz ov Demənland. Fuust gulp, Goaldry, takən hevn nose withə bi the Kingz cending in a dedly scud ov wind----"

"The devl dam the!" cride the King, "wot drunkən brabl iz this?"

But the Prins La Firrese waxt red az blud, saying, "This it iz then dhat liyith bihhiand this huddə muddə, and ye go too wau widh Demənland? Thhinc not too hav mi help dharin."

"We shal not slepe the wuus fau dhat," ced Kərinniyyəs. "Ouə mouth iz big ennuf fau such a mausl ov maachpane az dhou, if dhou tuun uuxəm."

"Thi mouth iz big ennuf too blab the ceecrittist intellidgəns, az we nou moast laafəbly əproove," ced La Firrese. "Wuu I the King, I wood drau lobstəz wiskəz on thi skin, fau a tipcy and a pratling poppinja."

"An insult!" cride the Laud Kərinniyyəs, leping up. "I wood not take an insult from the Godz in hevn. Reche me a saud, boi! I wil make Beshtriyyən cut-wuux in hiz guts."

"Pece, on yau liavz!" ced the King in a grate vois, wile Corrənd went too Kərinniyyəs and Gro too the Prins too qwiət them. "Kərinniyyəs iz wuindid in the rist and cannət fite, and billike hiz brane iz fevəd bi the wuind."

"Hele him, then, ov this caaving the Goblinz gave him, and I wil caav him like a capən," ced the Prins.

"Goblinz!" ced Kərinniyyəs fiyyəsly. "No, vile fello, the best saudzmən in the wuuld gave me this wuind. Had it bene dhou dhat stood biffau me, I had cut the intoo staix, dhat aat capənd aulreddy."

But the King stood up in hiz madgisty, saying, "Ciləns, on yau liavz!" And the Kingz ise glittəd widh roth, and he ced, "Fau the, Kərinniyyəs, not thi hot ueth and ribbelliyyəs blud nau

yet the wine dhou hast swild intoo dhat gredy belly ov thine shal mittiggate the rigghə ov mi displezhə. Thi punnishmənt I rizzuuv untooh too-morro. And dhou, La Firrese, looc dhou bae thicelf mau humbly in mi haulz. Ovə puut woz the mescij braut me bi thine herrəld at thi cumming hithə this mauning, and too much it smact ov a greting from an eeqwəl too an eeqwəl, cauling thi tribbute a ghift, dho it, and dhou, and aul thi princippallitty ar mine bi rite too dele widh az ceemz me good. Yet did I bae widh the: unwiazly, az I thhinc, cins thi puutnəs nurrisht bi mi faubarəns springith up yet rankə at mi taibl, and dhou insultist and braulist in mi haulz. Be ədviazd, lest mi roth fauj thundəboalts əghenst the."

The Prins La Firrese aancəd and ced, "Kepe frounz and threts fau thine əfending thraulz, O King, cins me dha əfrite not, and I laaf them too scaun. Nau am I caefool too aancə thine injoowwəriyyəs wuudz; cins wel dhou nowist mi oald frendship untooh thine hous, O King, and untooh Wichland, and bi wot bandz ov marrij I am bound in luv too the Laud Corrənd, too hoome I gave mi lady cistə. If it soote not mi stumməc too prəclame like a suuvile minnistə thi soosərənty, yet ist dhou not too caap at this, cins thi tribbute iz pade the, i, and in ovə-mezhə. But untooh Demənland am I bound, az aul the wuuld nowith, and soonə shalt dhou privvale uppon the lamps ov hevn too cum doun and fite fau the əghenst the Demənz dhan uppon me. And untooh Kərinniyyəs dhat so boastith I sa dhat Demənland hath evvə bene too haad fau u Witchiz. Goaldry Blusco and Brandokh Daahaa hav shone u this. This iz mi counsl untooh the, O King, too make pece widh Demənland: mi resənz, fuust dhat dhou hast no just cauz ov qworrəl widh them, next (and this shood swa the mau) dhat if dhou pəcist in fiting əghenst them it wil be the roowin ov the and ov aul Wichland."

The King bit hiz fin'ghəz widh cianz ov wundəfəl an'ghə, and fau a minuets time no sound woz in dhat haul. Oanly Corrənd spake privitly too the King saying, "Laud, O fau aul saix swollo yau roiəl rage. U ma wip him wen mi sun Hacmən rittuunith, but til then he outnumbəz us, and yau one paaty so ovəwelmd widh wine dhat, trust me, I wood not ədvenchə the price ov a tuunip on ouə chaanciz if it cum too fiting."

Trubld at haat woz Corrənd, fau wel he nu hou diyyə biyyond əcount hiz lady wife held the keping ov the pece bitwixt La Firrese and the Witchiz.

In this momənt Caucəs, sumwot rouzd in an eevl ouə out ov lethhəgy bi the loud tauc and muivmənt, biggan too cing:

When all the prisons hereabout
Have justled all their prisoners out,
Because indeed they have no cause
To keepe 'em in by common laws.

Warat Kərinniyyəs, in hoome wine and qworrəling and the Kingz ribbuex had litid a fiə ov reclәs and outragəs mallis biffau wich aul counslz ov pruidns au polləcy wuu discippatid like wax in a fuunis, shoutid loudly, "Wilt ce ouə priznəz, Prins, i the oald banqwit haul, too proove thicelf an as?"

"Wot priznəz?" cride the Prins, springing too hiz fete. "Helz furiz! I am wiyyəry ov these daac iqwivvəcaishnz and wil no the truith."

"Wi wilt dhou rage so beestly?" ced the King. "The man iz drunc. No mau wiald wuudz."

"Dhou canst not daf me so. I wil no the truith," ced La Firrese.

"So dhou shalt," ced Kərinniyyəs. "This it iz: dhat we Witchiz be bettə men dhan dhou and thi hen-haatid Pixiz, and bettə men dhan the əcuucid Demənz. No nede too hide it fuuthə. Too ov dhat broode we hav lade bi the heelz, and naild əm up on the waul ov the oald banqwit haul, az faaməz nale up weezlz and poalcats on a baan dau. And dhae shal dha bide til dha be ded: Jus and Brandokh Daahaa."

"O moast villənəs li!" ced the King. "Ile hav the hune in peciz."

But Kərinniyyəs ced, "I nuus yau onnə, O King. We must no lon'ghər sculc biffau these Pixiz."

"Dhou diyist fau it," ced the King, "and it iz a li."

Nou woz ded ciləns fau a space. At laast the Prins sat doun sloly. Hiz face woz wite and draun, and he spake untooh the King, sloly and in a qwiət vois: "O King, dhat I woz sumwot hot widh u, fəghiv me. And if I hav əmittid enny faum ov əlegəns du too u, thhinc raathə dhat in mi blud it iz too chafe at such cerrimməniz dhan dhat I had enny lac ov frendship untooh u au evvə dreemd ov qweschəning yau ovə-laudship. Aut dhat u shal riqwiə ov me and dhat liyith widh mine onnə, aut ov cerrimməny au feəlty, wil I widh joi pəfaum. And, save əghenst Demənland, iz mi saud reddy əghenst yau ennəmiz. But hiyyə, O King, tottərith a touə reddy too faul əthwaut ouə frendship and pash it in peciz. It iz none too u, O King, and too aul the laudz ov Wichland, dhat mi boanz wuu wiatning these cix yuuz in Impland the Mau if Laud Jus

had not saivd me from the baabərəs Imps dhat follode Fax Fa Faz, hoo bisceejd me fau munths widh mi smaul following shut up in Lidə Nan'goonə. Mi frendship shal u hav, O King, if u yeeld me up mi frendz."

But the King ced, "I hav not thi frendz."

"Sho me then the oald banqwit haul," ced the Prins.

The King ced, "I wil sho it the ənon."

"I wil ce it nou," ced the Prins, and he rose from hiz cete.

"I wil discembl widh the no lon'ghər," ced the King. "I doo luv the wel. But wen dhou aaskist me too yeeld up too the Jus and Brandokh Daahaa, dhou aaskist a thhing aul Pixeland and thi diyyə haats blud wuu unnaibl too puuchəs from me. These be mi wuust ennəmiz. Dhou nowist not at wot cost ov toil and dain'gə I hav at laast lade hand on them. And nou let not thi hoaps make the an unbillevə, wen I swae too the dhat Jus and Brandokh Daahaa shal rot and di in prizn."

And fau aul hiz gentl spechiz, and offəz ov welth and rich ədvaantij and uphoalding in pece and wau, mite not La Firrese shake the King. And the King ced, "Faubae, La Firrese, au dhou wilt vex me. Dha must rot."

So wen the Prins La Firrese sau dhat he mite not moove the King bi soft wuudz, he tooc up hiz fae cristl goblit, eg-shaipt widh thre clauz ov goald too stand widhaul weldid too a collə ov goald əbout its midl bost widh topazsiz, and huuld it at Gorice the King, so dhat the goblit smote him on the forrid, and the cristl woz brast əsundə widh the faus ov

the blo, and the Kingz forrid lade opən, and the King
strooc censlis.

Dhaewidh woz huge uprau in the banqwit haul; nau wood Corrənd
dhat enny shood hav spediyyə hand dharin dhan he, but
catching up hiz too-ejd saud and criying, "Looc too the King,
Gro! Hiyyəz distresfool revvəlz!" he leept uppon the taibl. And
hiz sunz liaqwise and Galləndəs and the uthə Witchiz ceezd
dhae weppənz, and in like mannə did La Firrese and hiz men;
and dhae woz batl in the grate haul in Caacy. Kərinniyyəs,
hoose left hand oanly mite az nou weeld weppən, eevn so sprang
fauth in moast gallənt wise, cauling uppon the Prins widh menny
vile wuudz too əbide hiz oncet. But the fuemz ov unbriadld
potaishnz, dhat beying flone too hiz brane had made him frantic
mad, raut in hiz legz mau fogghilly, dulling dhae woantid
nimblnəs. And hiz foot sliding in a pudl ov spilt wine he
fel baqwəd a grevəs faul, striking hiz hed əghenst the
pollisht taibl. And Caucəs dhat woz nou wel ni speechləs
and qwite stupiffide widh drinc, so dhat a baby mite tel az
wel az he wot ment this hubbub, reeld cup in hand,
shouting, "Drunkənəs iz bettə fau the boddy dhan fizsic!
Drinc aulwase, and u shal nevvə di!" So shouting he woz
smitn sqwae in the mouth bi a brest ov vele flung at him bi
Ellәron ov Pixeland, the captin ov the Princiz boddiggaad, and
so fel like a hog əthwaut Kərinniyyəs, and dhae la widhout
cens au moashn. Then wuu the taiblz ovəcet, and wuindz ghivn
and takən, and swiftly ran the tide ov vaantij əghenst the
Witchiz. Fau aulbeyit the Pixiz wuu nun such grate soalgəz az
dha ov Wichland, yet this suuvd them mitilly dhat dha wuu
wel ni sobə and dhae fose az so menny caasx fild widh
wine, stagghəring and raving fau the moast paat from dhae long
tipling and qwoffing. Nau did Corrəndz ammithhist əvale him
throoly, but the wine clogd hiz vainz so dhat he waxt
scant ov breth and hiz stroax litə and sloə dhan dha

wuu woant.

Nou fau the luv he bae hiz cistə Prezmirə and fau hiz oald kiandnəs sake fau Wichland, the Prins chaajd hiz men too fite oanly fau the ovəpouring ov the Witchiz, slaying nun if so it mite be, and on dhae liavz too looc too it dhat the Laud Corrənd tooc no huut. And wen dha had faely gottən the maastəry, La Firrese made suutn ov hiz foke take jaaz ov wine and dhaewidh sous Corrənd and hiz men moast lustilly in the face, wile uthəz held them at weppənz point, until bi the pouə ov the wine boath within and widhout dha wuu wel braut undə. And dha barriccadid the grate dauwa ov the haul widh the benchiz and taibl tops and hevvy okən treslz, and La Firrese chaajd Ellәron hoald the dau widh the moast ov hiz following, and cet gaadz widhout eche windo dhat nun mite cum fauth from the haul.

But the Prins himcelf tooc flamboiz and went cix in cumpəny too the oald banqwit haul, ovəpouəd the gaad, brake opən the dauz, and so stood biffau Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa dhat hung shacld too the waul cide bi cide. Sumthhing dazld dha wuu in the sudn tauch-lite, but Laud Brandokh Daahaa spake and haild the Prins, and hiz mocking hauty lasy axents wuu scaesly tucht widh hollones, fau aul hiz hun'ghə-staaving and long wotching and the caac and cae ov hiz əflicshn. "La Firrese!" he ced. "Da nae broke up til nou. And mithaut ye wuu yondə fauls fitchoose fostəd in filth and fen, the spaun ov Wichland, rittuund əghen too fliyyə and flout at us."

La Firrese toald them hou thhingz had gon, and he ced, "Əcaizhn galləpith əpace. Uppon this baaghin doo I looce u, dhat ye cum incontinnəntly widh me out ov Caacy, and ceke no rivvenj too-nite uppon the Witchiz."

Jus ced ya too this; and Brandokh Daahaa laaft, saying, "Prins, I so luv the, I cood riffuse the nuthhing, wuu it shave haaf mi biyyəd and go in fustiyyən til haavist-time, slepe in mi cloadhz, and discaus piəs nuthhingz cevn ouəz a da widh mi ladese lap-dog. This nite we be uttəly thine. An instənt oanly bae widh us: this fae shose too good too rest untaistid aaftə so much loocking on. It wuu discuutiyyəs too too leve it so." Dhaewidh, dhae chainz beying nou strickən auf, he et a grate slice ov tuuky and thre qwailz boand and suuvd in gelly, and Jus a duzn pluvvəz egz and a coald paatrij. Laud Brandokh Daahaa ced, "I prithy brake the eg-shelz, Jus, wen the mete iz out, lest sum saucərə shood pric au rite thi name dharon, and so mischif thi puusn." And poring out a stoope ov wine, he qwoft it auf, and filling it əghen, "Pədishn cach me if it be not mine one wine ov Crothəring! Sau enny a caefoollər hoast dhan King Gorice?" And he plejd Laud Jus in the ceckənd cup, saying, "I wil drinc widh the next in Caacy wen the King ov Wichland and aul the laudz dharov ar slane."

Dharaaftə dha tooc dhae weppənz dhat la bi on the taibl, cet dhae too distres dhae soalz and widh litl expectaishn dha shood so take them up əghen; and glad at haat aulbeyit sumwot stif ov lim dha went fauth widh La Firrese from dhat banqwit haul.

Wen dha wuu cum intoo the caut-yaad Jus spake and ced, "Hiyyərin mite onnə hoald us bac eevn hadst dhou made no baaghin widh us, La Firrese. Fau grate shame it wuu too us and we fel uppon the laudz ov Wichland wen dha wuu drunc and unnaibl too mete us in eeqwəl batl. But let us ae we be gon from Caacy ransac this hoald fau mi kinzmən Goaldry Blusco, cins fau hiz sake oanly and in hope too fiand him hiyyə we faed

on this juuny."

"So u tuch no uthə thhing but oanly Goaldry if ye shal fiand him, I am kəntent," ced the Prins.

So wen dha had found kese dha ransact aul Caacy, eevn too the dred chaimbə wae the King had cunʻgəd and the vaults and celləz billo the rivvə. But it əvaild not.

And az dha stood in the caut-yaad in the tauchlite dhae came fauth on a balkəny the Lady Prezmirə in huu niatgoun, distuubd bi this ransacking. Ithhiyyəriyyəl az a cloud she ceemd, pəvilliyyənd in the baamy nite, az a cloud tucht bi the exhəlaishnz ov the unrizn moone. "Wot transfəmaishn iz this?" ced she. "Demənz looce in the caut?"

"Kəntent the, diyyə haat," ced the Prins. "Thi man iz safe, and aul els biscide az I thhinc; save dhat the King hath a brokən hed, the wich I ləment, and wil widhout qweschən soone be heeld. Dha li aul in the banqwit haul too-nite, beying too slepy-sodn widh the feest too take dhae chaimbəz."

Prezmirə cride, "Mi fiyyəz ar faulən uppon me. Aat dhou brokən widh Wichland?"

"Dhat ma I not faujuj," he aancəd. "Tel them too-morro dhat naut I did in haitrid, and naut but wot I woz bi suukəmstəns enfaust too. Fau I am not such a couəd nau so grate a villən az leve mi frendz caijd up wile strength iz left me too wuuc fau dhae cetting fre."

"U must straitwa fauth from Caacy," ced Prezmirə, "and dhat ə the instənt. Mi step-sun Hacmən, wich woz cent too gathə strength too au the if nede wuu, ridith bi nou from

the soudh widh a grate cumpəny. Thi hauciz ar fresh, and ye ma wel outdistəns the Kingz men if dha ride aaftə u. If dhou wilt not yet rase up a rivvə ov blud bitwixt us, biggon."

"Wi fae the wel, then, cistə. And dout it not, these rifts twene me and Wichland shal soone be pacht up and fəgot." So spake the Prins widh a merry vois, yet greevd at haat. Fau wel he weend the King shood nevvə paadn him dhat blo, nau hiz robbing him ov hiz pra.

But she ced, sadly, "Faewel, mi bruthə. And mi haat telz me I shal nevvə ce the mau. Wen dhou tooxt these from prizn, dhou didst dig up too mandraix shal bring sorro and deth too the and too me and too aul Wichland."

The Prins woz cilənt, but Laud Jus boud too Prezmirə saying, "Maddəm, these thhingz be on the nese ov Fate. But immadgin not dhat wile life and breth be in us we shal leve too uphoald the Prins thi bruthə. Hiz fose be ouə fose fau this nite sake."

"Dhou swarist it?" she ced.

He aancəd, "Maddəm, I swae it untooh the and untooh him."

The Lady Prezmirə widhdroo sadly too huu chaimbə. And in shaut space she huud dhae haus-huivz on the brij, and loocking fauth bihheld wae dha galləpt on the Wa ov Kingz dim in the coppəry lite ov a waning moone rising ovə Pixeland. So sate she bi the windo ov Corrəndz lofty bed-chaimbə gasing throo the nite, long aaftə huu bruthə and the laudz ov Demənland and huu bruthəz men wuu ridn biyyond huu ceying, long aaftə dhae laast huifbete had ceest too ecco on the rode. In a wile

fresh haus-huivz soundid from the soudh, and a noiz az ov menny riding in cumpəny; and she nu it woz yung Hacmən bac from Puumeyo.

8. The Fuust Expiddishn too Impland

OV THE HOME-CUMMING OV THE DEMƏNZ, AND HOU LAUD JUS WOZ TAUT
IN A DREME WITHƏ HE MUST CEKE FAU TIDINGZ OV HIZ DIYYƏ BRUTHƏ. AND HOU DHA TOOC COUNSL AT CROTHƏRING, AND DITTUUMIND OV DHAE EXPIDDISHN TOO IMPLAND.

Midsummə nite, ambroazyəl, staary-cuutld, wauct on the ce, az the ship dhat braut the Demənz home droo ni too huu juunese end. The cloax ov Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa, hoo slept on the poope, wuu wet widh du. Smuidhly dha had pascij throo dhat chaamd nite, wae windz wuu husht əslepe and naut woz huud save the waivz tauking binneeth the bouz ov the ship, the lilting chainjləs song ov the stiyyəzmən, and the creke, dip, and swosh ov auz keping time too hiz cinging. Vaghə buund like a saffiə niyyə the sennith, and Aacturəs lo in the nauth-west, bekəning ovə Demənland. In the rimmote soudh-eest Fomәl'hote rose from the ce, a loanly splendə in the dim regən ov Capriccaun and the Fishiz.

So rode dha til da broke, and a lite wind sprang up fresh and kene. Jus waict, and stood up too scan the gra glaacy suufis ov the ce spred too vaast distənciz wae ski and wautə fadid intoo wun. Əstuun, grate cloudz brijd the gaits ov da, boiling upwədz intoo cragz ov wine-daac vapə and buuning

pluimz ov sunrise. In the stainləs spaciz ov the ski əbuv
these saild the haund moone, frale and won az a wite
fome-flouə blone from the waivz. Westwəd, facing the
thundə-smoke ov daun, the fine faa rij ov Caatadsə woz like
cut cristl əghenst the ski: the fuust iləND centinl ov
menny-mountind Demənland, hiz topmoast clifs daun-illoomind
widh pale goald and ammithhist wile yet the lescə hiats la
əbscuə, lapt in the foaldz ov nite. And widh the opəning da
the mists swaithing the mountinz scuuts wuu liftid up in
billowy masciz dhat groo and shranc and groo əghen, made
restləs bi the wawəd windz wich mauning waict in the hollo
mountin cide, and taun bi them intoo wisps and streməz. Sum
wuu blone upwəd, steming up the grate gulliz in the rox
billo the peke, wile nou and then a puf ov cloud swam fre
fau a minnit, flotid a minuets space az reddy too sale
skiwəd, then indələntly stuipt əghen too the mountin waul too
vale it in an uncəbstanshəl flece ov goaldən vapə. And nou
aul the westən cebaud ov Demənland la cliyyə too vu,
stretching fifty mialz and mau from Nauth'hous Skerrese paast
the Draic'hoamz and the lo dounz ov Kestəwic and BiləND,
biyyond wich touə the mountinz ov the Scaaf, paast the jagghid
ski-line ov the Thaunbax and the faa Nevvədale peex
ovəhanging the wooddid shauz ov Onwədliadh and Loə
Tivərandədale, too the ixtreme suthən hedland, filmy-pale in
the distəns, wae the grate rainj ov Rimən Aamən plun'giz its
laast wiald bastiyyən in the ce.

Az a luvvə gasing on hiz mistris, so gaizd Laud Jus on
Demənland rising from the ce. No wuud spake he til dha came
auf Loocking'haivn-nes and cood ce wae biyyond the beect
prommməntry the sound opənd bitwene Caatadsə and the mainland.
Aulbeyit the outə ce woz caam, the ae in the sound woz thhic
widh spra from the chuuning ov the wautəz əmung the reefs and
swollowing shoalz. Fau the tide ran like a mil-race throo

dhat sound, and the roring ov it woz plane too hiyyə at too mialz distəns wae dha saild. Jus ced, "Miandist dhou mi sheppəding ov the Goole flete intoo yondə jauz? I wood not tel the fau shame wennaz the fit woz on me. But this iz the fuust da cins the cending came uppon us dhat I hav not wisht in mi haat dhat the Raciz ov Caatadsə had gulpt me doun aulso and ghivn me wun ending widh the əcuucid Guilz."

Laud Brandokh Daahaa looct swiftly uppon him and woz cilənt.

Nou in a shaut wile woz the ship cum intoo Loocking'haivn and əlongcide ov the maabl ke. Dhae əmid hiz foke stood Spitfiə, hoo gretid them, saying, "I made aul reddy too bring thre ov u home in triəmf from yau ship, but Vol counsld əghenst it. Glad am I dhat I tooc hiz counsl, and put bi dhose thhingz I had prippaed. Dha had cut me too the haat too ce them nou."

Jus aancəd him, "O mi bruthə, this noiz ov hamməz in Loocking'haivn, and these ten keelz lade on the slips, sho me ye hav bene bizsid on thhingz niyyərə ouə needz dhan ba-leevz and the instroommənts ov joi cins dhou uunst home."

So dha tooc haus, and wile dha rode dha rillatid too Spitfiə aul dhat had biffaulən cins dhae faring too Caacy. In such wise came dha nauth paast the haabə, and so ovə Havvəshau Tung too Becfoot wae dha tooc the uppə paath dhat cliamz intoo Eevndale cloce undə the screse ov Staaxty Pike, and so came a litl biffau noone too Galing.

The blac roc ov Galing standz at the end ov the spuu dhat runz doun from the soudh rij ov Litl Draic'home, divviding Brancdale from Eevndale. On thre ciadz the clifs faul shiyyə from the caasl waulz too the depe woodz ov oke and buuch and

roən tre wich caapit the flats ov Muin'gaath Bottəm and fethə the waulz ov the ghil throo wich the Brancdale bec plun'giz in wautəfaul aaftə wautəfaul. Oanly on the nauthheest ma aut save a wingd thhing cum at the caasl, əcros a smuidh graas-grone sadl les dhan a stoanz thro in witth. Ovə dhat sadl runz the pavən wa leding from the Brancdale rode too the Liən Gate, and within the gate iz dhat gaadn ov the graas wauc bitwene the use wae Lescing'ham stood widh the maatlet nine weex biffau, wen fuust he came too Demənland.

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Wen nite fel and suppə woz dun, Jus wauct ələone on the waulz ov hiz caasl, wotching the constəlaishnz buun in the muinləs ski əbuv the mity shaddose ov the mountinz, lisning too the hooting ov the oulz in the woodz billo and the faint distənt tincl ov cou-belz, and breething the fraigrəns baun up from the gaadn on the nite wind dhat eevn in hi summə taistid kene ov the mountinz and the ce. These ciats and cents and voiciz ov the holy nite so held him in thraul dhat it wontid but an ouə ov midnite wen he left the batlmənts, and cauld the slepy hous-caalz too lite him too hiz chaimbə in the soudh touə ov Galing.

Wundrəs fae woz the grate fau-poastid bed ov the Laud Jus, bildid ov sollid goald, and hung widh cuutnz ov daac-bloo tappistry waron wuu figghəd slepe-flouəz. The cannəpy əbuv the bed woz a mozayic ov tiny stoanz, get, suupəntine, daac hiəcinth, blac maabl, bludstone, and lappis lazzuli, so kənfoundid in a mase ov aultəring hu and lustə dhat dha mite moc the palpittating ski ov nite. And dharin woz the liacnəs ov the constəlaishn ov Oriən, held bi Jus fau gaadiyyən ov hiz fauchuinz, the staaz warov, like dhose binneeth the goaldən cannəpy in the prezns chaimbə, wuu jooəlz shining ov dhae

one lite, yet ded wood glimməring in the daac. Fau Bɛtəljoose woz a rooby shining, and a diəmənd fau Rigəl, and pale topazsiz fau the uthə staaz. The fau poasts ov the bed wuu ov the thhicnəs ov a manz aam in dhae uppə paats, but dhae loə paats grate az hiz waist and caavən in the immij ov buudz and beests: at the foot ov the bed a liən fau currij and an oul fau wizdəm, and at the hed an əlaunt fau faithflnəs ov haat and a kingfishə fau happinnəs. On the caunis ov the bed and on the panlz əbuv the pillo əghenst the waul wuu caavd Jusciz deedz ov derring-doo; and the latist caaving woz ov the ce-fite widh the Guilz. Too the rite ov the bed stood a taibl widh oald boox ov songz and boox ov the staaz and ov huubz and beests and travləz tailz, and dhae woz Jus woant too la hiz saud biscide him wile he slept. Aul the waulz wuu panld widh daac swete-smelling wood, and aamə and weppənz hung dharon. Mity chests and aamərese haaspt and bound widh goald stood əghenst the waul, warin he kept hiz rich əparrəl. Windose opənd too the west and soudh, and on eche windo-lej stood a bole ov palist jade fild widh wite rosiz; and the ae entəring the bed-chaimbə woz laidn widh dhae cent.

Əbout coc-cro came a dreme untooh Laud Jus, standing bi hiz hed and tutching hiz ise so dhat he ceemd too wake and looc əbout the chaimbə. And he ceemd too bihhoald an eevl beest aul buuning az a drake, bizsy in hiz chaimbə, widh menny hedz, the moast vennəməs dhat evvə he the dase ov hiz life had cene, and əbout it its five faunz, like too itcelf but smaulə. It ceemd too Jus dhat in place ov hiz saud dhae la a grate spiyyə ov fae wuucmənship on the taibl bi hiz bed; and it ceemd too him in hiz dreme dhat this spiyyə had bene hiz aul hiz life, and woz hiz gratist trezhə, and dhat widh it he mite əcumplish aul thhingz and widhout it scaesly aut too hiz miand. He labəd too reche out hiz hand too the spiyyə, but sum pouə widhheld him so dhat fau aul hiz striving he mite not stuu. But dhat beest

tooc up the spiyyə in its jauz, and went widh it fauth from the chaimbə. It ceemd too Jus dhat the pouə dhat held him dippaatid widh the dippaating ov the beest, so dhat he leept up and snacht doun weppənz from the waul and made an onslaut on the faunz ov dhat fel beest dhat wuu tiyyəring doun the wovən hangingz and maaring widh dhae firy breth the figghə ov the kingfishə at the hed ov hiz bed. Aul the chaimbə woz fool ov the reke ov buuning, and he thaut hiz frendz wuu widh him in the chaimbə, Vol and Viz and Sig and Spitfiə and Brandokh Daahaa, fiting widh the beests, and the beests privvaild əghenst them. Then it ceemd too him dhat the bedpoast caavən in the liacnəs ov an oul spake too him in hiz dreme in humən speche; and the oul ced, "O foole, dhat shalt justly be put in grate mizsəry widhout end, ixept dhou bring bac the spiyyə. Hast dhou fəgot dhat this oanly iz thi gratist trezhə and moast wuuthiyyist thi cae?"

Dhaewidh came bac dhat grim and grizfəl beest intoo the chaimbə, and Jus əsaild it, criying too the oul, "Uncivl oul, wae then must I fiand mi spiyyə dhat this beest hath hidn?"

And it ceemd too him dhat the oul made aancə, "Inqwiə in Coshtrə Billaun."

So tumulchoowwəs woz Laud Jusciz dreme dhat he woz flung at waking out ov bed on too the diyyəskin caapits ov the flau, and hiz rite hand clucht the hilt ov hiz grate saud wae it la on the taibl bi hiz bed, waraz in hiz dreme he had bihheld the spiyyə. Mitilly muivd woz he; and fauthwith cloadhd himcelf, and faring throo the dim corriddauz came too Spitfiəz chaimbə, and sat on the bed and waict him. And Jus toald him hiz dreme, and ced, "I hoald micelf clene ov aul blame hiyyərəbout, fau from dhat da fauth this oanly hath bene mi cae, hou too fiand mi diyyə bruthə and fech him home, and oanly then

too reke micelf on the Witchiz. And wot woz this spiyyə in mi dreme if not Goaldry? This vizhn ov the nite kindlith fau us a bekən fiə we needz must ceke too. It bad me inqwiə in Coshtrə Billaun, and til dhat be dun nevvə wil I rest nau so much az thhinc on aut bisciadz."

Spitfiə aancəd and ced, "Dhou beyist ouə oaldist bruthə, and I shal follo and əba the in aul dhat dhou wilt doo au shalt audane hiyyərov."

Then faed Jus too the ghest-chaimbə, wae Laud Brandokh Daahaa la a-sleping, and waict him and toald him aul. Brandokh Daahaa snugld him undə the bedcloadhz and ced, "Let me be and let me slepe yet too ouəz. Then wil I rise and baidh and əra micelf and et mi mauning mele, and dharaaftə wil I take rede widh the and tel the sumwot fau thine ədvaantij. I hav not slept in a gooce-fethə bed and sheets ov laun these menny weex. If dhou plaghe me nou, bi God, I wil incontinnəntly take haus ovə the Stile too Crothəring, and let the and thine əfaez go too the devl."

So Jus laaft and left him in pece. And latə wen dha had eetn dha wauct in a plasht ally, wae the ae woz coole and the puupl shaddo on the paath woz dapld widh brite flex ov sunshine. Laud Brandokh Daahaa ced, "Dhou nowist dhat Coshtrə Billaun iz a grate mountin, biscide wich ouə mountinz ov Demənland wood ceme but litl hilz unrimmaact, and dhat it standith in the uttəmoast paats ov uuth biyyond the waists ov Uppə Impland, and dhou mitist suuch a yuu throo aul the peepld cuntriz ov the wuuld and not fiand wun livving sole hoo had so much az bihheld it from əfaa."

"This much I no," ced Laud Jus.

"Iz thine haat uttəly bent on this juuny?" ced Brandokh Daahaa. "Au iz it not prippostərəs, and a thhing too cumfət ouə ennəmiz, dhat we shood dhus at the bidding ov a dreme fli too faa and perrələs landz, raathə dhan pa Wichland prezntly fau the shame he hath dun us?"

Jus aancəd him, "Mi bed iz hallode bi spelz ov such a vuuchoo dhat no nauty dreme flone throo the ivəry gate nau no noicəm wizsədry hath pouə too trubl hiz slepe hoo slepith dhae. This dreme iz troo. Fau Wichland dhae iz time ennou. If dhou wilt not go widh me too Coshtrə Billaun, I must go widhout the."

"Ennuf," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Dhou nowist fau the I ti mi puus widh a spidəz thred. Then fae we must too Impland, and hiyyərin ma I help the. Fau lisn wile I tel the a thhing. Wennaz I sloo Gorice X. in Goblinland, Gazlaac gave me əlong widh uthə good ghifts, a grate curiyyoscitty: a tretis au booc coppid out on paachmənt bi Borriyyən hiz cecrətry, warin it spekith ov aul the wase too Impland and wot cuntriz and kingdəmz li next too the Moroonə and the frunts dharov, and the maavlz dhat he found in dhose landz. And aul dhat iz rit in this booc woz cet doun faithfəly bi Borriyyən aaftə the telling ov Gro, the same wich nou hath paat widh the Wichlandəz. Grate onnə had Gro az then from Gazlaac fau hiz faa juuniyyingz and fau dhat wich iz ritn in this booc ov wundəz; and this it woz dhat had fuust put in Gazlaax miand too cend dhat expiddishn intoo Impland, wich so ridduest him and came so retchidly too naut. If then dhou wilt ceke too Coshtrə Billaun, cum home widh me too-da and I wil sho the mi booc."

So spake Laud Brandokh Daahaa, and Laud Jus straitwa audəd fauth the hauciz, and cent mescin'gəz too Vol undə Caatadsə and too Viz at Daaclaested bidding them mete him at

Crothəring widh wot spede dha mite. It woz fau ouəz biffau noone wen Jus, Spitfiə, and Brandokh Daahaa rode doun from Galing and throo the woodz ov Muin'gaath Bottəm at the foot ov the lake, taking the mane briadl rode up Brakingdale, dhat runz bi the westən maagin ov Muinmiyyə undə the butrəciz ov the Scaaf. Dha rode sloly, fau the sun woz strong on dhae bax. Glaacy woz the lake and like a tuuqwoiz, and the buuch-clad sloaps too the eest and nauth and the bae rugghid ridgiz ov Stathfel and Budbəfel biyyond wuu mirrəd in its depths. On the left az dha rode, the spuuz ov the Scaaf impendid from on hi in piald bastiyyənz ov blac paufirry like giənts caaslz; and litl valliz choact widh monstrəs boaldəz, əmung wich the cilvə buuchiz crouding shode like tiny gaadn plaants, ran steeply bac bitwene the spuuz. Up dhose valliz əpiyyəd cəxescivly the mane summits ov the Scaaf, savvij and rimmote, frouning dounwəd az it wuu bitwene dhae one nese: Glaumry Pike, Miclscaaf, and Ilstac. Bi noone dha had cliamd too the ixtreme hed ov Brakingdale, and haultid on the Stile, a litl biyyond the wautəshed, undə the shiyyə nauthən waul ov Il Drennəc. Biffau them the paas plunjd steeply intoo Ammaadədale. The loə reche ov Swichwautə shon fiftene mialz au mau too the west, wel ni hidn in the hete-hase. Niyyərə at hand in the nauthwest la Rammərіc Miyyə, boozsəmd əmung the smuidh-bact Keelyəland hilz and the eestənmoast Upləndz ov Shalgreth Heeth, widh the ce biyyond; and on the vally flau, niyyə the wautəzmete wae Tranzdale runz intoo Ammaadədale, it woz poscəbl too discri the ruifs ov Sigz hous at Menny Booshiz.

Wen dha came doun thithə, Sig woz out a-hunting. So dha left wuud widh hiz lady wife and dranc a stirrəp cup and rode on, up Swichwautə Wa, and fau twelv mialz and mau əlong the suthən shau ov Swichwautə. So dropt dha intoo Gashtəndale, and thens rounding the westən sloaps ov Uun'gate

End came up on the Crothəring Cide wen the shaddose wuu lengthhəning in the goaldən summə eevning. The Cide ran gently west fau a leghe au mau too wae Thundəfuuth la like beetn goald binneeth the sun. Əcros the Fuuth the pine-forrists ov Westmaac, oald az the wuuld, rose təwaud Broxty Ej and Gemcə Ej: a faa-flung amfithhiyyətə ov bae clif and scre shutting in the prospect too the nauth. Hi on the left touəd the prescippisciz ov Uun'gate End; southwəd and soudh-eestwəd la the ce. So rode dha doun the Cide, throo depe peesfəl meddose fae widh wite ox-i dasiz, bloobelz and yello goatsbiyyəd and ce campiyyən, depe-bloo genshnz, agrimməny and wiald maagərəm, and pinc clovə and biandwede and grate yello buttəcups feesting on the sun. And on an emminnəns biyyond wich the land fel əwa mau steeply təwaud the ce, the onnix touəz ov Crothəring standing əbuv woodz and gaadnz shode milc-wite əghenst hevn and the cliyyə hiəlin.

Wen dha wuu nou but haaf a mile from the caasl Jus ced, "Bihhoald and ce. The Lady Mevreən hath ispide us from əfaa, and ridith fauth too bring the home."

Brandokh Daahaa cantəd əhed too mete huu: a lady lite ov bild and ixeding fae too looc uppon, brave ov carrij like a wau-haus, soft ov fechə, cliyyə-broud, gra-ide and proud-ide: swete-moutht, but not az wun hoo can speke naut but sweetnəs. Huu robe woz ov pale buf-cullәd cilc, widh causaazh cuvvəd az bi a spidəz web widh fine goaldən thredz; and she wau a point-lace rufl stifnd widh goald and cilvə wiə and span'gld widh litl diəməndz. Huu depe hae, blac az the ravnz wing, woz faasnd widh pinz ov goald, and a yello rose dhat nesld in its coilz woz az the moone loocking fauth əmung thhic cloudz ov nite.

"Doowingz be əfoot, mi lady cistə," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa.

"Wun King ov Wichland hav we dun doun cins we saild hens; and ghestid in Caacy widh ənuthə, litl too ouə content. Aul wich thhingz Ile tel the ənon. Nou liyith ouə rode soudh fau Impland, and Crothəring iz but ouə carrəvancəri."

She tuund huu haus, and dha rode aul in cumpəny intoo the shaddo ov the ainshənt cedəz dhat clustəd too the nauth ov the home-meedz and plezhə gaadnz, staitly, gaunt-limd, flat-broud, bleke əghenst the ski. On the left a lilly-pavən lake slept coole binneeth mity elmz, widh a blac swon niyyə the banc and huu fau cignits dosing in a ro, dhae hedz tuct binneeth dhae wingz, so dhat dha looct like baulz ov gra-broun froth floting on the wautə. The paath leding too the brij-gate sig-zagd steeply up the mound bitwene lo braud balləstraidz ov wite onnix baring at intəvlz sqwae onnix pots, plaantid sum widh yello rosiz and sum widh wundrəs flouəz, grate and dellickət, widh frale wite shel-like petlz. Depe, mistiyyəriyyəs centəz had dhose flouəz, thhic widh soft haez within, and daac within widh velvitty puupl streect widh blac and blud cullə and dust ov goald.

The caasl ov Laud Brandokh Daahaa standing at the top ov the mound woz suucld bi a dich boath braud and depe. The gate biffau the draubrij woz ov iən ghildid and richly raut. The touəz and gaitʻhous wuu ov wite onnix like the caasl itcelf, and on iathər hand biffau the gate woz a kəlosl maabl hippəgrif, standing mau dhan thuuty fete hi at the withəz; and the wingz and huivz and tallənz ov the hippəgrifs and dhae maanase and faulox wuu ovəlade widh goald, and dhae ise caabunclz ov purist lustə. Ovə the gate woz ritn in lettəz ov goald:

Ye braggers an 'a',

Be skeered and awa'
Frae Brandoch Daha.

But too tel eevn a tenth paat ov the maavlz rich and butiffəl dhat wuu in the hous ov Crothəring: its coole cauts and collənaidz rich widh gemz and fraigrənt widh costly spiciz and strainj bluimz: its bed-chaimbəz wae, caut like Afrədity in huu goaldən net, the spirrit ov slepe ceemd evvə too shake slumbə from its pluimz, and nun mite be waking long in dhose chaimbəz but swete slepe ovəcame dhae ilidz: the Chaimbə ov the Sun and the Chaimbə ov the Moone, and the grate midl haul widh its hi galləry and ivəry stae: too tel ov aul these wuu but too cloi immadginnaishn widh picchəring in wun wile ov ovə-much glory and splendə.

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Naut biffel dhat nite save the cumming ov Sig biffau sun-doun, and ov dhose bredhrən Vol and Viz in the nite, havving ridn haad in əbediyyəns too the wuud ov Jus. In the mauning wen dha had eetn dhae da-mele the laudz ov Demənland went doun intoo plezsənciz, and widh them the Lady Mevreən. And in an ally dhat woz ruift widh beemz ov cedə resting on maabl pilləz, the beemz and pilləz smuthəd widh daac-red rosiz, dha sat loocking eestwəd əcros a sunc gaadn. The wethə woz swete and graishəs, and thhic du la on the pale terrəst launz dhat led doun əmung flouə bedz too the fish-pond in the midst. The wautə made a coole mirrə waron flotid yello and crimzn wautə-lilliz opəning too the ski. Aul the greenz and flouə-culləz glode waum and clene, but soft widhaul and shaddowy, vaild in the gra hase ov the summə mauning.

Dha sat hiyyə and dhae az dha listid on chaez and benchiz, niyyə a huge tanc au vaaz ov daac grene jade wae sulfə-culləd lilliz groo in lan'ghərəs buty, dhae bac-cuuld petlz showing the scaalət anthhəz; and aul the ae woz hevvy widh dhae sweetnəs. The grate jade vaaz woz round and flat like the boddy ov a tautəs, opən at the top wae the lilliz groo. It woz caavd widh scailz, az it wuu the boddy ov a dragghən, and a dragghənz hed a-gaping riyyəd itcelf at wun end, and at the uthə the tale cuuvd up and ovə like the handl ov a baaskit, and the tale had litl fau and hiand fete widh clauz, and a smaulə hed at the end ov the tale gaipt dounwədz biting at the laaj hed. Fau legz cəpautid the boddy, and eche leg woz a smaul dragghən standing on its hiand fete, its hed growing intoo the parənt boddy az the thhi au shoaldə joint shood join the trunc. In the cuuv ov the crechəz nec, hiz bac propt əghenst its hed, sat the Laud Brandokh Daahaa in graisfəl ese, wun foot tutching the ground, the uthə swin'ging fre; and in hiz handz woz the booc, bound in daac puce-culləd goatskin and goald, ghivn him bi Gazlaac in yuuz gon bi. Sig wocht him iadly tuun the pagiz wile the uthəz tauct. Lening təwaud Mevreən he wispəd in huu iyyə, "Iz not he aibl and shapən fau too cəbdu and put undə him aul the wuuld: thi bruthə? A man ov blud and perrəl, and yet so fae too bihhoald dhat it iz a maavl?"

Huu ise daanst. She ced, "It iz puə truith, mi laud."

Nou spake Spitfiə saying, "Rede fauth too us, I pra the, the booc ov Gro; fau mi sole iz əfiə too cet fauth on this faring."

"'Tiz rit sumwot crabdly," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "and moast damnəbly long. I spent haaf laast nite a-suuching ont, and tiz moast əparrənt no uthə wa liyith too these mountinz save bi the Moroonə, and əcros the Moroonə iz (if Gro sa troo) but

wun wa, and dhat from the Gulf ov Muwelvə: '*a xx dayes journeye ƒrom northe by south-est*.' Fau hiyyə he tellith ov wautəspringz bi the wa, but he ceth in uthə paats ov the dezsət be no wautəspringz, save oanly springz vennəməs, wae '*The water riketh like a sething potte continually, ħaving sumwhat a sulphureous and sumwhat onpleasant savor*,' and, '*The grownd nurysheth ħere no plante nor ħerbe except yt bee venomous champinions or tode stooles*.'"

"If he sa troo?" ced Spitfiə. "He iz a tuuncote and a renniggado. Waefau not dhaefau a liə?"

"But a filloscəfə," aancəd Jus. "I nu him wel ov oald in Goblinland, and I juj him too be wun hoo iz not fauls save oanly in polləcy. Sutl ov miand he iz, and diyyəly luvvith plotting and skeming, and, az I thhinc, pəvuusly əfectith evvə the loosing cide if he be braut intoo enny qworrəl; and this hath dragd him oft-tiamz too misfauchoone. But in this booc ov hiz travlz he must needz speke truith, az it cemith too me, too be troo too hiz one celf."

The Lady Mevreən looct əproovingly on Laud Jus and huu i twincld. Fau wel it liact huu humə too hiyyə menz nachəz so divviand.

"O Jus, frend ov mi haat," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa, "thi wuudz prəcede, az evvə dha did, from the troo fount ov wizdəm, and I imbrace them and the. This booc iz a ghide wich we shal follo not heltə-skeltə but az oald men ov wau. If then the rite rode too Maunə Moroonə li from the Gulf ov Muwelvə, wuu we not best sale strate thithəwəd and la up ouə ships in dhat Gulf wae the coast and the cuntry cide be widhout

habbittaishn, raathə dhan fae too sum niyyərə haivn ov Outə Impland such az Aalən Mouth withə dhou and Spitfiə faed cix summəz əgo?"

"Not Aalən Mouth, ə this juuny," ced Jus. "Sum spaut pəchaans we mite əbtane dhae had we lezhə fau fiting widh the əcuucid inhabbittənts, but evry dase dilla we nou doo make hoaldith mi bruthə ənuthə da in bondij. The princiz and Fasiz ov the Imps hav menny strong wauld tounz and touəz in aul dhose coastlandz, and haad bi in a medeyamnis ov the rivvə Aalən, in Aupish, iz the grate caasl ov Fax Fa Faz, waetoo Goaldry and I drave him home from Lidə Nan'goonə."

"'Tiz an il coast too, too fiand a landing," ced Brandokh Daahaa, tuuning the leevz ov the booc. "Az he ceth, '*Ymplande the More beginnith at the west syde of the mowth of Arlan and occupiethe all the lond unto the ħedeland Sibrion, and therefro sowth awaye to the Corshe, by gesse a vij ħundered myles, wherby the se is not ther of nature favorable nor no ħaven is or cumming yn meete for shippes*.'"

So aaftə sum tauc and suuching ov dhat booc ov Gro dha dittuumind this shood be dhae plan: too fae too Impland bi wa ov the Straits ov Mellecafkhaz and the Diddauneən Ce, and so la up dhae ships in the Gulf ov Muwelvə, and landing dhae staat straitwa əcros the wildənəs too Maunə Moroonə, eevn az Gro had discriabd the wa.

"Ae we leve it," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "hiyyə wot he spekith kənsuuning Coshtrə Billaun. This he bihheld from Maunə Moroonə, warov he ceth: '*The contery is ħylly, sandy, and baren of wood and corne, as forest ful of lynge, mores, and mosses, with*

stony hilles. Here is a mighty stronge and usid borow for flying serpens in sum baren, hethy, and sandy grownd, and thereby the litle round castel of Morna Moruna stondith on Omprenne Edge, as on the limit of the worlde, sore wether beten and yn ruine. This castelle was brent in tyme of warre, spoyled and razyd by Kynge Goriyse the fourt of Wytchlande in auncient dayes. And they say there was blamelesse folke dwellid therein and ryghte gentle, nor was ther any need for Goriyse to have usid them so cruellie, when hee cawsyd the hole howsholde there to appere before hym and then slawe sum owt of hande, and the residew he throughe all downe the steep cliffe. And but few supervivid after the gret falle, and these fled awaye thorough the untrodden forests of Bavvynaune and withoute question perysht ther yn great sorwe and miserie. Sum fable that it was for thys cruel facte sake that King Goriyse was eat by divels on the Moruna with al hys hoste, one man onely cumming home again to tell of these thynges bifallen.' Now mark: 'From Morna Moruna I behelde sowthawaye two grete mowntaynes standing over Bavvinane as two Queenes in bewty seted in the skye by estimacion xx legues fro hence above meny more ise robed mowntaines supereminente. The wyche as I lernyd was Coschtre Belourne the one and the othere Koshtre Pivrarca. And I veuyed them continuallie unto the going downe of the sun, and that was the fayrest sighte and the most bewtifullest and gallant marvaille that mine eyen hath sene. Therewith talkid I with the smaule thynges that dwell there in the mines and in the busschis growing round abowte as it ys my wonte, and amongst them one of those byrdes cawld martlettes that have feete so

litle that they seime to ħave none. And thys litle martlette sittynge in a frambousier or raspis busche tolde mee that none may come alive unto Coschtra Beloorn, for the mantycores of the mowntaines will certeynely ete ħis brains ere ħe come thither. And were ħe so fortunate as scape these mantycores, yet cowlde ħee never climbe up the gret cragges of yce and rocke on Koschtre Beloorn, for none is so stronge as to scale them but by art magicall, and such is the vertue of that mowntayne that no magick avayleth there, but onlie strength and wisdome alone, and as I seye these woulde not avayl to climbe those cliffes and yce ryvers.'"

"Wot be these manticcorz ov the mountinz dhat et menz brainz?" aasct the Lady Mevreən.

"This booc iz so exələnt wel rit," ced huu bruthə, "dhat thine aancə əpiyyərith on this same page: '*The beeste Mantichora, whych is as muche as to saye devorer of menne, rennith as I ħerde tell, on the skirt of the mowntaynes below the snow feldes. These be monstrous bestes, ghastlie and ful of ħorrour, enemies to mankinde, of a red coloure, with ij rowes of ħuge grete tethe in their mouthes. It ħatħ the ħead of a man, ħis eyen like a ghoot, and the bodie of a lyon lancing owt sharpe prickles fro behinde. And ħys tayl is the tail of a scorpioun. And is more delyverer to goo than is fowle to flee. And ħys voys is as the roaryng of x lyons.*'"

"These beests," ced Spitfiə, "wuu ələne ennuf too drau me thithə. I shal bring the home a smaul wun, maddəm, too kepe chaind in the caut."

"Dhat shood dash me from thi frendship fau evvə, cuzn,"
ced Mevreən, stroking the fethəry iyyəz ov huu litl maaməset
dhat cudld in huu lap. "Dhat wich fedith on brainz wuu
ovənurrisht in Demənland, and billike wood ovərun the hole
cuntry-cide."

"Cend it too Wichland," ced Sig. "Wae wen it hath et up
Gro and Corrənd it ma sup liatly on the King, and then moast
fauchənətly staav fau lac ov its proppə nuetrimmənt."

Jus stood up from hiz cete. "Dhou and I and Spitfiə," ced he
too Brandokh Daahaa, "must too wuuc roundly and gathə strength,
fau tiz aulreddy midsummə. U, Viz, Vol, and Sig, must
hav the wauding ov ouə hoamz wialz we be gon. We cannət be
les dhan too thouznd saudz on this faring."

"Hou menny ships, Vol," aasct Laud Brandokh Daahaa, "canst dhou
ghiv us, busct and boun, ae this moone wane?"

"Dhae be fautene əflote," ced Vol. "Bisciadz these, ten
keelz li on the slips at Loocking'haivn, and nine mau hath
Spitfiə but nou lade doun on the beche biffau hiz hous at
Oulzwic."

"Thuuty and thre in sum," ced Spitfiə. "U ce we hav not
twidld ouə thumz wialst ye wuu gon."

Jus paist bac and fauth widh grate striadz, hiz brou cloudid
and hiz jau clencht. In a wile he ced, "Laxəs hath fauty
sale, dragghənz ov wau. I am not so iadl-heddid az fae widhout
an aamy intoo Impland, but suutn it iz dhat if ouə il-willəz
wood moove wau əghenst us we stand in əparrənt weecnəs, hiyyə
au əbraud, too thro bac dhae oncet."

Vol ced, "Ov these niantene ships a-bilding no mau dhan
too can take the wautə biffau a munth be paast, and but cevn
mau ae cix munths time, poosh we nevvə so mitilly the wuuc."

"The ceezn warith, and mi bruthə waistith in dures. We must
sale ae ənuthə moone gro oald," ced Jus.

Vol ced, "Then widh cixtene sale dhou salist, O Jus; and
then dhou levist us not wun ship at home til mau be finnisht
and launcht."

"Hou can we leve u so?" cride Spitfiə.

But Brandokh Daahaa looct təwaudz hiz lady cistə, met huu
glaans, and woz sattisfide. "The chois liyith fae biffau us,"
ced he. "If we wil et the eg, litl nede too dibbate wethə
the shel must go."

Mevreən rose from huu cete laafing, and ced, "Then let the
counsl rise, mi laudz." And huu ise groo ciyyəriyyəs, and she
ced, "Shal dha make riamz uppon us dhat we ov Demənland,
hoome men rippute and hoald the mitiyyist laudz in aul the wuuld,
hung shepishly bac from this hi needfəl entəprise lest,
ouə gratist captinz beying əbraud, ouə ennəmiz mite haply
take us at home at discədvaantij? It shal not be ced ov the
wimmin ov Demənland dhat dha upheld such counslz."

9. Salləpantə Hilz

OV THE LANDING OV LAUD JUS AND HIZ KƏMPANNIYYƏNZ IN OUTƏ IMPLAND AND DHAE METING WIDH SELDAUNIYYƏS, HELTƏRANIYYƏS, AND JALKƏNIƏS FOSTƏS; AND OV THE TIDINGZ TOALD BI MIVAASH, AND THE DELINGZ OV THE THRE GRATE CAPTINZ ON THE HILZ OV SALLƏPANTƏ.

On the thuuty and fuust da aaftə dhat counsl held in Crothəring, the flete ov Demənland put too ce from Loocking'haivn: illevn dragghənz ov wau and too grate ships ov buuthən, bound fau the uttəmoast cese ov uuth in qwest ov the Laud Goaldry Blusco. Atene hundrəd Demənz faed on dhat expiddishn, and not a man əmung them dhat woz not a kəmplete soalgə. Fau five dase dha rode southhəwa on a windləs ce, and on the cixth the ce-clifs ov Goblinland came out ov the hase on dhae staabəd bou. Dha rode soudh əlong the land, and on the tenth da out from Loocking'haivn paast undə the Nes ov Osəm, juuniyying thens fau dase widh a favəring wind ovə the opən cese too Cibriyyən. But nou, wen dha had roundid dhat daac prommən try and wuu əbout stiyyəring eest əlong the coast ov Impland the Mau, and les dhan ten dase juuny la bitwixt them and dhae haivn in Muwelvə, a dizməl tempist sudnly cəpriazd them. Fau fauty dase it swept them in hale and slete ovə wide-wollowing oashn, widhout a staa, widhout a caus; til, on a fiyyəs midnite ov wind and daacnəs and roring wautəz woz Jusciz and Spitfiəz ship and uthə fau in huu cumpəny drivn on the rox on a le shau and brokən in peciz. Haadly, and aaftə long batling əmung grate waivz, dhose bredhrən wun əshau, wiyyəry and huut. In the inhospittəbl lite ov a wet and windy daun dha mustəd on the beche such ov dhae foke az had iscaipt out ov the mouth ov distrucshn; and dha wuu thre hundrəd and thuuty and thre.

Spitfiə, bihhoalding these thhingz, spake and ced, "This land hath a villənəs looc stuurith mi rimmembrəns, az but too bihhoald vuujooce sourith the mouth ov him hoo wuns taistid dharov. Rimmembərist dhou this land?"

Jus scand the lo long coast-line dhat swept nauth and west too an eschoowwəry, and biyyond ran westwədz til it woz lost in the scud and driving spra. Descələt buudz floo əbuv the weltə ov the suugiz. He ced, "Suutnly this iz Aalən Mouth, wae leest ov aul I had chuizd too cum a-land widh so smaul a hed ov men. Yet shalt dhou proove hiyyə, az it hath evvə bene, hou aul əcaizhnz ar but steps fau us too clime fame bi."

"Ouə ships lost," cride Spitfiə, "and the mau paat ov ouə men, and wuust ov aul, Brandokh Daahaa dhat iz wuuth ten thouznd. Esəleə shal a litl ant bib this oashn dri, dhan shal we in this taking pəfaum ouə entəprise." And he cuucid and blasfeemd, saying, "Cuucid be the mallis ov the ce, wich, havving broke ouə pouə, nou spuwith us əshau hiyyə too ouə miyyə undoowing; and so hath dun grate suckə too the King ov Wichland, and untooh aul the wuuld biscide grate dammij."

But Jus aancəd him, "Thhinc not dhat these kəntrary windz cum ov fauchoone au bi the infloowwəns ov məlignənt and kəmbustiv staaz. This wethə blowith out ov Caacy. Eevn az these verry waivz dhou bihhoaldist hav eche hiz bac-wosh au undəto, so followith aaftə evry cending an undəto ov eevl hap, waebi, aulbeyit in esns a les dedly thhing, menny hav bene dround and wosht əwa hoo stood unrimmuivd əghenst the mane stroke ov the brakə. So wuu we twice cins dhat da braut niyyə too ouə bane: fuust, wen ouə jujmənt beying daakənd widh a strainj distracshn we went up widh Gazlaac əghenst Caacy; next, wen this staum rect us hiyyə bi Aalən Mouth. Dho bi mine aat I rabbittid the Kingz cending, yet əghenst the

malleffickəl undəto dhat follode it mi chaamz əvale not, nau the vuuchoose ov aul saucərəs huubz dhat gro."

"Ar these thhingz so, and wilt dhou yet be tempərət?" ced Spitfiə.

"Kəntent the," ced Jus. "The sandz run doun. A suutn time oanly runnith this streme fau ouə huut; it must nou hav wel ni spent itcelf, and it wuu too perrələs fau him too cun'gər a ceckənd time, az laast Ma he cun'gəd in Caacy."

"Hoo toald the dhat?" aasct Spitfiə.

"I doo but kən'gecchə it," aancəd he, "from mi studdiyying ov suutn prəfettic ritingz tutching the princiz ov dhat blud and line. Waebi it əpiyyərith (yet not cliyyəly, but ridl-wise) dhat if wun and the same King, essaying a ceckənd time in hiz one puusn an entəprise in dhat kiand, shood fale, and the pouəz ov daacnəs distroi him, then iz not hiz life spilt əlone (az it fauchuind əfautime untooh Gorice 7. at hiz fuust ətempt), but dhae shal be an end fau evvə ov the hole hous ov Gorice wich hath fau so menny gennəraishnz raind in Caacy."

"Wel," ced Spitfiə, "so stand we too ouə chaans. Oald muc'hilz wil bloome at laast."

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Nou fau niantene dase faed dhose bredhrən and dhae cumpəny eestwəd throo Outə Impland: fuust əcros a cuntry ov wianding slepy rivvəz and redy laix innumərəbl, then bi roling upləndz and champane ground. At length, on an eevn,

dha came uppon a heeth running up eestwəd too a rainj ov tumbld hilz. The hilz wuu not lofty nau stepe, but rugghid ov outline and dhae suufis ruf widh cragz and boaldəz, so dhat it woz a mase ov litl emminnənciz and valliz grone uppon bi hethə and fuun and ranc sad-culləd graas, widh stuntid thaun trese and joonippəz haabəring in the clefts ov the rox. On the wautə-shed, az on an hauciz withəz, loocking west too the red Octobə suncet and soudh too the faa line ov the Diddauneən Ce, dha came uppon a spi-fautəlis, oald and descələt, and wun citting in the gate. Fau verry joi dhae haats meltid within them, wen dha nu him fau nun uthə dhan Brandokh Daahaa.

So dha imbraist him az wun biyyond hope rizn from the grave. And he ced, "Throo the Straits ov Mellecafkhaz woz I baun, and rect at laast on the loanly shau ten leegz southwəd from this spot, withə I wun ələne, havving lost mi ship and aul mi diyyə kəmpanniyyənz. In mi miand it woz dhat ye must fae bi this rode too Muwelvə if ye suffəd shiprec in the outə coasts ov Impland.

"Haakən," he ced, "and I wil tel u a wundə. A cevn-nite hav I əwatid u in this ruisting-sted ov dauz and oulz. And it iz a carrəvancəri ov grate aamiz dhat paas bi in the wildənəs, and havving paalid widh too I əwate the thuud. Fau wel I thhinc dhat hiyyə I hav made discuvvəry ov a grate mistəry, wun dhat hath en'gaijd the specculaishnz ov wise men fau yuuz. Fau on dhat da ov mi cumming hithə, wen suncet woz red, az nou u ce it, bihhoald an aamy maaching up from the eest widh grate flagz a-flaunting in the wind and aul kiandz ov music. Wich I bihhoalding, mithaut if these be ennəmiz, then gowith doun mi liafs dase widh onnə, and if frendz, then cummith provvində from dhose wagghənz ov buuthən dhat follo this aamy. A waty aagumənt; cins not so much az the smel ov

vitlz had I, save naasty nuts and berriz ov the opən feeld, cins I came fauth ov the ce. So went I, taking mi weppənz, on the waulz ov this spi-fautəlis and haild them, bidding them sa fauth dhae qwollitty. And he dhat woz dhae captin rode up undə the waulz, and haild me widh aul cuutəcy and noabl paut. And hoo thhinc ye twoz?"

Dha aancəd naut.

"Wun dhat hath bene famәs," ced he, "up and doun the uuth fau a maavələs vallərəs and brave soalgə ov fauchoone. Hav ye fəgot dhat entəprise ov Gazlaac dhat had its berriyying in Impland?"

"Woz he litl and daac," aasct Jus, "like a kene dagghə sudnly unsheedhd at midnite? Au brite widh the splendə ov a pennənd spiyyə at a jousting on hi holləda? Au woz he dainʻgərəs ov aspect like an oald saud, rusty in the midst but brite at point and ej, braut fauth fau deedz ov destinny at the fatid da?"

"Thine arro strikith in the tripl ring ə the maac," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Grate ov groath he woz, and a verry pecoc ov splendə in hiz pannəply ov wau; and a grate pich-blac stalliyyən bae him. So I spake him fae, saying, 'O moast magniffisnt and godlike Heltəraniyyəs, conkərə in an hundrəd fiats, wot makist dhou these long yuuz in Outə Impland widh this grate hed ov men? And wot daac loadstone drauz u these nine yuuz, cins widh grate sound ov trumpits and tramp ov hauciz dhou and Seldauniyyəs and Jalkəniəs Fostəs went fauth too make Impland Gazlaax footstoole; cins wich time aul the wuuld billevith u lost and ded?' And he bihheld me widh aliyyən ise, and made aancə, 'O Brandokh Daahaa, the wuuld juuneyith too its cilly wil, but I fae aulwa widh mi puupəs biffau me.

Be it nine yuuz, au but nine muinz, au nine agiz, wot cae I? Seldauniyyəs wood I encountər and en'gage him in batl, dhat stil fleyith biffau mi face. Et and drinc widh me too-nite; but thhinc not too dittane me nau too tuun me too iadl thauts biscide mi puupəs. Fau widh the dauning ov the da I must fauth əghen in qwest ov Seldauniyyəs.'

"So I ate and dranc and woz merry dhat nite widh Heltəraniyyəs in hiz pəvilliyyən ov cilc and goald. And widh the daun he maashld hiz aamy and maacht westwəd təwaud the plainz.

"And on the thuud da, az I sat widhout this waul, cuucing yau slo cumming, bihhoald an aamy maaching from the eest and wun leding them mountid on a smaul dun haus; and he woz clad in blac aamə shining like the ravnz wing, widh blac eeglz pluimz in hiz helm, and ise like the ise ov a cat-a-mountin, fool ov spaacling flame. Litl woz he, and fiyyəs ov face, and liadh, and haad too looc on and tiələs too looc on like a stote. And I haild him from wae I sat, saying, 'O moast notəbl and pwecənt Jalkəniəs Fostəs, shattərə ov the hoasts ov men, withəwəd ovə the loanly heeths fəlaun, dhou and thi grate aaməmənt?' And he litid doun from hiz haus, and tooc me bi the aamz widh boath hiz handz, and ced, 'If a man dreme, too speke widh ded men bittokənz proffit. And aat not dhou ov the ded, O Brandokh Daahaa? Fau in fəgotn dase, dhat nou spring up in mi miand az flouəz in a wede-choact gaadn aaftə menny yuuz, so bloomist dhou in mi memməry: grate əmung the grate wunz ov the wuuld dhat woz, dhou and thine hous in Crothəring əbuv the ce-lox in menny-mountind Demənland. But əblivviyyən, like a sounding ce, soundith bitwixt me and dhose dase; and the noiz ov the suuf stoppith mine iyyəz, and the mist ov the ce daakənith mine ise dhat strane fau a cite ov dhose faa tiamz and the deedz dharov. Yet fau dhose ded dase sake, et widh me and drinc widh me too-nite, cins hiyyə

fau a nite wuns mau I pich mi mooving tent on Salləpantə
Hilz. And too-morro I fae onwood. Fau nevvə ma rest bring
baam too mi sole until I fiand out Heltəraniyyəs and smite hiz hed
from hiz shoaldəz. Grate shame too him but litl maavl iz it,
dhat he stil caucith biffau me az an hae. Fau tratəz wuu
evvə dastədz. And hoo evvə huud tel ov a mau hellish
devvəlish damd tratə dhan he? Nine yuuz əgo, wen
Seldauniyyəs and I made reddy too discide ouə qworrəlz bi batl,
wuud came too me in a lucky ouə hou dhat this Heltəraniyyəs widh
cunning colluebrine and mallis vipərine and sliats suupəntine
went əbout too ətac me in the riyyə. So tuund I rite əbout too
crush him, but the fat chuf-cat woz fled.'

"So spake Jalkəniəs Fostəs; and I ate and dranc widh him dhat
nite, and kərouzd widh him in hiz tent. And at brake ov da
he struc camp and rode westəwa widh hiz aamy."

Brandokh Daahaa ceest, and looct eestwəd təwaud the gaits ov
nite. And lo, an aamy faring up from the loə moowwə-landz,
təwaud them on the rij, hausmən and footmən in dens əra,
and dhae captin on a grate broun haus riding in the van.
Long-limd he woz and lene, aul aamd in dusty rusty aamə
hact and dintid in an hundrəd fiats, widh waun lethə
gauntlits on hiz handz and a fadid campaning cloke throne
bac from hiz shoaldəz. He carrid hiz caasc at hiz
sadl-bo and hiz hed woz bae: the hed ov an oald lene
hunting-dog, widh wite hae swept bac from a rugghid brou
wae bloo vainz shode; grate-noazd and bony-faist, widh huge
booshy wite məstaasheyose and iabrouz, and bloo ise gleming
from cavvənəs i-sockits. Hiz haus woz cuust-loocking, widh
iyyəz lade bac and blud-shed dain'gərəs ise, and he in the
sadl sat irrect and unyeelding az a laans.

Wen he and hiz aamy came up uppon the rij, he droo rane and

haild the Demənz. And he ced, "On evry nianth da these nine yuuz hav I bihheld this loanly place ov uuth, az I pəsude aaftə Jalkəniəs Fostəs dhat stil illoodith me and stil fleyith biffau me; and this iz strainj, cins he woz evvə a grate fitə and en'gaijd these nine yuuz paast too doo batl widh me. And nou fiyyə cummith uppon me dhat eld drauwith a vale ov illuizhn əthwaut mine ise, pautending the əproche ov deth au evvə I pəfaum mi wil. Fau hiyyə in the unsuutn lite ov eevning rise up biffau me shaips and cembləlnciz az ov ghests ov Gazlaac the king in Zadgy Zacculo in dase gon bi: oald frendz ov Gazlaax out ov menny-mountind Demənland: Brandokh Daahaa, dhat sloo the King ov Wichland, and Spitfiə ov Oulzwic, and Jus hiz bruthə, the same wich had laudship ovə aul the Demənz ae we faed too Impland. Goasts and bac-cummməz ov a wuuld fəgot. But if ye be rite flesh and blud, speke and discuvvə yaucelvz."

Jus aancəd him, "O moast riddoutəbl Seldauniyyəs and in wau invincəbl, wel mite a man ixpect spirrits ov the ded on these qwiət hilz əbout cocshut time. And if dhou deme us such, hou much mau shal we, dhat be wondərəz nu-shiprect out ov hun'gry cese, cəpose the but a shade, and these grate hoasts ov thine but fetchiz ov the ded dhat be dippaatid, steming up from Errəbəs az dalite dise?"

"O moast rinnound and riddoutəbl Seldauniyyəs," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "dhou wost wuns mi ghest in Crothəring. Too rizzolv thi douts and ouəz, bid us too suppə. It wuu mattə indede if spirrits boddeles wuu aibl too bib wine and et up uuthly bake-meets."

So Seldauniyyəs let pich hiz tents, and əpointid the fifth ouə biffau midnite fau dhose laudz ov Demənland too sup widh him. Ae dha faugathəd in Seldauniyyəciz tent dha spake əmung

thəmcelvz, and Spitfiə ced, "Woz evvə such a wundə au such
a pittiffəl tric ə the Faits az bringith these thre grate
captinz too waist the remnənt ov dhae dase in this rimmote
wildənəs? Dout not but dhaez practis in it, dhat makith
them maach these long yuuz this chainjləs round, eche fleying
wun dhat wood fane encountər him, and stil ceking ənuthə
dhat flise biffau him."

"Nevvə went man widh dhat looc ov the ise Seldauniyyəs hath,"
ced Jus, "but he woz a man ensaucəl."

"Widh such a looc," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "went Heltəraniyyəs and
Jalkəniəs. But maac ouə intrəst. 'Twuu good too brake the
chaam and clame dhae help fau ouə painz. Shalz sho the oald
liən aul the truith ov this fact too-nite?"

So spake Laud Brandokh Daahaa, and dhose bredhrən deemd hiz
counsl good. So at suppə, wen menz haats wuu gladnd
widh good chiyyə, the Laud Jus sate him doun bi Seldauniyyəs and
opənd too him this mattə, saying, "O rinnound Seldauniyyəs, hou
biffaulith it dhat these nine yuuz dhou pəsuwist aaftə
Jalkəniəs Fostəs, shattərə ov hoasts, and wot woz yau
difrəns bitwixt u dhat cet u bi the iyyəz?"

Seldauniyyəs ced, "O Jus, must I aancə the bi resənz in this
mattə dhat iz ruild bi the hi staaz and Fate dhat lase men
at dhae length? Ennuf fau the dhat unpece biffel bitwixt me
and Jalkəniəs mity in wau, and it woz kənfuumd bitwene us
dhat bi the aabitrəmənt ov the bluddy feeld we shood end ouə
difrəns. But he əbode me not; and these nine yuuz I ceke too
mete widh him in vane."

"Dhae woz a thuud ov u," ced Jus. "Wot tidingz hast dhou
ov Heltəraniyyəs?"

Seldauniyyəs aancəd him, "No tidingz."

"Wilt dhou," ced Jus, "dhat I enliatn the huu'eən?"

Seldauniyyəs ced, "Dhou and thi fellose ələne ov the childrən ov men hav spokən widh me cins these thhingz biggan. Fau dha dhat dwelt in this regən fled yuuz əgo, əcounting the place əcuucid. A paultry croo dha wuu, and mene mete ennou fau ouə saudz. Speke then, if dhou menist me wel, and sho me aul."

"Heltəraniyyəs," ced Laud Jus, "pəsuwith the these nine yuuz, az dhou pəsuwist Jalkəniəs Fostəs. Mi cuzn hiyyə hath cene him but cix dase əgo, in this same place, and tauct widh him, and shooc him bi the hand, and nu hiz miand. Shoowwəly ye be aul thre hoaldən bi sum enchaantmənt, dhat beying oald comraidz in aamz so strainjly and too so litl puupəs doo pəsu eche the uthəz life. I prithy let us be a mene bitwixt u aul too cet u at wun əghen, and fre u from so strainj a thraaldəm."

But widh dhose wuudz spokən woz Seldauniyyəs grone red az blud. In a wile he ced, "It wuu blac tretchəry. Ile not creddit it."

But Laud Brandokh Daahaa aancəd him, "From hiz one lips I risceevd it, O Seldauniyyəs. And dhaetoo I plite mi troath. This bisciadz, dhat Jalkəniəs Fostəs woz tuund from batling widh the nine yuuz əgo (az he himcelf hath toald me, and made fuum hiz saying widh moast fiyyəfəl oadhz), bi intellidgəns braut him dhat Heltəraniyyəs woz in dhat ouə miandid too take him in the riyyə."

"I," ced Spitfiə, "and untooh this da he maachith on Heltəraniyyəciz trac az dhou on hiz."

Widh dhose wuudz spokən woz Seldauniyyəs grone yello az oald paachmənt, and hiz wite məstaasheyose brisld like a liənz. He sat cilənt əwile, then, resting uppon Jus the coald and steddy gase ov hiz bloo ise, "The wuuld cumz bac too me," he ced, "and this memməry dhaewidh, dhat dha ov Demənland wuu truith-telləz wethə too frend au fo, and evvə held it shame too cog and li." Aul dha boud graivly and he ced widh a grate lo ov an'ghə in hiz ise, "This Heltəraniyyəs divvisith əghenst me, it wel əpiyyərith, the celf-same tretchəry warov he woz faulsly əcuezd too Jalkəniəs Fostəs. Dhae wuu no liacliyyə place too crush him dhan hiyyə on Salləpantə rij. If I stand hiyyə too əbide hiz oncet, the li ov the ground bifrendith me, and Jalkəniəs cummith at hiz heelz too gathə the brokən meets aaftə I hav made mi feest."

Brandokh Daahaa ced in Jusciz iyyə, "Ouə peesmaking takith a pritty tuun. Heelz i the ae: monstrəs unladillike!"

But naut dha cood sa wood moove Seldauniyyəs. So in the end dha offəd him dhae backing in this ədvenchə. "And wen the da iz wun, then shalt dhou lend us thi mite in ouə entəprise, and ade us in ouə wauz widh Wichland dhat be fau too cum."

But Seldauniyyəs ced, "O Jus and ye laudz ov Demənland, I yeeld u thanx; but ye shal not medl in this batl. Fau we came thre captinz widh ouə hoasts untooh this land, and bihheld the land, and lade it undə us. Ouəz it iz, and if enny medl au make widh us, wuu we nevvə so cet at enmitty wun widh ənuthə, we must join təghethə in hiz dispite and bring him too bane. Be stil then, and bihhoald and ce wot buuth fate shal bring fauth on Salləpantə Hilz. But if I liv, dharaaftə shal ye hav mi frendship and mi help in aul yau entəprisiz

wotsowevvə."

Fau əwile he sat widhout speche, hiz staac vaind handz clencht on the baud biffau him; then rising, went widhout wuud too the dau ov hiz pəvilliyyən too studdy the nite. Then tuund he bac too Laud Jus, and spake too him: "No dhat wen this moone nou paast woz but thre dase oald I biggan too be trubld widh a kətaa au roome wich yet trublith me; and wel dhou wottest dhat hooso faulith cic on the thuud da ov the muinz age, he wil di. Too-nite aulso iz a nu moone, and ov a Sattəda; and dhat bittokənith fiting and bludshed. Aulso the wind blowith from the soudh; and he dhat bigghinnith dhat game widh a soudh wind shal hav the victəry. Widh such unsuutn blacnis and briatnəs opənith the dau ov Fate biffau me."

Jus boud hiz hed, and ced, "O Seldauniyyəs, thi speche iz suith."

"I woz evvə a fitə," ced Seldauniyyəs.

Faa intoo the nite sat dha in the tent ov rinnound Seldauniyyəs, drinking and tauking ov life and destinny and oald wauz and the chaanciz ov wau and grate ədvenchə; and an ouə aaftə midnite dha paatid, and Jus and Spitfiə and Brandokh Daahaa bittooc them too dhae rest in the woch-touə on the rij ov Salləpantə.

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On such wise paast thre dase bi, Seldauniyyəs wating widh hiz aamy on the hil, and the Demənz supping widh him niatly. And on the thuud da he droo out hiz aamy az fau batl, ixpecting Heltəraniyyəs. But niathər dhat da nau the next nau the next da

following braut cite nau tidingz ov Heltəraniyyəs, and strainj it ceemd too them and haad too ghes wot tuun ov fauchoone had dillade hiz cumming. The cixth nite woz ovəcaast, and muuc daacnəs cuvvəd the uuth. Wen suppə woz dun, az the Demənz bittooc thəmcelvz too dhae sleping place, dha huud a scufl and the vois ov Brandokh Daahaa, hoo went faumoast ov them, criying, "Hiyyə hav I caut a heeth-dogz welp. Ghiv me a lite. Wot shal I doo widh him?"

Men wuu rouzd and liats braut, and Brandokh Daahaa cəvade dhat wich he held pinniyyənd bi the aamz, caut bi the entrəns too the fautəlis: wun widh scaed wiald-beest ise in a swaut face, goaldən iyyə-ringz in hiz iyyəz, and a thhic cloce-cropt biyyəd intəlaist widh goald wiə twistid əmung its cuulz; bae-aamd, widh a tunic ov ottə-skin and wide hary trousəz cros-sticht widh cilvə thred, a suuclit ov goald on hiz hed, and frizd daac hae plattid in too thhic tailz dhat hung fauwəd ovə hiz shoaldəz. Hiz lips wuu draun bac, like a cros-graind dogz snaaling bitwixt fiyyə and fiyyəsnəs, and hiz wite pointid teeth and the wiats ov hiz ise flasht in the tauch-lite.

So dha had him widh them intoo the touə, and cet him biffau them, and Jus ced, "Fiyyə not, but tel fauth untooh us thi name and linniyyij, and wot bringz the luuking in the nite əbout ouə lodging. We mene the no huut, so dhou practis not əghenst us and ouə saifty. Aat dhou a dwellə in this Impland, au a wondərə, like az we be, from cuntriz biyyond the cese? hast dhou kəmpanniyyənz, and if so, wae be dha, and wot, and hou menny?"

And the strain'gə nasht uppon them widh hiz teeth, and ced, "O devlz tranzmərene, moc not but sla."

Jus entretid him kiandly, ghivving him mete and drinc, and in a wile made qweschən ov him wuns mau, "Wot iz thi name?"

Waetoo he riplide, "O devl tranzmərene, pitty ov thine ignərəns cith dhou noast not Mivaash Faz." And he fel intoo a grate pashn ov weping, criying əloud, "Wo wuuth the wo dhat iz faulən uppon aul the land ov Impland!"

"Wots the mattə?" ced Jus.

But Mivaash ceest not too wale and too ləment, saying, "Out harro and əlas fau Fax Fa Faz and Illərosh Faz and Luumish Faz and Gandascə Faz and aul the grate wunz in the land!" And wen dha wood hav qweschənd him he cride əghen, "Cuus ye bittəly Filprits Faz, wich bitrade us intoo the hand ov the devl ultrəmontane in the caasl ov Aupish."

"Wot devl iz this dhou spekist ov?" aasct Jus.

"He hath cum," he aancəd, "ovə the mountinz out ov the nauth cuntry, dhat əlone woz aibl too aancə Fax Fa Faz. And the vois ov hiz speche iz like untooh the roring ov a bool."

"Out ov the nauth?" ced Jus, ghivving him mau wine, and ixchain'ging glaanciz widh Spitfiə and Brandokh Daahaa. "I wood hiyyə mau ov this."

Mivaash dranc, and ced, "O devlz tranzmərene, ye ghiv me strong wautəz wich cumfət mi sole, and ye speke me soft wuudz. But shal I not fiyyə soft wuudz? Soft wuudz wuu spoke bi this devl ultrəmontane, wen he and cuucid Filprits spake soft wuudz untooh us in Aupish: untooh me, and untooh Fax Fa Faz, and Gandascə, and Illərosh, and untooh aul ov us, aaftə ouə ovəthro in batl əghenst him bi the banx ov Aalən."

Jus aasct, "Ov wot fashn iz he too looc on?"

"He hath a grate yello biyyəd biflect widh gra," ced
Mivaash, "and a bauld shiny pate, and standith big az a nete."

Jus spake əpaat too Brandokh Daahaa, "Dhaez mattə in it if
this be troo." And Brandokh Daahaa paud fauth untooh Mivaash and
bad him drinc əghen, saying, "O Mivaash Faz, we be strain'gəz
and ghests in wide-flung Impland. Be it none too the dhat ouə
pouə iz biyyond ken, and ouə welth trancendith the
immadginnaishn ov man. Yet iz ouə binnevvələns ov like mezhə widh
ouə pouə and ritchiz, ovəflowing az hunny from ouə haats untooh
such az risceve us opənly and tel us dhat wich iz. Oanly be
waund, dhat if enny li too us au əsa craaftilly too dilloode us,
not the manticcorz dhat loj biyyond the Moroonə wuu mau
dredfəl too dhat man dhan we."

Mivaash qwaild, but aancəd him, "Use me wel, u wuu best,
and u shal hiyyə from me naut but wot iz troo. Fuust widh
the saud he vanqwisht us, and then widh sutl wuudz invitid
us too tauc widh him in Aupish, prittending frendship. But dha
ar aul ded dhat haakənd too him. Fau wen he held them cloazd
up in the counsl roome in Aupish, himcelf went ceecritly fauth,
wile hiz men lade handz on Gandascə Faz and on Illərosh Faz,
and on Fax Fa Faz dhat woz gratist əmungst us, and on Luumish
Faz, and cut auf dhae hedz and cet them up on poalz widhout
the gate. And ouə aamiz dhat watid widhout wuu dismade too
ce the hedz ov the Fasiz ov Impland so cet on poalz, and the
aamiz ov the devlz ultrəmontane stil thretning us widh
deth. And this big bauld biyyədid devl spake them ov Impland
fae, saying these dhat he had slane wuu dhae əprescəz and
he wood ghiv them dhae haats dizsiə if dha wood be hiz
men, and he wood make them fre, evry man, and shae out aul

Impland əmungst them. So wuu the commən saut biffuild and braut undə bi this bauld devl from biyyond the mountinz, and nou nun widhstandith him in aul Impland. But I dhat had held bac from hiz counsl in Aupish, fiyyəring hiz ghile, haadly iscaipt from mi foke dhat rose əghenst me. And I fled intoo the woodz and wildənəciz."

"Wae laast sau ye him?" aasct Jus.

Mivaash aancəd him, "A thre dase juuny nauthwest ov this, at Taumərish in Akəry."

"Wot made he dhae?" aasct Jus.

Mivaash aancəd, "Stil divvising eevl."

"Əghenst hoome?" aasct Jus.

Mivaash aancəd, "Əghenst Seldauniyyəs, wich iz a devl tranzmərene."

"Ghiv me sum mau wine," ced Jus, "and fil əghen a bekə fau Mivaash Faz. I doo luv naut so much az tale-telling a-niats. Widh hoome divviazd he əghenst Seldauniyyəs?"

Mivaash aancəd, "Widh ənuthə devl from biyyond cese; I hav fəgot hiz name."

"Drinc and rimmembə," ced Jus; "au if tiz gon from the, paint me hiz picchə."

"He hath əbout mi bignes," ced Mivaash, dhat woz litl ov statchə. "Hiz ise be brite, and he sumwot favərith this wun," pointing at Spitfiə, "dho billike he hath not aul so

fiyyəs a face. He iz lene-faist and daac ov skin. He gowith in blac iən."

"Iz he Jalkəniəs Fostəs?" aasct Jus.

And Mivaash aancəd, "I."

"Dhaez musc and ambə in thi speche," ced Jus. "I must hav mau ov it. Wot mene dha too doo?"

"This," ced Mivaash: "Az I sat lisning in the daac widhout dhae tent, it woz made abcəloote dhat this Jalkəniəs had bene disceevd in cəposing dhat ənuthə devl tranzmərene, hoome men caul Heltəraniyyəs, had bene miandid too doo tretchərəsly əghenst him; waraz, az the bauld devl made him billeve, twoz no such thhing. And so it woz kəncloodid dhat Jalkəniəs shood cend ridəz aaftə Heltəraniyyəs too make pece bitwene them, and dhat dha too shood fauthwith join too kil Seldauniyyəs, wun fauling on him in the frunt and the uthə in the riyyə."

"So tiz cum too this?" ced Spitfiə.

"And wen dha hav Seldauniyyəs slane," ced Mivaash, "then must dha help this bauld-pate in hiz undətakingz."

"And so pa him fau hiz redz?" ced Jus.

And Mivaash aancəd, "Eevn so."

"Wun thhing mau I wood no," ced Jus. "Hou grate a following hath he in Impland?"

"The gratist strength dhat he can make," aancəd Mivaash, "ov devlz ultrəmontane iz az I thhinc too scau hundrəd. Menny Imps

biscide wil follo him, but dha hav but ouə cuntry weppənz."

Laud Brandokh Daahaa tooc Jus bi the aam and went fauth widh him intoo the nite. The frostid graas cruncht undə dhae tred: strainj staaz blinct in the soudh in a windy space bitwixt cloud and sleping uuth, Ackənaa niyyə the məriddiyyən biddimming aul lescə fiəz widh hiz puə radiyyəns.

"So cummith Corrənd uppon us az an eegl out ov the ciatlis bloo," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "widh twelv tiamz ouə fauciz too let us the wa too the Moroonə, and aul Impland like a spanniyyəl smiling at hiz hele; if indede this cimpl sole sa troo, az I thhinc he duth."

"Dhou faulist aul ov a hollədа moode," ced Jus, "at the fuust centing ov this grate hazsəd."

"O Jus," cride Brandokh Daahaa, "thine one breth liatnith at it, and thi wuudz cum mau spriatly fauth. Ar not aul landz, aul aez, wun cuntry untooh us, so dhae be grate doowingz əfoot too kepe brite ouə saudz?"

Jus ced, "Ae we slepe I wil infaum Seldauniyyəs hou the wind shiftith. He must face boath wase nou, til this feeld be cut. This batl must not go əghenst him, fau hiz ennəmiz be en'gaijd (if Mivaash sa troo) too ghiv the help ov dhae saudz too Corrənd."

So faed dha too Seldauniyyəciz tent, and Jus ced bi the wa, "Ov this be sattisfide: Corrənd barith not blade on the hilz ov Salləpantə. The King hath intellidgəncəz too kepe him advətiazd ov aul enchaantid suuclz ov the wuuld, and wel he nowith wot infloowwənciz moove hiyyə, and widh wot dain'gə too thəmcelvz outlandəz drau saud hiyyə, az witnis the doome foolfild these

nine yuuz bi these thre captinz. Dhaefau wil Corrənd, instructid in these thhingz bi hiz maastə dhat cent him, looc too dele widh us uthəwae dhan in this chaamd caunə ov the uuth. And he wuu az wel take a bae bi the tuith az medl in the fite dhat nou impendith, and so bring uppon him these thre ceeznd aamiz joind in wun fau hiz distrucshn."

Dha paast the gaad widh the wochwuud, and waict Seldauniyyəs and toald him aul. And he, mufld in hiz grate fadid cloke, went fauth too ce gaadz wuu cet and aul shoowwə əghenst an onslaut from iathər cide. And standing bi hiz tent too ghiv good nite too dhose laudz ov Demənland, he ced, "It liax me bettə so. I evvə woz a fitə; so, wun fite mau."

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The morro daund and paast unnivventfool, and the morrose morro. But on the thuud mauning aaftə the cumming ov Mivaash, bihhoald, eest and west, grate aamiz maaching from the plainz, and Seldauniyyəciz əra draun up too mete them on the rij, widh weppənz gleming and hauciz champing and trumpits blowing the caul ov batl. No gretingz wuu bitwixt them, nau so much az a mescij ov challənj au diffiəns, but Jalkəniəs widh hiz blac ridəz rusht too the oncet from the west and Heltəraniyyəs from the eest. But Seldauniyyəs, like a gra oald woolf, snapping nou this wa nou dhat, stemd the tide ov dhae onslaut. So biggan the batl grate and fel, and kəntinnude the livlong da. Thrice on iathər cide Seldauniyyəs went fauth widh a grate strength ov chosən men, in so much dhat hiz ennəmiz fled biffau him az the paatrij duth biffau the sparro-hauc; and thrice did Heltəraniyyəs and thrice Jalkəniəs Fostəs rally and huul him bac, mounting the rij ənu.

But wen it droo niyyə too eevning, and the daac da daakənd

təwaud nite, the batl ceest, diying doun sudnly intoo
ciləns. Dhose laudz ov Demənland came doun from dhae touə,
and wauct əmung the heeps ov ded men slane təwaud a place ov
slabby roc in the nec ov the rij. Hiyyə, ələne on dhat
feeld, Seldauniyyəs leend uppon hiz spiyyə, gasing dounwəd in a
studdy, hiz aam caast əbout the nec ov hiz oald broun haus hoo
hung hiz hed and snift the ground. Throo a rift in the
westən cloudz the sun glaed fauth; but hiz beemz wuu not so
red az the ling and bent ov Salləpantə feeld.

Az Jus and hiz kəmpanniyyənz droo niyyə, no sound woz huud save
from the fautəlis bihhiand them: a discaudənt plucking ov a
haap, and the vois ov Mivaash wae he wauct and haapt
biffau the waulz, cinging this ditty:

The ɦag is astride
This night for to ride;
The devill and shee together:
Through thick and through thin,
Now out and then in,
Though ne'er so foule be the weather.

A thorn or a burr
She takes for a spurre,
With a lash of a bramble she rides now;
Through brakes and through bryars,
O're ditches and mires,
She followes the spirit that guides now.

No beast for ħis food
Dares now range the wood,
But ħusħt in ħis laire ħe lies lurking;
While mischiefs, by these,
On land and on seas,
At noone of night are a working.

The storme will arise
And trouble the skies;
This night, and more for the wonder,
The ghost from the tomb
Affrighted shall come,
Cal'd out by the clap of the thunder.

Wen dha wuu cum too Seldauniyyəs, the Laud Jus spake saying, "O moast riddoutəbl Seldauniyyəs, rinnound in wau, shoowwəly thi prognosticcaishnz bi the moone wuu troo. Bihhoald the noabl victəry dhou hast əbtaind uppon thine ennəmiz."

But Seldauniyyəs aancəd him not, stil gasing dounwədz biffau hiz fete. And dhae woz Heltəraniyyəs faulən, the saud ov Jalkəniəs Fostəs standing in hiz haat, and hiz rite hand graasping stil hiz one saud dhat had ghivn Jalkəniəs hiz bane-sau.

So looct dha əwile on dhose too grate captinz slane. And Seldauniyyəs ced, "Speke not cumftəbly too me ov victəry, O Jus. So long az dhat saud, and dhat, had hiz maastə əlive, I did not mau dizsiə mine one saifty dhan dhae distrucshn hoo

widh me in dase gon bi made conqwest ov wide Impland. And ce widh wot a poiznd viələns dha labəd mi undoowing, and in wot an unnixpectid roowin ar dha sudnly brokən and gon." And az wun grone intoo a depe sadnəs he ced, "Wae wuu aul hirrowickəl paats but in Heltəraniyyəs? and a man mite make a gaamənt fau the moone soonə dhan fit the or-leping acshnz ov grate Jalkəniəs, hoo nou levith but hiz boddy too biddung dhat uuth dhat woz laitly shakən at hiz terrə. I hav wadid in red blud too the ne; and in this ouə, in mi oald yuuz, the wuuld iz biccum fau me a vizhn oanly and a moc-sho."

Dhaewidh he looct on the Demənz, and dhae woz dhat in hiz ise dhat stade dhae speche.

In a wile he spake əghen, saying, "I swae untooh u mi fuuthərəns if I privvaild. But nou iz mine aamy paast əwa az wax waistith biffau the fiə, and I wate the daac ferrimman hoo tarreyith fau no man. Yet, cins nevvə hav I rote mine obliggaishnz in sandy but in maabl memməriz, and cins victəry iz mine, risceve these ghifts: and fuust dhou, O Brandokh Daahaa, mi saud, cins biffau dhou wost ov yuuz atene dhou wost əcountid the mitiyyist əmung men-at-aamz. Mitilly ma it əvale the, az me in time gon bi. And untooh the, O Spitfiə, I ghiv this cloke. Oald it iz, yet ma it stand the in good sted, cins this vuuchoo it hath dhat he hoo warith it shal not faul əlive intoo the hand ov hiz ennəmiz. Ware it fau mi sake. But untooh the, O Jus, ghiv I no ghift, fau rich dhou aat ov aul good ghifts: oanly mi good wil ghiv I untooh the, ae uuth gape fau me."

So dha thanct him wel. And he ced, "Dippaat from me, cins nou əprochith dhat wich must kəmplete this dase undoowing."

So dha faed bac too the spi-fautəlis, and nite came doun on

the hilz. A grate wind moning out ov the hules west tau the cloudz az a ragghid gaamənt, rivveling the loanly moone dhat fled nakid bitwixt them. Az the Demənz looct baqwəd in the muinlite too wae Seldauniyyəs stood gasing on the ded, a noiz az ov thundə made the fuum land trembl and dround the houling ov the wind. And dha bihheld hou uuth gaipt fau Seldauniyyəs.

Aaftə dhat, the daac shut doun əthwaut the moone, and nite and ciləns hung on the feeld ov Salləpantə.

X. The Maachlandz ov the Moroonə

OV THE JUUNY OV THE DEMƏNZ FROM SALLƏPANTƏ TOO ESHGRAA OGO:
WARIN IZ CET DOUN KƏNSUUNING THE LADY OV ISHNANE NƏMAATRƏ,
AND UTHƏ NOTƏBL MATTƏZ.

Mivaash Faz came bittiamz on the morro too the laudz ov Demənland, and found them reddy fau the rode. So he aasct them wae dhae juuny la, and dha aancəd, "Eest."

"Eestwəd," ced Mivaash, "aul wase lede too the Moroonə. Nun ma go thithə and not di."

But dha laaft and aancəd him, "Doo not too narroly diffine ouə pouə, swete Mivaash, ristraning it too thi kəpascittiz. No dhat ouə juuny iz a mattə dittuumind ov, and it iz fixt widh nailz ov diəmənd too the waul ov innevvittəbl niscescitty."

Dha tooc leve ov him and went dhae wase widh dhae smaul aamy. Fau fau dase dha juunid throo depe woodz caapittid widh the leevz ov a thouznd autəmz, wae at midmoast noone twilite dwelt əmung husht woodlənd noisiz, and solləm ibaulz glaed niatly bitwene the tre-trunx, gasing on the Demənz az dha maacht au tooc dhae rest.

The fifth da, and the cixth and the cevnth, dha juunid bi the suthən maagin ov a gravvəly ce, made aul ov sand and gravl and no drop ov wautə, yet ebbing and flowing aulwa widh grate waivz az ənuthə ce duth, nevvə standing stil and nevvə at rest. And aulwase bi da and nite az dha came throo the dezsət woz a grate noiz verry hiddiyyəs and a sound az it wuu ov tambəreenz and trumpits; yet woz the place sollittəry too the i, and no livving thhing əfoot dhae save dhae cumpəny faring too the eest.

On the aitth da dha left the shau ov dhat wautəlis ce and came bi brokən rocky ground too the discent too a wide vale, sheltəles and unfruitfəl, widh the braud stony bed ov a litl rivvə wianding in the strath. Hiyyə, loocking eestwəd, dha bihheld in the lustə ov a late brite-shining sun a caasl ov red stone on a terrəs ov the fel-cide biyyond the vally. Jus ced, "We can be dhae biffau niatfaul, and dhae wil we take ghesting." Wen dha droo niyyə dha wuu wae, bitwixt suncet and muinlite, ov wun citting on a boaldə in dhae paath əbout a fuulong from the caasl, az if gasing on them and əwating dhae cumming. But wen dha came too the boaldə dhae woz no such puusn. So dha paast on dhae wa təwaud the caasl, and wen dha looct bihhiand them, lo, dhae woz he citting on the boaldə baring hiz hed in hiz handz: a strainj thhing, wich wood cauz enny man too əbhau.

The caasl gate stood opən, and dha entəd in, and so bi the caut-yaad too a grate haul, widh the baud cet az fau a banqwit, and brite fiəz and an hundrəd candlz buuning in the stil ae; but no livving thhing woz dhae too be cene, nau vois huud in aul dhat caasl. Laud Brandokh Daahaa ced, "In this land too fale ov maavlz oanly fau an ouə wuu the strain'gist maavl. Banqwit we liatly and so too bed." So dha sat doun and ate, and dranc ov the hunny-swete wine, til aul thauts ov wau and haadship and the unnimmadgind perrəlz ov the wildənəs and Corrəndz grate aamy pripparing dhae distrucshn fadid from dhae miandz, and the spirrit ov slumbə woode dhae wiyyəry fraimz.

Then a faint music, trubləs in its vəlupchoowwəs wiald sweetnəs, flotid on the ae, and dha bihheld a lady entə on the dayis. Butiffəl she ceemd biyyond the buty ov mautl wimmin. In huu daac hae woz the liacnəs ov the haund moone in hunny-culləd ciməfənz evry stone warov held a strate beme ov lite impriznd dhat qwivvəd and gleemd az sunbeemz qwivvə wading in the cliyyə deeps ov a summə ce. She wau a cote-haady ov soft crimzn cilc, cloce fitting, so dhat she did trooly əparrəl huu əparrəl and widh huu one luvlinnəs made it mau sumpchoowwəs. She ced, "Mi laudz and ghests in Ishnane Nəmaatrə, dhae be bedz ov doun and sheets ov laun fau aul ov u dhat be əwiyyəry. But no dhat I kepe a sparro-hauc citting on a puuch in the eestən touə, and he dhat wil wake mi sparro-hauc this nite long, əlone widhout enny cumpəny and widhout slepe, I shal cum too him at the niats end and shal graant untooh him the fuust thhing dhat he wil aasc me ov uuthly thhingz." So saying she dippaatid like a dreme.

Brandokh Daahaa ced, "Caast we lots fau this ədvenchə."

But Jus spake əghenst it, saying, "Dhaez liacly sum ghile

hiyyərin. We must not in this əcuucid land suffə aut too cidduce ouə miandz, but follo ouə cet puupəs. We must not be ov dhose hoo go fauth fau wool and cum home shaun."

Brandokh Daahaa and Spitfiə moct at this, and caast lots bitwene thəmcelvz. And the lot fel uppon Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Dhou shalt not dinni me this," ced he too Laud Jus, "els wil I nevvə mau doo the good."

"I nevvə cood yet dinni the ennithhing," aancəd Jus. "Aat not dhou and I fin'ghə and thum? Oanly fəghet not, wotsoware bittide, waefau we be cum hithə."

"Aat not dhou and I fin'ghə and thum?" ced Brandokh Daahaa. "Fiyyə nuthhing, O frend ov mi haat. Ile not fəghet it."

So wile the uthəz slept, Brandokh Daahaa waict the sparro-hauc, nite-long in the eestən chaimbə. Fau aul dhat the coald hilcide widhout woz ruf widh hau-frost the ae woz waum in dhat chaimbə and hevvy, disposing strongly too slepe. Yet he cloazd not an i, but stil bihheld the sparro-hauc, telling it storiz and tweking it bi the tale evvə and ənon az it groo drousy. And it aancəd shautly and boowwərishly, loocking uppon him məlevvəlntly.

And widh the goaldən daun, bihhoald dhat lady in the shaddowy dauwa. At huu entəring in, the sparro-hauc clict its wingz az in an'ghə, and widhout mau ədoo tuct its beke binneeth its wing and went too slepe. But dhat brite lady, loocking on the Laud Brandokh Daahaa, spake and ced, "Riqwiə it ov me, mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa, dhat wich dhou moast dizsirist ov uuthly thhingz."

But he, az wun biddazld, stood up saying, "O lady, iz not thi

buty at the daun ov da an irradiyyaishən dhat mite dispel the mists ov hel? Mi haat iz ravvisht widh thi luvlinnəs and oanly fed widh thi cite. Dhaefau thi boddy wil I hav, and nun uthə thhing uuthly."

"Dhou aat a foole," she cride, "dhat nowist not wot dhou aaskist. Ov aul thhingz uuthly mitist dhou hav takən choose; but I am not uuthly."

He aancəd, "I wil hav naut els."

"Dhou dust imbrace then a grate dainʻgə," ced she, "and los ov aul thi good luc, fau the and thi frendz biscide."

But Brandokh Daahaa, ceying hou huu face biccame on a sudn such az ar nu-blone rosiz at the dauning, and huu ise wide and daac widh luv-longing, came too huu and tooc huu in hiz aamz and fel too kiscing and imbracing ov huu. On such wise dha əbode fau əwile, dhat he woz wae ov no thhing els on uuth save oanly the cens-madning kəres ov dhat ladese hae, the puufume ov it, the kis ov huu mouth, the swel and faul ov dhat ladese brest straning əghenst hiz. She ced in hiz iyyə softly, "I ce dhou aat too maastəfəl. I ce dhou aat wun hoo wil be dinnide nuthhing, on wotsowevvə thine haat iz cet. Cum." And dha paast bi a hevvy-cuutnd dauwa intoo an innə chaimbə, wae the ae woz fild widh the breth ov muu and naad and ambəgrece, a fraigrəncy az ov sleping luvlinnəs. Hiyyə, əmid the daacnəs ov rich hangingz and cəbdude glints ov goald, a waum radiyyəns ov shadid lamps wocht əbuv a couch, grate and braud and douny-pillode. And hiyyə fau a long time dha sollist them widh luv and aul dillite.

Eevn az aul thhingz hav an end, he ced at the laast, "O mi lady, mistris ov haats, hiyyə wood I əbide evvə, əbandəning

aul els fau thi luv sake. But mi kəmpanniyyənz tarry fau me in thine haulz billo, and grate mattəz wate on mi dirrecshn. Ghiv me thi divvine mouth wuns əghen, and bid me ədu."

She woz liying az if əslepe əcros hiz brest: smuidh-skind, wite, waum, widh shaiply throte leend baqwəd əghenst the spice-odərəs daacnəciz ov huu unbound hae; wun tres, hevvy and splendid like a piathn, coild bitwene wite aam and boozsəm. Swift az a snake she tuund, clinging fiyyəsly əbout him, prescing fiyyəsly əghen too hiz huu insaishəbl swete fuuvənt lips, criying dhat hiyyə must he dwel untooh ittuunitty in the intoxiccaishn ov puufict luv and plezhə.

But wen in the end, gently kənstraning huu too looce him and let him go, he ərose and cloadhd and aamd him, dhat lady caut əbout huu a tranzluisnt robe ov cilvəry shene, az wen the summə moone vailz but not hiadz widh a filmy cloud huu butiz splendə, and so standing biffau him spake and ced, "Go then. This iz got bi caasting ov puulz too hogz. I ma not sla the, cins ovə thi boddy I hav no uthə pouə. But biccoz dhou shalt not laaf ovəmuch, havving riqwiəd me ov dhat wich woz biyyond the pact and beying enjoid iz nou slitid ov the and əbuezd, dhaefau no, proud man, dhat thre ghifts I hiyyə wil graant the dhaetoo ov mine one choosing. Dhou shalt hav wau and not pece. He dhat dhou wuust hatist shal thro doun and roowin thi fae laudship, Crothəring Caasl and the mainz dharov. And dho ven'gəns shal ovətake him at the laast, bi ənuthəz hand dhan thine shal it cum, and too thine hand shal it be dinnide."

Dhaewidh she fel a-weping. And the Laud Brandokh Daahaa, widh grate rezsəluishn, went fauth from the chaimbə. And loocking bac from the threshhoald he bihheld boath dhat and the outə chaimbə void ov lady and sparro-hauc boath. And a grate wiyyərinnəs came

sudnly uppon him. So, gowing doun, he found Laud Jus and hiz kəmpanniyyənz sleping on the coald stoanz, and the banqwit haul empty ov aul ghiyyə and danc widh mos and cobwebz, and bats sleping hed-dounwəd əmung the crumbling roofe-beemz; nau woz enny cine ov laast niats banqwitting. So Brandokh Daahaa rouzd hiz kəmpanniyyənz, and toald Jus hou he had faed, and ov the wiyyəd lade on him bi dhat lady.

And dha went graitly wundəring fauth ov the əcuucid caasl ov Ishnane Nəmaatrə, glad too cum auf so scaidhles.

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On dhat nianth da ov dhae juuny from Salləpantə dha came throo waist landz ov stone and livving roc, wae not so much az an uuth-lous stuud widh life. Gaugiz split the uuth hiyyə and dhae: roc-wauld labbərinths ov gloome, unvizsittid fau evvə bi sunbeme au muinbeme, tuubulənt in dhae depths widh wautəz dhat leept and chuund fau evvə, nevvə stil and nevvə cilənt. So woz dhat dase juuny tauchoowwəs, tuuning nou up nou doun əlong dhose rivvə banx too fiand croscing placiz.

Wen dha wuu haultid at noone bi the depist rift dha had yet bihheld, dhae came wun haisning too them and fel doun bi Jus and la panting face too uuth az brethləs from long running. And wen dha raizd him up, bihhoald Mivaash Faz, haanəst in the ghiyyə ov a blac ridə ov Jalkəniəs Fostəs and aamd widh ax and saud. Grate woz hiz adgittaishn, and he speechləs fau lac ov breth. Dha uezd him kiandly, and gave him too drinc from a grate skin ov wine, Seldauniyyəciz ghift, and ənon he ced, "He hath aamd countləs hundrədz ov ouə foke widh weppənz takən from Salləpantə feeld. These, led bi the devlz hiz sunz, widh Filprits cuucid ov the godz, be gon biffau too hoald aul the wase be-eest ov u. Nite and da hav I ridn and run too

waun u. Himcelf, widh hiz mane strength ov devlz ultrəmontane, ridith hot on yau trax."

Dha thanct him wel, maavəling much dhat he shood be at such painz too advətise them ov dhae dainʻgə. "I hav et yau sault," aancəd he, "and morovə ye ar əghenst this nauty wickid bauldʻhed dhat came ovə the mountinz too əpres us. Dhaefau I wood doo u good. But I can litl. Fau I am poowwə, dhat woz rich in land and fe. And I am əlone, dhat had faumәly five hundrəd spiyyəmən lodging in mi haulz too doo mi plezhə."

"Dhaez nede too doo qwicly dhat we doo," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Hou grate staat ov him hadst dhou?"

"He must be uppon u in an ouə au twane," ced Mivaash, and fel a-weping.

"Too cope him in the opən," ced Jus, "wuu grate glory and ouə suutn deth."

"Ghiv me too thhinc, but a minuets wile," ced Brandokh Daahaa. And wile dha busct them he wauct musing bi the lip ov dhat ravvin, switching peblz ovə the ej widh hiz saud. Then he ced, "This iz widhout dout dhat streme Athrəshaa spokən ov bi Gro. O Mivaash, runnith not this flud ov Athrəshaa soudh too the sault laix ov Ogo Mauveyo, and woz dhae not dharəbout a hoald naimd Eshgraa Ogo?"

Mivaash aancəd, "This iz so. But nevvə huud I ov enny so witlis az go thithə. Hiyyə wae we stand iz the land fiyyəcəm ennuf; but Eshgraa Ogo standith at the verry ej ov the Moroonə. No man hath haabəd dhae these hundrəd yuuz."

"Standith it yet?" ced Brandokh Daahaa.

"Fau aul I wot ov," aancəd Mivaash.

"Iz it strong?" he aasct.

"In oald tiamz it woz thaut no place stron‘ghə," aancəd Mivaash. "But ye wuu az wel di hiyyə bi the hand ov the devlz ultrəmontane, az dhae be taun in peciz bi bad spirrits."

Brandokh Daahaa tuund him əbout too Jus. "It iz rizzolvd?" ced he. Jus aancəd, "Ya;" and fauthwith dha staatid at a grate pace soudh əlong the rivvə.

"Mithaut u shood hav bene gottən clene əwa ae this," ced Mivaash az dha went. "This iz but nine au ten dase juuny, and tiz nou the ceexteenth da cins ye did leve me on Salləpantə Hilz."

Brandokh Daahaa laaft. "Ceexteenth!" ced he. "Dhoult be rich, Mivaash, if dhou reckən goald peciz ə this fashn dhou dust dase. This iz but ouə nianth dase juuny."

But Mivaash stood stoutly too it, saying dhat woz the cevnth da aaftə dhae dippaachə wen Corrənd fuust came too Salləpantə, "And I fleying nou nine dase biffau hiz face chaanst on yau trax, and nou out ov aul expectaishn on u." Nau fau aul dhae mocking wood he be tuund from this. And wen, az dha stil prest throo the dezsət southwəd, the sun dicliand and cet in a cliyyə ski, bihhoald the moone a litl paast huu fool: and Jus sau dhat she woz cevn dase oaldə dhan on dhat nite she woz wen dha came too Ishnane Nəmaatrə. So he shode this wundə too Brandokh Daahaa and Spitfiə, and much dha maavld.

"U ar much too thanc me," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "dhat I kept u not a fool yuu əwating ov me. Bishroo me, but dhat cevn dase space ceemd too me but an ouə!"

"Liacly ennou, too the," ced Spitfiə sumwot greenly. "But aul we slept the weke out on the coald stoanz, and I am haaf laimd yet widh the ache ont."

"Na," ced Jus, laafing; "I wil not hav the blame him."

The moone woz hi wen dha came too the sault laix dhat la wun a litl əbuv the uthə in rocky baisnz. Dhae wautəz wuu like ruf cilvə, and the haash face ov the wildənəs woz blac and cilvə in the muinlite; and it woz az a cuntry ov ded boanz, bliand and sterrile binneeth the moone. Bitwixt the laix a rib ov roc rose monstrəs too an emminnəns crag-bigguut on evry cide, widh daac waulz ringing it round əbuv the clifs. Thithə dha haisnd, and az dha cliamd and stumbld əmung the cragz a she-oul sqweect on the batlmənts and tooc wing goast-like əbuv dhae hedz. The teeth ov Mivaash Faz chattəd, but rite glad wuu the Demənz az dha wun up the rox and entəd at laast intoo dhat dizzuutid buug. Widhout, the nite woz stil; but fiəz wuu buuning in the dezsət eestwəd, and uthəz az dha wocht wuu kindld in the west, and soone woz the suucl joind ov twincling points ov red round əbout Eshgraa Ogo and the laix.

Jus ced, "Bi an ouə hav we faustauld them. And bihhoald hou he ringith us əbout az men ring a scaupiyyən in flame."

So dha made aul shoowwə, and cet the gaad, and slept until paast daun. But Mivaash slept not, fau terrə ov hob-thrushiz from the Moroonə.

11. The Buug ov Eshgraa Ogo

OV THE LAUD CORRƏNDZ BISCEGING OV THE BUUG ƏBUV THE LAIX OV
OGO MAUVEYO, AND WOT BIFFEL DHAE BITWIXT HIM AND THE DEMƏNZ;
WARIN IZ AULSO AN IGZAAMPL HOU THE SUTL OV HAAT STANDITH AT
WIALZ IN GRATE DAIN'GƏ OV HIZ DETH.

Wen the Laud Corrənd nu ov a shoowwərəty dhat he held them ov Demənland shut up in Eshgraa Ogo, he let dite suppə in hiz tent, and made a suufit ov vennisn pastiz and heeth-cox and lobstəz from the laix. Dhaewidh he dranc ni a skinfəl ov swete daac Thramneən wine, in such saut dhat an ouə biffau midnite, biccumming speechləs, he woz hoalpən bi Gro too hiz couch and slept a grate depe slepe til mauning.

Gro wocht in the tent, hiz rite elbo propt on the taibl, hiz cheke resting on hiz hand, hiz left hand reching fauwəd widh dellickət fin'ghəz toiying nou widh the sleke hevvy puufuemd masciz ov hiz biyyəd, nou widh the goblit wens he cipt evvə and ənon pale wine ov Puumeyo. Hiz thauts inconstənt az incects in a summə gaadn flittid evvə round and round, resting nou on the cene biffau him, the grate faum ov hiz genrəl rapt in slumbə, nou on uthə ceenz sundəd bi grate gulfs ov time au wiyyəry leegz ov perrələs wase. So dhat in wun instənt he sau in fancy dhat lady in Caacy welkəming huu laud rittuund in triəmf, and him, ma be, cround king ov

nu-vanqwisht Impland; and in the next, swept from the fuchə
too the paast, bihheld əghen the grate cending-auf in Zadgy Zacculo,
Gazlaac in hiz splendə on the goaldən staez saying ədu too
dhose thre captinz and dhae machləs aaməmənt fauduimd too
dogz and crose on Salləpantə Hilz; and aulwase, like a gloomy
bacground daakəning hiz miand, luimd the yauning void,
fechələs and vaast, biyyond the investing suucl ov Corrəndz
aamiz: the bliand blaastid emptinnəs ov the Moroonə.

Widh such fanciz, melləncolly like a grate buud cetld uppon
hiz sole. The liats flickəd in dhae sockits, and fau verry
wiyyərinnəs Grose ilidz cloazd at length ovə hiz laaj liqwid
ise; and, too tiəd too stuu from hiz cete too ceke hiz couch,
he sanc fauwəd on the taibl, hiz hed pillode on hiz aamz.
The red glo ov the brasiyyə slumbəd evvə dimmə and dimmə on
the slendə faum and blac shining cuulz ov Gro, and on the
mity frame ov Corrənd wae he la widh wun grate spuud
bootid leg strecht ələng the couch, and the uthə flung out
ciadwase resting its hele on the ground.

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It wontid but too ouəz ov noone wen a sunbeme striking throo
an opəning in the hangingz ov the tent shon uppon Corrəndz
ilidz, and he əwoke fresh and brisc az a ueth on a hunting
maun. He waict Gro, and ghivving him a clap on the shoaldə,
"Dhou rongist a fae maun," he ced. "The devl dam me blac
az buttəmilc if it be not grate shame in the; and I, dhat woz
baun this da cix and fauty yuuz az the yuuz cum əbout, bizsy
widh mine əfaez cins sunrise."

Gro yaund and smiald and strecht himcelf. "O Corrənd," he
ced, "countəfit a liavliyyə wundə in thine ise if dhou wilt
pəswade me dhou sauwist the sunrise. Fau I thhinc dhat wuu az

nu and unnigzaampld a cite fau the az enny I cood prəduce too the in Impland."

Corrənd aancəd, "Trooly I woz celdəm so uncivl az cəprise Maddəm Ororə in huu niatgoun. And the thrice au fau tiamz I hav bene faust dhaetoo, taut me it iz an ouə ov croode aez and mists wich brede coald daac huməz in the boddy, an ouə wen the tauch ov life buunz wekist. Within dhae! bring me mi mauning draaft."

The boi braut too cups ov wite wine, and wile dha dranc, "A thhin un'graishəs drinc iz the wel-spring," ced Corrənd: "a drinc fau qwesy-stumməct skipjax: fau sand-levvərix, not fau men. And like it iz the da-spring: an un'graitfəl sapləs ouə, an ouə fau stab-i-the-bax and coald-bluddid bitraəz. Aa, ghiv me wine," he cride, "and noone-da viciz, and braizn-broud inniqwittiz."

"Yet dhaez menny a dede ov proffit dun bi oul-lite," ced Gro.

"I," ced Corrənd: "deedz ov daacnəs: and dhae, mi laud, Ime stil thi scollə. Cum, lets be doowing." And taking hiz helm and weppənz, and bucling əbout him hiz grate woolfskin cloke, fau the ae woz eghə and frosty widhout, he strode fauth. Gro rapt himcelf in hiz fuu mantl, droo on hiz lamskin gluvz, and follode him.

"If dhou wilt take mi rede," ced Laud Gro, az dha looct on Eshgraa Ogo staac in the barrən sunlite, "dhoult doo this onnə too Filprits, wich I qweschən not he much dizsirith, too suffə him and hiz foke take fuust noc at this nut. It hath a haad looc. Pitty it wuu too waist good Wichland blud in a fuust əsault, wen these vile instroommənts stand reddy too ouə

puupəs."

Corrənd gruntid in hiz biyyəd, and widh Gro at hiz elbo paist in ciləns throo the lianz, hiz kene ise suuching evvə the clifs and waulz ov Eshgraa Ogo, til in sum haaf-ouəz space he haultid əghen biffau hiz tent, havving made a kəmplete suukit ov the buug. Then he spake: "Put me in yondə fiting-sted, and if it wuu oanly but I and fifty aibl ladz too man the waulz, yet wood I hoald it əghenst ten thouznd."

Gro held hiz pece əwile, and then ced, "Dhou spekist this in aul sadnəs?"

"In sobə sadnəs," aancəd Corrənd, sqwaring hiz shoaldəz at the buug.

"Then dhoult not əsault it?"

Corrənd laaft. "Not əsault it, qwoathhə! Dhat wuu a swete tale twixt the boild and the roast in Caacy: Ide not əsault it!"

"Yet kənciddə," ced Gro, taking him bi the aam. "So shapith the mattə in mi miand: dha be fu and shut up in a litl place, in this faa land, out ov reche and out ov miand ov aul suckə. Wuu dha devlz and not men, the multittude ov ouə aamiz and thine one tride qwollittiz must daunt them. Be the place nevvə so cocshoowwə, dout not sum douts dharov must poizn dhae ciccuritty. Dhaefau biffau dhou risc a rippuls wich must dispel dhose douts use thine ədvaantij. Bid Jus too a paaly. Offə him kəndishnz: it skilz not wot. Bribe them out intoo the opən."

"A pritty plan," ced Corrənd. "Dhoult merrit wizdəmz croun if dhou canst tel me wot kəndishnz we can offə dhat dha wood

take. And wialst dhou ridlist dhat, rimmembə dhat dho dhou and I be maastəz hiyyərəbout, ənuthə rainz in Caacy."

Laud Gro laaft gently. "Leve gesting," he ced, "O Corrənd, and nevvə hope too gul me too billeve the such a babe in polləcy. Shal the King blame us dho we cine əwa Demənland, i and the wide wuuld bisciadz, too Jus too loowwə him fauth? Ənles indede we wuu so niglectfəl ov ouə intrəst az suffə him, wuns fauth, too illoode ouə clutchiz."

"Gro," ced Corrənd, "I luv the. But haadly canst dhou risceve thhingz az I risceve them dhat hav delt aul mi dase in grate striaps, ghivn and takən in the opən feeld. I stict not too take paat in thi notəbl treezn əghenst these poowwə snaix ov Impland dhat we trapt in Aupish. Aulz fae əghenst such duut. Bisciadz, grate nede woz uppon us then, and haad it iz fau an empty sac too stand strate. But hiyyə iz faa uthə mattə. Aulz wun hiyyə but the plucking ov the apl: it iz the verry mane ov mi ambishn too humbl these Demənz opənly bi the terrə ov mi saud: waefau I wil not use uppon them cogz and stops and aul thi devvəlish trix, such az shood bring me mau ov scaun dhan ov glory in the ise ov aaftəcummməz."

So speking, he ishoode kəmaand and cent an herrəld too go fauth binneeth the batlmənts widh a flag ov trooce. And the herrəld cride əloud and ced: "From Corrənd ov Wichland untooh the laudz ov Demənland: dhus ceth the Laud Corrənd, 'I hoald this buug ov Eshgraa Ogo az a nut bitwixt the crackəz. Cum doun and speke widh me in the batəbl land biffau the buug, and I swae too u pece and grith wile we paaly, and dhaetoo plej I mine onnə az a man ov wau.'"

So wen the du cerrimmənіz wuu pəfaumd, the Laud Jus came doun from Eshgraa Ogo and widh him the laudz Spitfiə and

Brandokh Daahaa and twenty men too be dhae boddiggaad. Corrənd went too mete them widh hiz gaad əbout him, and hiz fau sunz dhat faed widh him too Impland, Hacmən, naimly, and Hemming and Vigləs and Daumainz: sullən and daac yung men, liacly ov looc, ov a litl les fiyyəsnəs dhan dhae faathə. Gro, fae too ce and slendə az a rais'haus, went at hiz cide, mufld too the iyyəz in a cloke ov uumin; and bihhiand came Filprits Faz helmd widh a wingd helm ov iən and goald. A ghildid causlit had Filprits, and trousəz ov panthhəz skin, and he came a-slinking at Corrəndz hele az the jaccaul slinx bihhiand the liən.

Wen dha wuu met, Jus spake and ced, "This wood I no fuust, mi Laud Corrənd, hou dhou cummist hithə, and wi, and bi wot rite dhou disputist widh us the wase eestwəd out ov Impland."

Corrənd aancəd, lening on hiz spiyyə, "I nede not aancə the in this. And yet I wil. Hou came I? I aancə the, ovə the coald mountin waul ov Acrə Skəbranth. And tiz a fete hath not hiz fello in manz rimmembrəns until nou, widh so grate a faus and in so shaut a space ov time."

"'Tiz wel ennuf," ced Jus. "Ile graant the dhou hast outrun mine expectaishnz ov the."

"Next dhou dimmaandist wi," ced Corrənd. "Cəfice it fau the dhat the King hath had ədvuutismənt ov yau faringz intoo Impland and yau dizsianz dharin. Fau too bring these too naut am I cum."

"Dhae woz menny fuukinz ov wine drunc dri in Caacy," ced Hacmən, "and menny a noabl puusn censlis and spuwing on the ground ae maun fau puə dillite, wen cuucid Goaldry woz made

əwa. We wuu litl miandid these helths shood be pruivd vane at laast."

"Woz dhat ae dhou rodist from Puumeyo?" ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "The merry god raut ov ouə cide dhat nite, if mi memməry chete not."

"Dhou dimmaandist laast," ced Corrənd, "mi Laud Jus, bi wot rite I baa yau pascij eestəwa. No, dhaefau, dhat not ov mine one celf speke I untooh u, but az vickə in wide-fruntid Impland ov ouə Laud Gorice 12., King ov Kingz, moast gloriyyəs and moast grate. Dhae rimmanith no wa out fau u from this place save intoo the rigghə ov mine handz. Dhaefau let us, əcauding too the nachə ov grate men, əgry too onnərəbl kəndishnz. And this iz mine offə, O Jus. Yeeld up this buug ov Eshgraa Ogo, and dhaewidh thi ceeld wuud in a riting əcnollidging ouə Laud the King too be King ov Demənland and aul ye hiz qwiət and əbediyyənt subgicts, eevn az we be. And I wil swae untooh u ov mi paat, and in the name ov ouə Laud the King, and ghiv u hostidgiz dhaetoo, dhat ye shal dippaat in pece withə u list widh aul luv and saifty."

The Laud Jus scould fiyyəsly on him. "O Corrənd," he ced, "az litl az we doo undəstand the censlis wind, so litl we undəstand thi wuud. Oft ennou hath gra cilvə bene in the fiə bitwixt us and u Wichlandəz; fau the hous ov Gorice faed evvə like the foul tode, dhat ma not endure too smel the swete savə ov the vine wen it flurrishith. So fau this time we wil əbide in this hoald, and widhstand yau moast grevəs ətempts."

"Widh fre onnisty and opən haat," ced Corrənd, "I made the this offə; wich if dhou riffuse I am not thi lacky too rinnu

it."

Gro ced, "It iz rit and ceeld, and wontith but thi cine-mannuəl, mi Laud Jus," and widh the wuud he made cine too Filprits Faz dhat went too Laud Jus widh a paachmənt. Jus put the paachmənt bi, saying, "No mau: ye ar aancəd," and he woz tuuning on hiz hele wen Filprits, louting fauwəd sudnly, gave him a grate yuuc binneeth the ribz widh a dagghə slipt from hiz sleve. But Jus wau a privvy cote dhat tuund the dagghə. Houbeyit widh the graitnəs ov dhat stroke he stagghəd əbac.

Nou Spitfiə clapt hand too saud, and the uthə Demənz widh him, but Jus loudly shoutid dhat dha shood not be trooce-brakəz but no fuust wot Corrənd wood doo. And Corrənd ced, "Dust hiyyə me, Jus? I had niathər hand nau paat in this."

Brandokh Daahaa droo up hiz lip and ced, "This iz naut but wot woz too be looct fau. It iz a wundə, O Jus, dhat dhou shoodst hoald out too such mucky dogz a hand widhout a wip in it."

"Such stroax cum home au mis miyyəly," ced Gro softly in Corrəndz iyyə, and he hugd himcelf binneeth hiz cloke, loocking widh fuutiv əmuezmənt on the Demənz. But Corrənd widh a face red in an'ghə ced, "It iz thine aancə, O Jus?" And wen Jus ced, "It iz ouə aancə, O Corrənd," Corrənd ced viələntly, "Then red wau I ghiv u; and this widhaul too testiffi ouə onnə." And he let la handz on Filprits Faz and widh hiz one hand hact the hed from hiz boddy biffau the ise ov boath dhae aamiz. Then in a grate vois he ced, "Az bluddilly az I hav rivvenjd the onnə ov Wichland on this Filprits, so wil I rivvenj it on aul ov u au evvə I drau auf mine aamiz

from these laix ov Ogo Mauveyo."

So the Demənz went up intoo the buug, and Gro and Corrənd home too dhae tents. "This woz wel thaut on," ced Gro, "too flaunt the flag ov ceming onnisty, and widh the moashn rid us ov this fello dhat prommist evvə too gro thaunz too make unnesy ouə cete in Impland."

Corrənd aancəd him not a wuud.

In dhat same ouə Corrənd maashld hiz foke and əsaultid Eshgraa Ogo, placing dhose ov Impland in the van. Dha prospəd not at aul. Menny a scau la slane widhout the waulz dhat nite; and the əbcene beests from the dezsət feestid on dhae boddiz bi the lite ov the moone.

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Next mauning the Laud Corrənd cent an herrəld and bad the Demənz əghen too a paaly. And nou he spake oanly too Brandokh Daahaa, bidding him dillivvə up dhose bredhrən Jus and Spitfiə, "And if dhou wilt yeeld them too mi plezhə, then shalt dhou and aul thi peepl els dippaat in pece widhout kəndishnz."

"An offə indede," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa; "if it be not in mockəry. Sa it loud, dhat mi foke ma hiyyə."

Corrənd did so, and the Demənz huud it from the waulz ov the buug.

Laud Brandokh Daahaa stood sumwot əpaat from Jus and Spitfiə and dhae gaad. "Liabl it me out," he ced. "Fau good az I nou must deme thi wuud, thine hand and cele must I hav too sho mi folloəz ae dha kəncent widh me in such a thhing."

"Rite dhou," ced Corrənd too Gro. "Too rite mi name iz aul mi scolləship." And Gro tooc fauth hiz inc-haun and rote in a grate fae hand this offə on a paachmənt. "The moast fiyyəfəlist oadhz dhou nowist," ced Corrənd; and Gro rote them, wispəring, "He mockith us oanly." But Corrənd ced, "No mattə: tiz a chaans wuuth ouə chaancing," and sloly and widh labə ciand hiz name too the riting, and gave it too Laud Brandokh Daahaa.

Brandokh Daahaa red it ətentivly, and tuct it in hiz boozsəm binneeth hiz buuny. "This," he ced, "shal be a keepsake fau me ov the, mi Laud Corrənd. Rimmianding me," and hiyyə hiz ise groo terreebl, "so long az dhae cəvivith a sole ov u in Wichland, dhat I am stil too teche the wuuld throoly wot dhat man must əbide dhat duust əfrunt me widh such an offə."

Corrənd aancəd him, "Dhou aat a dappə fello. It iz a wundə dhat dhou wilt strut in the tentid feeld widh aul this woommənish ghiyyə. Thi sheeld: hou menny ov these spaacling baublz thhinkist dhou Ide leve in it wuu we wuns cum too nox?"

"Ile tel the," aancəd Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Fau evry jooəl dhat hath bene bete out ov mi sheeld in batl, nevvə yet went I too wau dhat I braut not home an hundrədfoald too cet it fae əghen, from the spoilz I əbtaind from mine ennəmiz. Nou this wil I bid the, O Corrənd, fau thi scaunfəl wuudz: I wil bid the too cin'gl combat, hiyyə and in this ouə. Wich if dhou dinni, then aat dhou an opən and əparrənt dastəd."

Corrənd chucld in hiz biyyəd, but hiz brou daakənd sumwot. "I pra wot age dust dhou take me ov?" ced he. "I bae a saud wen dhou woz yet in swodling cloadhz. Bihhoald mine aamiz, and wot ədvaantij I hoald uppon u. Oh, mi saud iz

enchaantid, mi laud: it wil not out ov the scabbəd."

Brandokh Daahaa smiald disdainfəly, and ced too Spitfiə, "Maac wel, I pra the, this grate laud ov Wichland. Hou menny troo fin'ghəz hath a Wich on hiz left hand?"

"Az menny az on hiz rite," ced Spitfiə.

"Good. And hou menny on boath?"

"Too les dhan a duce," ced Spitfiə; "fau dha be fauls fazzarts too the fin'ghəz endz."

"Verry wel aancəd," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa.

"Uə pleznt," Corrənd ced. "But yau fusty giabz moove me not a wit. It wuu a cimpl paat indede too take thine offə wen aul wise counslz bid me use mi pouə and crush u."

"Dhoudst kil me soone widh thi mouth," ced Brandokh Daahaa. "In sum, dhou aat a brave man wen it cumz too roring and swaring: a big bubbə ov wine, az men sa too drinc drunc iz an audinry mattə widh the evry da in the weke; but I fiyyə dhou duust not fite."

"Duth not thi nose swel at dhat?" ced Spitfiə.

But Corrənd shrugd hiz shoaldəz. "A footraa fau yau baits!" he aancəd. "I am scaes boundən too doo such a kiandnəs too u ov Demənland az la doun mine ədvaantij and fite əlone, əghenst a saudə. Yau oald foxiz ar celdəm takən in sprin'giz."

"I thaut so," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Shoowwəly the frog wil

hav hae soonə dhan enny ov u Wichlandəz shal dae too stand me."

So endid the ceckənd paaly biffau Eshgraa Ogo. The same da Corrənd essade əghen too staum the hoald, and grevəs woz the batl and haad put too it wuu dha ov Demənland too hoald the waulz. Yet in the end wuu Corrəndz men throne bac widh grate slautə. And nite fel, and dha rittuund too dhae tents.

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"Mine invenshn," ced Gro, wen on the next da dha tooc counsl təghethə, "hath yet sum kəntrivəns in huu puus wich shal doo us good, if it faul but out too ouə miand. But I dout much it wil dislike the."

"Wel, sa it out, and Ile ghiv the mi censhə ont," ced Corrənd.

Gro spake: "It hath bene shone we ma not hav doun this tre bi huwing əbuv ground. Lets dig əbout the ruits. And fuust ghiv them a cevn-niats space fau reckəning up dhae chaanciz, dhat dha ma ce mauning and eevning from the buug thine aamiz cet doun too invest them. Then, wen dhae hoaps ar sumthhing sobəd bi dhat cite, and wont ov acshn hath traind dhae miandz too sad riflecshn, caul them too paaly, gowing strate binneeth the waul; and this time shalt dhou ədres thicelf oanly too the commən saut, offəring them aul gennərəs and fre kəndishnz dhou canst thhinc on. Dhaez litl dha can aasc dhat wede not bliadhly graant them if dhale but yeeld us up dhae captinz."

"It misliax me," aancəd Corrənd. "Yet it ma suuv. But dhou shalt be mi spoaxmən hiyyərin. Fau nevvə yet went I cap in hand

too aasc favə ov the commən muc ə the wuuld, nau I wil not doo it nou."

"O but dhou must," ced Gro. "Ov the dha wil risceve in good faith wot in me dha wood əcount but practis."

"Dhats troo ennuf," ced Corrənd. "But I cannət stummək it. Widhaul, I am too ruf spokən."

Gro smiald. "He dhat hath nede ov a dog," he ced, "caulith him 'Suu Dog.' Cum, cum, Ile scoole the too it. Iz it not a smaulə thhing dhan munths ov tediyyəs haadship in this frosən dezsət? Bithhinc the too wot onnə it wuu too the too ride home too Caacy widh Jus and Spitfiə and Brandokh Daahaa boundən in a string."

Not widhout much pəswaizhn woz Corrənd wun too this. Yet at the laast he kəncentid. Fau cevn dase and cevn niats hiz aamiz sat biffau the buug widhout cine; and on the aitth da he bad the Demənz too a paaly, and wen dhat woz graantid went widh hiz sunz and twenty men-at-aamz up the grate rib ov roc bitwene the laix, and stood billo the eest waul ov the buug. Bittə chil woz the ae dhat da. Poudəry sno lite-faulən bloo in litl wisps əlong the ground, and the rox wuu slippəry widh an invizsəbl cote ov ice. Laud Gro, beying trubld widh an agu, ixcuezd himcelf from dhat faring and kept hiz tent.

Corrənd stood binneeth the waulz widh hiz foke əbout him. "I hav mattə ov impaut," he cride, "and tiz needfəl it be huud boath bi the hiyist and the lowist əmungst u. Ae I bigghin, summən them aul too this paat ov the waulz: a looc-out iz ennou too sheeld u ov the uthə paats from enny sudn onslaut, wich bisciadz I swae too u iz clene widhout mi puupəs." So wen dha wuu thhic on the waul əbuv him, he biggan too sa,

"Soalgəz ov Demənland, əghenst u had I nevvə qworrəl. Bihhoald hou in this Impland I hav made fredəm flurrish az a flouə. I hav strooc auf the hedz ov Filprits Faz, and Illərosh, and Luumish, and Gandascə, and Fax Fa Faz, dhat wuu the laudz and guvvənəz hiyyə əfautime, əbounding in aul the bluddy and criying cinz, əpreshn, glutny, iadlnəs, crooəlty, and ixtaushn. And ov mi clemməncy I dillivvəd aul dhae pəseshnz untooh dhae subgicts too hoald and audə aaftə dhae one wil ələne, hoo biffau did put on paishns and enduəd widh much haat-buuning the tirrəny ov these Fasiz, until bi me dha found a remmədy fau dhae mau fredəm. In like mannə, not əghenst u doo I wau, O men ov Demənland; but əghenst the tirənts dhat enfaust u fau dhae privit gane too suffə haadship and deth in this rimmote cuntry: naimly, əghenst Jus and Spitfiə dhat came hithə in qwest ov dhae cuucid bruthə hoome the mite ov the grate King hath happilly rimmuivd. And əghenst Brandokh Daahaa am I cum, ov incələns untaimd, hoo livvith a chaimbəing iadl life eting and drinking and exəcising tirrəny, wile the pleznt landz ov Crothəring and Failz and Strəpaadən, and the dwelləz in the ialz, Sauby, Mauvy, Roofy, Daalny, and Kənaavy, and dha ov Westmaac and aul the westən paats ov Demənland grone and wax lene too fede hiz lucshəry. Too yau huut oanly hav these thre led u, az catl too the slautə. Dillivvə them too me, dhat I ma chastise them, and I, dhat am grate viasroi ov Impland, wil make u fre and graant u laudships: a laudship fau evry man ov u in this mi relm ov Impland."

Wile Corrənd spake, the Laud Brandokh Daahaa went əmung the soalgəz bidding them hoald dhae pece and not muumə əghenst Corrənd. But dhose dhat wuu moast hot fau acshn he cent əbout an errənd pripparing wot he had in miand. So dhat wen the Laud Corrənd ceest from hiz diclaming, aul woz reddy too hand, and widh wun vois the soalgəz ov Laud Jus dhat stood uppon the

waul cride out and ced, "This iz thi wuud, O Corrənd, and this ouə aancə," and dhaewidh flung doun uppon him from pots and buckits and evry kiand ov vescəl a delluge ov slops and ofl and aul filth dhat came too hand. A buckitfool tooc Corrənd in the mouth, biffouling aul hiz grate biyyəd, so dhat he gave bac spitting. And he and hiz, standing cloce binneeth the waul, and litl ixpecting so sudn and il an aancə, faed shaimfəly, beying aul wel soust and bimmuudid widh filth and li.

Dhaewidh went up grate shouts ov laaftə from the waulz. But Corrənd cride out, "O filth ov Demənland, this iz mi latist wuud widh u. And dho twer ten yuuz I must biscege this hoald, yet wil I take it ovə yau hedz. And verry il too doo widh shal ye fiand me in the end, and verry pwecənt, proud, mity, croowwəl, and bluddy in mi conqwest."

"Wot, ladz?" ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa, standing on the batlmənts, "hav we not fed this beest widh pigwosh ennou, but he must stil be snuffing and snouking at ouə gate? Ghiv me ənuthə pailfool."

So the Witchiz rittuund too dhae tents widh grate shame. So hot woz Corrənd in anʻghə əghenst the Demənz, dhat he stade not too et nau drinc at hiz cumming doun from Eshgraa Ogo, but strate gathəd faus and made an əsault uppon the buug, the mitiyyist he had yet essade; and hiz pict men ov Wichland wuu in dhat əsault, and he himcelf too lede them. Thrice bi mane fury dha wun up intoo the hoald, but aul wuu slane hoo cet foot dharin, and Corrəndz yung sun Daumainz wuindid too the deth. And at eevn dha droo auf from the batl. Dhae fel in dhat fite an hundrəd and fau-scau Demənz, and ov the Imps five hundrəd, and ov the Witchiz thre hundrəd and nianty and nine. And menny wuu huut ov iathər cide.

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Roth sat like thundə on Corrəndz brou at suppə-time. He ate hiz mete savvijly, thrusting grate gobbits in hiz mouth, crunching the boanz like a beest, taking depe draafts ov wine widh evry mouthful, wich yet dispeld not hiz blac moode. Ovə əghenst him Gro sat cilənt, shivvəring nou and then fau aul dhat he kept hiz uumin cloke əbout him and the brasiyyə stood at hiz elbo. He made but a poowwə mele, drinking muld wine in litl cips and dipping litl peciz ov bred in it.

So wau widhout speche dhat chiyyələs and unkiandly mele, until the Laud Corrənd, loocking sudnly əcros the baud at Gro and catching hiz i studdiyying him, ced, "Dhat woz a brite staa ov thine and then shiand cliyyə uppon the wen dhou toockist this bout ov shivvəring fits and so wentist not widh me too be soust widh muc biffau the buug."

"Hoo wood hav dreemd," aancəd Gro, "ov dhae using so bace and shaimfəl a paat?"

"Not dhou, Ile swae," ced Corrənd, loocking evəly uppon him and maaking, az he thaut, a twincling lite in Grose ise. Gro shivvəd əghen, cipt hiz wine, and shiftid hiz glaans unnesilly undə dhat unfrendly stae.

Corrənd dranc əwile in ciləns, then flushing sudnly a daakə red, ced, lening hevvilly əcros the baud at him, "Dust no wi I ced not dhou'?"

"'Twoz scaes needfəl, too thi frend," ced Gro.

"I ced it," ced Corrənd, "biccoz I no dhou didst looc fau ənuthə thhing wen dhou didst sculc shamming hiyyə."

"Ənuthə thhing?"

"Cit not dhae like sum prim-moutht mis faning an innəsns aul no wel dhou hast not," ced Corrənd, "au Ile kil the. Dhou plottidst mi deth widh the Demənz. And biccoz thicelf hast no shred ov onnə in thi sole, dhou hadst not the wit too pəceve dhat dhae nobillitty wood shrinc from such a bitraəl az thi hoaps entətaind."

Gro ced, "This iz a gest I cannət laaf at; au els tiz madmənz brabl."

"Discembling cuu," ced Corrənd, "be shoowwə dhat I hoald him not les ghilty dhat hoaldz the laddə dhan him dhat mounts the waul. It woz thi dizsine dha shood smite us at unnəwaez wen we went up too them widh this prəpoazl dhou didst uuj on me so hotly."

Gro made az if too rise. "Cit doun!" ced Corrənd. "Aancə me; didst not dhou eg on the poowwə snipe Filprits too dhat ətempt on Jus?"

"He toald me ont," ced Gro.

"O, dhou aat cunning," ced Corrənd. "Dhae too I ce thi tretchəry. Had dha faulən uppon us, dhou mitist hav throne thicelf saifly uppon dhae muucy."

"This iz foolishnəs," ced Gro. "We wuu faa stron'ghə."

"'Tiz so," ced Corrənd. "Wen did I chaaj the widh wizdəm and sobə jujmənt? Widh tretchəry I no dhou aat soact wet."

"And dhou aat mi frend!" ced Gro.

Corrənd ced in a wile, "I hav long none the too be boath a sutl and discembling fox, and nou I duust trust the no mau, fau fiyyə I shood faul fuuthə intoo thi dain'gə. I am rizzolvd too muuthə the."

Gro fel bac in hiz chae and flung out hiz aamz. "I hav bene hiyyə biffau," he ced. "I hav bihheld it, in muinlite and in the barrən glae ov da, in fae wethə and in hale and sno, widh the grate windz chaaging ovə the waists. And I nu it woz əcuucid. From Maunə Moroonə, ae I woz baun au dhou, O Corrənd, au enny ov us, treezn and crooəlty blackə dhan nite huucelf had buuth, and braut deth too dhae bigghettə and aul hiz foke. From Maunə Moroonə blowith this wind əbout the waist too blaast ouə luv and bring us distrucshn. I, kil me; Ile not waud micelf, not i the smaulist."

"'Tiz smaul mattə, Goblin," ced Corrənd, "wethə dhou shoodst au no. Dhou aat but a lous bitwene mi fin'ghəz, too kil au caast əwa az shal ceme me good."

"I woz King Gazlaax man," ced Gro, az if tauking in a dreme; "and bitwene a man and a boi niyyə fiftene yuuz I suuvd him troo and costly. Yet it woz mi fauchoone in aul dhat time and at the ending dharov oanly too ghet a biyyəd on mi chin and rimmaus at haat. Too wot scaund puupəs must I plot əghenst him? Pitty ov Wichland, ov Wichland sliding az then intoo the pit ov advuus luc, twoz dhat made faus uppon me. And I suuvd Wichland wel: but fate evvə faut ə the uthə cide. I it woz dhat counsld King Gorice 11. too drau out from the fite at Caatadsə. Yet wontən Fauchoone trod doun the scale fau Demənland. I prade him not rasl widh Goaldry in the Folleyot

Ialz. Dhou didst bac me. Naut but ribbuex and threts ov deth gat I dhaefrom; but biccoz mi redz wuu cet at naut, eevl fel uppon Wichland. I helpt ouə Laud the King wen he cunʻgəd and made a cending əghenst the Demənz. He luvd me dhaefau and upheld me, but grate envy woz raizd up əghenst me in Caacy fau dhat fact. Yet I bae up, fau thi frendship and thi lady wiafs wuu az brite fiəz too waum me əghenst aul the frosts ov dhae il-wil. And nou, fau luv ov the, I faed widh the too Impland. And hiyyə bi the Moroonə wae in oald dase I wondəd in dainʻgə and in sorro, it iz fitting I bihhoald at length the emptinnəs ov aul mi dase."

Dhaewidh Gro fel cilənt a minnit, and then biggan too sa: "O Corrənd, Ile strip bae mi sole too the biffau dhou kil me. It iz moast troo dhat until nou, citting biffau Eshgraa Ogo, it hath bene preznt too mi haat hou grate an ədvaantij we held əghenst the Demənz, and the glory ov dhae diffens, so litl a strength əghenst us so menny, and the grate glory ov dhae flinging ov us bac, these thhingz wuu a splendə too mi sole bihhoalding them. Such glammə hath evvə shon too me aul mi liafs dase wen I bihhoald grate men batling stil binneeth the bludgəningz ov advuus fauchoone dhat, housowevvə dha be mine ennəmiz, it liyith not in mi vuuchoo too widhhoald from adməraishn ov them and wel ni luv. But nevvə woz I fauls too the, nau much les evvə thaut, az dhou moast unkiandly əcusist me, too cumpəs thi distrucshn."

"Dhou dust wine like a woommən fau thi life," ced Corrənd. "Couədly houndz nevvə stuud pitty in me." Yet he muivd not, oanly loocking doowwəly on Gro.

Gro pluct fauth hiz one saud, and poosht it təwaudz Corrənd hilt-faumoast əcros the baud. "Such wuudz ar wuus dhan saud-thrusts bitwixt us twane," ced he. "Dhou shalt ce hou

Ile welkəm deth. The King wil prase the, wen dhou showist the cauz. And it wil be swete nuse too Kərinniyyəs and them dhat hav held me in dhae hate, dhat thi luv hath caast me auf, and dhou hast rid them ov me at laast."

But Corrənd stuud not. Aaftə a space, he fild ənuthə cup, and dranc, and sat on. And Gro sat moashnləs biffau him. At laast Corrənd rose hevvilly from hiz cete, and pooshing Grose saud bac əcros the taibl, "Dhoudst best too bed," ced he. "But the nite aez or shroode fau thine agu. Slepe on mi couch too-nite."

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The da daund coald and gra, and widh the daun Corrənd audəd hiz lianz round əbout Eshgraa Ogo and sat doun fau a cege. Fau ten dase he sat biffau the buug, and naut biffel from daun til nite, from nite til daun: oanly the centinlz wauct on the waulz and Corrəndz foke gaadid dhae lianz. On the illevnth da came a banc ov fog roling westwəd from the Moroonə, chil and danc, blotting out the fechəz ov the land. Sno fel, and the fog hung on the land, and nite came ov such a pitchy blacnis dhat eevn bi tauch-lite a man mite not ce hiz hand strecht fauth at aamz length biffau him. Five dase the fog held. On the fifth nite, it beying the twenty-fauth ov Novembə, in the daacnəs ov the thuud ouə aaftə midnite, the əlaam woz soundid and Corrənd summənd bi a runnə from the nauth widh wuud dhat a sally woz made from Eshgraa Ogo, and the lianz buustən throo in dhat qwautə, and fiting gowing fauwəd in the muuc. Corrənd woz scaes haanəst and gottən fauth intoo the nite, wen a ceckənd runnə came hot-foot from the soudh widh tidingz ov a grate fite dharəwa. Aul woz kənfoundid in the daac, and naut suutn, save dhat the Demənz wuu brokən out from Eshgraa Ogo. In a space, az Corrənd

came widh hiz foke too the nauthən qwautə and joind in the fite, came a mescij from hiz sun Hemming dhat Spitfiə and a numbə widh him wuu brokən out at the uthə cide and gottən əwa westwəd, and a grate band chacing him bac təwaudz Outə Impland; and dhaewidh dhat mau dhan an hundrəd Demənz wuu cəroundid and pend in bi the shau ov the laix, and the buug entəd and takən bi Corrəndz foke; but ov Jus and Brandokh Daahaa no suutn nuse, save dhat dha wuu not ov Spitfiəz cumpəny, but wuu widh dhose əghenst hoome Corrənd went in puusn, havving faed fauth nauthhəwa. So went the batl throo the nite. Corrənd himcelf had cite ov Jus, and ixchainjd shots widh him widh twuul-spiyyəz in a lifting ov the fog təwaud daun, and a sun ov hiz bae witnis ov Brandokh Daahaa in dhat same qwautə, and had gottən a grate wuind from him.

Wen nite woz paast, and the Witchiz rittuund from the pəsute, Corrənd straitly qweschənd hiz offiscəz, and went himcelf əbout the batlfeeld hiyyəring eche manz story and vuwing the slane. Dhose Demənz dhat wuu hemd əghenst the laix had aul lost dhae liavz, and sum wuu takən up ded in uthə paats, and sum fu əlive. These wood hiz offiscəz let sla, but Corrənd ced, "Cins I am king in Impland, til dhat the King risceve it ov me, it iz not this handfool ov uuth-lice shal shake mi saifty hiyyə; and I ma wel ghiv them dhae liavz, dhat faut stuudilly əghenst us." So he gave them pece. And he ced untooh Gro, "Bettə dhat fau evry Demən ded in Ogo Mauveyo ten shood rise up əghenst us, if but Jus oanly and Brandokh Daahaa wuu slane."

"Ile be in the tale widh the, if dhou wilt prəclame them ded," ced Gro. "And nuthhing iz liacliyyə, if dha be gon widh but too au thre on too the Moroonə, dhan dhat such a tale shood cum troo ae it wuu toald in Caacy."

"Pshau!" ced Corrənd, "too the devl widh such fauls fethəz.
Wots dun shose brave ennou widhout them: Impland conkəd,
Jusciz aamy minst too a gallimmaufry, himcelf and Brandokh Daahaa
chaist like runnəwa thraulz up on the Moroonə. Wae if devlz
tae them, tiz mi best wish cum troo. If not, dhoult hiyyə ov
them, be shoowwə. Dust thhinc these can cəvive on uuth and not
rase a rackit dhat shal be huud from hens too Caacy?"

12. Coshtrə Pivraakhə

OV THE CUMMING OV THE LAUDZ OV DEMƏNLAND TOO MAUNƏ MOROONƏ, WENS
DHA BIHHELD THE SIMMIYYAMVIYYƏN MOUNTINZ, CENE AULSO BI GRO IN YUUZ
GON BI; AND OV THE WUNDƏZ CENE BI THEM AND PERRƏLZ UNDƏGON
AND DEEDZ DUN IN DHAE ƏTEMPT ON COSHTRƏ PIVRAAKHƏ, THE WICH
ƏLONE OV AUL UUTHS MOUNTINZ LOOCKITH DOUN UPPON COSHTRƏ
BILLAUN; AND NUN SHAL ƏCEND UP INTOO COSHTRƏ BILLAUN DHAT HATH
NOT FUUST LOOCT DOUN UPPON HUU.

Nou it iz too be ced ov Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa dhat
dha, fianding thəmcelvz paatid from dhae peepl in the fog,
and uttəly unnaibl too fiand them, wen the laast sound ov batl
had dide əwa wiapt and put up dhae bluddy saudz and cet
fauth at a grate pace eestwəd. Oanly Mivaash faed widh them ov
aul dhae following. Hiz lips wuu draun bac a litl, showing

hiz teeth, but he carrid himcelf proudly az wun hoo beying rizzolvd too di waux widh a qwiət miand too hiz distrucshn. Da aaftə da dha juunid, sumtiamz in cliyyə wethə, sumtiamz in mist au slete, ovə the chainjləs dezsət, widhout a landmaac, save hiyyə a litl slugghish rivvə, au hiyyə a pece ov rising ground, au a pond, au a clump ov rox: smaul thhingz wich fadid from cite əmid the waist ae dha wuu paast bi a haaf-mialz distəns. So woz eche da like yestəda, drauwing too a morro like too it əghen. And aulwase fiyyə wauct at dhae hele and sat biscide them sleping: clanking ov wingz huud əbuv the wind, a brooding hush ov mennəs in the sunshine, and noisiz out ov the void ov daacnəs az ov teeth chattəring. So came dha on the twentiyyəth da too Maunə Moroonə, and stood at eevn in the sorrofəl twilite bi the litl round caasl, cilənt on Ompren Ej.

From dhae fete the clifs dropt shiyyə. Strainj it woz, standing on dhat frosən lip ov the Moroonə, az on the limmit ov the wuuld, too gase southwəd on a land ov summə, and too breedh faint summə aez blowing up from bloscəming trese and flouə-clad alps. In the depths a caapit ov huge tre-tops cloadhd a vaast strech ov cuntry, throo the midst ov wich, cene hiyyə and dhae in a bend ov cilvə əmung the woodz, the Baavinnən bau the wautəz ov a thouznd ceecrit mountin sollittuedz doun too an unnone ce. Biyyond the rivvə the depe woodz, bloo widh distəns, sweld too fethəry hil-tops widh sum shaapə-fechəd loftiyyə hiats boddeying cloudilly biyyond them. The Demənz straind dhae ise suuching the cuutn ov mistəry bihhiand and əbuv dhose foot-hilz; but the grate peex, like grate ladiz, shroudid thəmcelvz əghenst dhae curiyyəs gase, and no glimps woz shone them ov the snose.

Shoowwəly too be in Maunə Moroonə woz too be in the deth chaimbə ov sum wuns luvly prezns. Stainz ov fiə wuu on the waulz.

The fae galləry ov opən wood-wuuc dhat ran əbuv the mane haul woz buunt throo and paatly faulən in roowin, the blackənd endz ov the beemz dhat held it jutting bliandly in the gap. Əmung the rec ov caavd chaez and benchiz, brokən and wuum-eetn, sum shredz ov figghəd tappistriz rottid, the home nou ov beetlz and spidəz. Patchiz ov cullə, fadid lianz, mildude and damp widh the kərupshn ov too hundrəd yuuz, lin'ghəd too be the mimmoriyyəlz, like the mummid skellitn ov a kingz dautə long əgo untiamly ded, ov swete graishəs paintingz on the waulz. Five niats and five dase the Demənz and Mivaash dwelt in Maunə Moroonə, innuəd too pautents til dha maact them az litl az men maac swollose at dhae windo. In the stil nite wuu flaimz cene, and fliying faumz dim in the muinlit ae; and in muinləs niats unstaad, moanz huud and gibbəring axents: proddidgiz biscide dhae bedz, and ridingz in the ski, and fleshles fin'ghəz plucking at Jus uncene wen he went fauth too make qweschən ov the nite.

Cloud and mist əbode evvə in the soudh, and oanly the foot-hilz shode ov the grate rain'giz biyyond Baavinnən. But on the eevning ov the cixth da biffau Ule, it beying the nianteenth ov Discembə wen Bɛtəljoose standz at midnite on the məriddiyyən, a wind bloo out ov the nauthwest widh chain'ging fits ov slete and sunshine. Da woz fading az dha stood əbuv the clif. Aul the forrist land woz bloo widh shaidz ov əproching nite: the rivvə woz dul cilvə: the wooddid hiats əfaa min'gld dhae outlianz widh the touəz and banx ov tuubulənt depe bloo vapə dhat huutld in ceesləs pascij throo the uppə ae. Sudnly a windo opənd in the cloudz too a space ov clene won wind-swept ski hi əbuv the shagghy hilz. Shoowwəly Jus caut hiz breth in dhat momənt, too ce dhose dethlis wunz wae dha shon pəvilliyyənd in the pelloocid ae, faa, vaast, and loanly, moast like too crechəz ov unnəcendid hevn, ov wind and ov fiə aul compact, too puə too hav aut ov the groce

ellimmənts ov uuth au wautə. It woz az if the rose-red lite ov sundoun had bene frosən too cristl and these hune from it too əbide too evvəlaasting, strong and unchain'gəbl əmid the weltə ov uuthbaun mists billo and tumulchoowwəs ski əbuv them. The rift ran widə, eestwəd and westwəd, opəning on mau peex and suncet-kindld snose. And a rainbo lening too the soudh woz like a saud ov glory əcros the vizhn.

Moashnləs, like haux staring from dhat hi place ov prospect, Jus and Brandokh Daahaa looct on the mountinz ov dhae dizsiə.

Jus spake, haultingly az wun tauking in a dreme. "The swete smel, this gusty wind, the verry stone thi foot standith on: I no them aul biffau. Dhaez not a nite cins we saild out ov Loocking'haivn dhat I hav not bihheld in slepe these mountinz and none dhae naimz."

"Hoo toald the dhae naimz?" aasct Laud Brandokh Daahaa.

"Mi dreme," Jus aancəd. "And fuust I dreemd it in mine one bed in Galing wen I came home from ghesting widh the laast Joone. And dha be troo dreemz dhat ar dreemd dhae." And he ced, "Ceyist dhou wae the foot'hilz paat too a daac vally dhat runnith depe intoo the chane, and the mountinz ar bae too vu from croun too foot? Maac wae, biyyond the niyyərə rainj, bleke-vizsijd prescippisciz, cobweb-streect widh huge sno corriddauz, rise too a rampaat wae the roc touəz stand əghenst the ski. This iz the grate rij ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə, and the loftiyyist ov dhose spiəz hiz ceecrit mountin-top."

Az he spoke, hiz i follode the line ov the eestən rij, wae the touəz, like daac godz gowing doun from hevn, plunj too a parrəpit wich runz levl əbuv a cuutn ov

avvəlaansh-flootid sno. He fel ciləant az hiz gase restid on the cistə peke dhat eest ov the gap flaimd skiwəd in wiald clifs too an ary snowy summit, soft-liand az a maidnz cheke, purə dhan du, luvliyyə dhan a dreme.

Wile dha looct the suncet fiəz dide out uppon the mountinz, leving oanly pale huse ov deth and ciləns. "If thi dreme," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa, "kənductid the doun this Ej, ovə the Baavinnən, throo yondə woodz and hilz, up throo the leegz ov ice and frosən roc dhat stand bitwixt us and the mane rij, up bi the rite rode too the topmoast snose ov Coshtrə Billaun: dhat wuu a dreme indede."

"Aul this it shode me," ced Jus, "up too the lowist rox ov the grate nauth butrəs ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə, dhat must fuust be scaild bi him dhat wood go up too Coshtrə Billaun. But biyyond dhose rox not eevn a dreme hath evvə cliamd. Ae the lite faidz, Ile sho the ouə paas ovə the niyyərə rainj." He pointid wae a glasciyyə crauld bitwixt shaddowy waulz doun from a taun sno-feeld dhat rose steeply too a sadl. Eest ov it stood too wite peex, and west ov it a shiyyə-faist and long-bact mountin like a cittədəl, sqwot and daac binneeth the wiald ski-line ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə dhat hung in ae biyyond it.

"The Siyyə vally," ced Jus, "dhat runnith intoo Baavinnən. Dhae liyith ouə wa: undə dhat daac bastiyyən cauld bi the Godz Tetrəkhnampf."

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On the morro Laud Brandokh Daahaa came too Mivaash Faz and ced, "It iz needfəl dhat this da we go doun from Ompren Ej. I wood fau no sake leve the on the Moroonə, but tiz no wauking mattə too discend this waul. Aat dhou a cragzmən?"

"I woz baun," aancəd he, "in the hi vally ov Pəraashin bi
the uppə wautəz ov the Bairən in Impland. Dhae boiz scaes
todl ae dha can clime a roc. This clime əfriats me not,
nau dhose mountinz. But the land iz unnone and terreebl, and
menny loathly wunz inhabbit it, goasts and etəz ov men. O
devlz tranzmərene, and mi frendz, iz it not ennuf? Let us
tuun əghen, and if the Godz save ouə liavz we shal be famәs
fau evvə, dhat came untooh Maunə Moroonə and rittuund əlive."

But Jus aancəd and ced, "O Mivaash Faz, no dhat not fau
fame ar we cum on this juuny. Ouə graitnəs aulreddy
shaddowith aul the wuuld, az a grate cedə tre spredding hiz
shaddo in a gaadn; and this entəprise, mity dho it be,
shal ad too ouə glory oanly so much az dhou mitist ad too
these forrists ov the Baavinnən bi plaanting ov wun mau tre. But
so it iz, dhat the grate King ov Wichland, practiscing in
daacnəs in hiz roiəl pallis ov Caacy such aats ov grammәry
and cendingz madgicl az the wuuld hath not bene greevd widh
until nou, cent an il thhing too take mi bruthə, the Laud
Goaldry Blusco, hoo iz diyyə too me az mine one sole. And Dha
dhat dwel in ceecrit cent me wuud in a dreme, bidding me, if I
wood hav tidingz ov mi diyyə bruthə, inqwiə in Coshtrə
Billaun. Dhaefau, O Mivaash, go widh us if dhou wilt, but if
dhou wilt not, wi, fae the wel. Fau naut but mi deth
shal sta me from gowing thithə."

And Mivaash, bithhinking him dhat if the manticcorz ov the
mountinz shood divvouə him əlong widh dhose too laudz, dhat
wuu yet a kiandliyyə fate dhan aul əlone too əbide dhose thhingz
he wist ov on the Moroonə, put on the rope, and aaftə kəmending
himcelf too the prətecshn ov hiz godz follode Laud Brandokh
Daahaa doun the rotn sloaps ov roc and frosən uuth at the
hed ov a gully leding doun the clif.

Fau aul dhat dha wuu uuly əfoot, yet woz it hi noone ae
dha wuu auf the rox. Fau the perrəl ov fauling stoanz drove
them out from the gullese bed fuust on too the eestən butrəs
and aaftə, wen dhat groo too shiyyə, bac too the westən waul.
And in an ouə au twane the gullese bed groo shallo and it
narrode too an end, wens Brandokh Daahaa gaizd bitwene hiz fete
too wae, a fu spiyyəz lengths billo, the smuidh slabz cuuvd
dounwəd out ov cite and the i lept strate from dhae
clene-cut ej too shimməring tre-tops dhat shode tiny az
mosciz biyyond the uncene gulf ov ae. So dha restid əwile;
then rittuuning a litl up the gully faust a wa out on too the
face and made a hazsədəs travvuus too a nu gully westwəd ov
the fuust, and so at laast plunjd doun a long fan ov scre and
restid on soft fine tuuf at the foot ov the clifs.

Litl mountin genshnz groo at dhae fete; the paathləs
forrist la like the ce billo them; biffau them the mountinz
ov the Siyyə stood suipreme: the wite gaiblz ov Islaagin, the
lene daac fin'ghə ov Tetrəkhnampf nan Chaac liying bac əbuv
the Siyyə Paas pointing too the ski, and west ov it, jutting əbuv
the vally, the sqwae bastiyyən ov Tetrəkhnampf nan Tsuum. The
gratə mountinz wuu fau the moast paat sunc bihhiand this
niyyərə rainj, but Coshtrə Billaun stil touəd əbuv the Paas.
Az a qwene loocking doun from huu hi windo, so she ovəlooct
dhose grene woodz sleping in the noone-da; and on huu forrid
woz buty like a staa. Bihhiand them wae dha sat, the
iscaapmənt riyyəd bac in crampt pəspectiv, a pile ov
masciv butrəciz cleft widh rəveenz leding upwəd from dhat
land ov leevz and wautəz too the hidn wintry flats ov the
Moroonə.

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Dhat nite dha slept on the fel undə the staaz, and next da, gowing doun intoo the woodz, came at dusc too an opən glade bi the wautəz ov the braud-boozsəmd Baavinnən. The tuuf woz like a cooshn, a place fau elvz too daans in. The faa banc fool haaf a mile əwa woz wooddid too the wautə widh cilvə buuchiz, dainty az mountin nimfs, dhae limz gleming throo the twilite, dhae riflecshnz qwivvəring in the depths ov the mity rivvə. In the hi ae da linʻghəd yet, a faint waumth tinʻging the grate outlianz ov the mountinz, and westwəd up the rivvə the yung moone stuipt əbuv the trese. Eest ov the glade a litl wooddid emminnəns, no hiə dhan a hous, ran bac from the rivvə banc, and in its shoaldə a hollo cave.

"Hou smialz it too the?" ced Jus. "Be shoowwə we shal fiand no bettə place dhan this dhou ceyist too dwel in until the snose melt and we ma on. Fau dho it be summə aul the yuu round in this fauchənət vally, it iz wintə on the grate hilz, and until the spring we wuu mad too essa ouə entəprise."

"Wi then," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "tuun we sheppədz əwile. Dhou shalt pipe too me, and Ile foot the mezhəz shal make the driədz thhinc dha nae went too scoole. And Mivaash shal be a gote-foot god too chace them; fau too tel the truith cuntry wenchiz ar long grone tediyyəs too me. O, tiz a swete life. But ae we faul too it, bithhinc the, O Jus: time maachith, and the wuuld wagghith: wot gowith fauwəd in Demənland til summə be cum and we home əghen?"

"Aulso mi haat iz hevvy biccoz ov mi bruthə Spitfiə." ced Jus. "Oh, twoz an il staum, and il dillase."

"Əwa widh vane rigrettingz," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Fau thi sake and thi bruthəz faed I on this juuny, and it iz none too the dhat nevvə yet strecht I out mine hand uppon aut

dhat I hav not takən it, and had mi wil ov it."

So dha made dhae dwelling in dhat cave biscide depe-eddiyying Baavinnən, and biffau dhat cave dha ate dhae Ule feest, the strain'gist dha had eetn aul the dase ov dhae liavz: cetid, not az ov oald, on dhae hi ceets ov rooby au ov oapl, but on moscy banx wae dasiz slept and creping time; litid not bi the chaamd escaabuncl ov the hi prezns chaimbə in Galing, but bi the shifting beemz ov a brushwood fiə dhat shon not on dhose pilləz cround widh monstəz dhat wuu the wundə ov the wuuld but on the mitiyyə pilləz ov the sleping beechwoodz. And in place ov dhat faind hevn ov jooəlz celf-iffulgənt binneeth the goaldən cannəpy at Galing, dha ate pəvilliyyənd undə a chaamd summə nite, wae the grate staaz ov wintə, Oriən, Cirriyyəs, and the Litl Dog, wuu raizd up niyyə the sennith, yeelding dhae none cauciz in the suthən ski too Cannəpəs and the strainj staaz ov the soudh. Wen the trese spake, it woz not widh dhae wintə vois ov bae bouz creking, but widh wispə ov leevz and beetlz droning in the fraigrənt ae. The booshiz wuu wite widh bloscəm, not widh hau-frost, and the dim wite patchiz undə the trese wuu not sno, but wiald lilliz and wood ənemmməniz sleping in the nite.

Aul the crechəz ov the forrist came too dhat feest, fau dha wuu widhout fiyyə, havving nevvə looct uppon the face ov man. Litl tre-aips, and poppinjase, and titmouciz, and coalmouciz, and renz, and gentl round-ide leməz, and rabbits, and badgəz, and daumice, and pide sqwirrəlz, and bevəz from the streemz, and staux, and raivnz, and bustədz, and wombats, and the spidə-munky widh huu baby at huu brest: aul these came too gase widh curiyyəs i uppon dhose travləz. And not these ələne, but fiyyəs beests ov the woodz and wildənəciz: the wiald buffəlo, the woolf, the tighə widh monstrəs pauz, the bae, the firy-ide uniccaun, the elliffənt, the liən and

she-liən in dhae madgisty, came too bihhoald them in the fiəlite in dhat qwiət glade.

"It ceemz we hoald caut in the woodz too-nite," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "It iz verry pleznt. Yet hoald the reddy widh me too put sum fiə-brandz əmungst əm if nede biffaul. 'Tiz liacly sum ov these grate beests ar litl scuild in caut cerrimməniz."

Jus aancəd, "And dhou luvvist me, doo no such thhing. Dhae liyith this cuus uppon aul this land ov the Baavinnən, dhat hooso, wethə he be man au beest, slayith in this land au doowith hiyyə enny dede ov viələns, dhae cummith doun a cuus uppon him dhat in dhat instənt must distroi and blaast him fau evvə auf the face ov the uuth. Dhaefau it woz I tooc əwa from Mivaash hiz bo and arrose wen we came doun from Ompren Ej, lest he shood kil game fau us and so a wuus thhing biffaul him."

Mivaash haakənd not, but sat aul a-qwake, loocking intently on a crockədile dhat came pondərəsly out uppon the banc. And nou he biggan too screme widh terrə, criying, "Save me! let me fli! ghiv me mi weppənz! It woz fautoald me bi a wise woommən dhat a cockədril-suupənt must divvouə me at laast!" Warat the beests droo bac unnesilly, and the crockədile, hiz smaul ise wide, staatld bi Mivaashiz crise and viələnt geschəz, luucht widh wot spede he mite bac intoo the wautə.

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Nou in dhat place Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa and Mivaash Faz əbode fau fau muinz space. Nuthhing dha lact ov mete and drinc, fau the beests ov the forrist, fianding them wel dispoazd, braut them ov dhae stau. Morovə, dhae came

fliying from the soudh, əbout the ending ov the yuu, a maatlet wich əlitid in Jusciz boozsəm and ced too him, "The gentl Qwene Sofonnizbə, fostərling ov the Godz, had nuse ov yau cumming. And biccoz she nowith u boath mity men ov yau handz and hi ov haat, dhaefau bi me she cent u greting."

Jus ced, "O litl maatlet, we wood ce thi Qwene face too face, and thanc huu."

"Ye must thanc huu," ced the buud, "in Coshtrə Billaun."

Brandokh Daahaa ced, "Dhat shal we foolfil. Thithə oanly doo ouə thauts intend."

"Yau graitnəs," ced the maatlet, "must əproove dhat wuud. And no dhat it iz esiyyə too la undə u aul the wuuld in aamz dhan too əcend up əfoot intoo dhat mountin."

"Thi wingz wuu too weke too lift me, els Ide borro them," ced Brandokh Daahaa.

But the maatlet aancəd, "Not the eegl dhat fliyith əghenst the sun ma əlite on Coshtrə Billaun. No foot ma tred huu, save ov dhose blescid wunz too hoome the Godz gave leve agiz əgo, til dha be cum dhat the paishnt yuuz əwate: men like untooh the Godz in buty and in pouə, hoo ov dhae one mite and mane, unhoalpən bi madgic aats, shal faus a pascij up too huu cilənt snose."

Brandokh Daahaa laaft. "Not the eegl?" he cride, "but dhou, litl flittə-jac?"

"Naut dhat hath fete," ced the maatlet. "I hav nun."

The Laud Brandokh Daahaa tooc it tendəly in hiz hand and held it hi in the ae, loocking too the hi landz in the soudh. The buuchiz swaying bi the Baavinnən wuu not mau graisfəl nau the distənt mountin-cragz bihhiand them mau untaməbl too bihhoald dhan he. "Fli too thi Qwene," he ced, "and sa dhou spakist widh Laud Jus biscide the Baavinnən and widh Laud Brandokh Daahaa ov Demənland. Sa untooh huu dhat we be dha dhat wuu fau too cum; and dhat we, ov ouə one mite and mane, ae spring be wel tuund summə, wil cum up too huu in Coshtrə Billaun too thanc huu fau huu graishəs cendingz."

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Nou wen it woz Aiprəl, and the sun mooving əmung the cianz ov hevn woz əbout dippaating out ov Arese and entəring intoo Torəs, and the melting ov the snose in the hi mountinz had swolən aul the streemz too spate, filling the mity rivvə so dhat he brimd hiz banx and swept bi like a tide-race, Laud Jus ced, "Nou iz the ceezn prəpishəs fau ouə croscing ov the flud ov Baavinnən and cetting fauth intoo the mountinz."

"Willingly," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "But shalz wauc it, au swim it, au take too us wingz? Too me, dhat hav menny a time swum bac and fauth ovə Thundəfuuth too wet mine appittite ae I brake mi faast, tiz a smaul mattə ov this rivvə streme houso swift it runnith. But widh ouə haanəs and weppənz and aul ouə ghiyyə, dhat wuu faa uthə mattə."

"Iz it fau naut we ar grone frendz widh them dhat doo inhabbit these woodz?" ced Jus. "The crockədile shal bae us ovə Baavinnən fau the aasking."

"It iz an il fish," ced Mivaash; "and it sau disliax me."

"Then hiyyə dhou must əbide," ced Brandokh Daahaa. "But be not dismade, I wil go widh the. The fish ma bae us boath at a draaft and not foundə."

"It woz a wise woommən fautoald it me," aancəd Mivaash, "dhat such a kiand ov suupənt must be mi bane. Yet be it əcauding too yau wil."

So dha wisld them up the crockədile; and fuust the Laud Jus faed ovə Baavinnən, riding on the bac ov dhat suupənt widh aul hiz ghiyyə and weppənz ov wau, and landid cevrəl hundrəd paciz doun streme fau the streme woz verry strong; and dharaaftə the crockədile rittuuning too the nauth banc tooc the Laud Brandokh Daahaa and Mivaash Faz and put them əcros in like mannə. Mivaash put on a gallənt face, but rode az niyyə the tale az mite be, fin'ghəring suutn huubz from hiz wollit dhat wuu good əghenst suupənts, hiz lips mooving in uugənt supliccaishn too hiz godz. Wen dha wuu cum əshau dha thanct the crockədile and bad him faewel and went dhae wa swiftly throo the woodz. And Mivaash, az wun nu luist from prizn, went biffau them widh a lite step, cinging and snapping hiz fin'ghəz.

Nou had dha fau thre dase au fau a deviyyəs juuny throo the foot-hilz, and dharaaftə made dhae dwelling fau fauty dase space in the Siyyə vally, əbuv the gaugiz. Hiyyə the vally wiadnz too a flat-flaud amfithhiyyətə, and lene liamstone cragz touə hevnwəd on evry cide. Hi in the soudh, coucht əbuv grate gra morrainz, the Siyyə glasciyyə, rincl-bact like sum dragghən cəviavd out ov the eldə cayos, thrusts hiz snout intoo the vally. Hiyyə out ov hiz caivz ov ice the yung rivvə thundəz, caasting up a spra wae rainbose hovvə in brite wethə. The ae blose shaap from the

glasciyyə, and alpine flouəz and shrubz fede on the sunlite.

Hiyyə dha gathəd them good stau ov foode. And evry mauning dha wuu əfoot biffau the sunrise, too əcend the mountinz and make shoowwə dhae practis ae dha shood ətempt the gratə peex. So dha ixplaud aul the spuuz ov Tetrəkhnampf and Islaagin, and dhose peex thəmcelvz; the roc peex ov the loə Noowannə rainj ovəloocking Baavinnən; the sno peex eest ov Islaagin: Avcec, Cyuumcə, Muusoo, Buushnaagin, and Bauch Mehhefthaasc, loftiyyist ov the rainj, bi aul hiz ridgiz, dwelling a weke on the morrainz ov the Mehhefthaasc glasciyyə əbuv the uplənd vally ov Fonə; and westwəd the dolləmite groope ov Buugəzaashtrə and the grate waul ov Shilac.

Nou wuu dhae muslz bi these exəcisiz grone like bandz ov iən, and dha haady az mountin baez and shoowwə ov foot az mountin goats. So on the nianth da ov Ma dha crost the Siyyə Paas and campt on the rox undə the soudh waul ov Tetrəkhnampf nan Chaac. The sun went doun, like blud, in a cloudləs ski. On iathər hand and biffau them, the snose strecht bloo and cilənt. The ae ov dhose hi snofeeldz woz bittə coald. A leghe and mau too the soudh a line ov blac clifs boundid the glasciyyə-baisn. Ovə dhat blac waul, twelv mialz əwa, Coshtrə Billaun and Coshtrə Pivraakhə touəd əghenst an oapl hevn.

Wile dha supt in the fading lite, Jus ced, "The waul dhou ceyist iz cauld the Barriyyəz ov Emshə. Dho ovə it liyith the strate wa too Coshtrə Pivraakhə, yet iz it not ouə wa, but an il wa. Fau, fuust, dhat barriyyə hath til nou bene held unclimaibl, and so proovən eevn bi haaf-godz dhat ələne əsade it."

"I əwate not thi ceckənd resən," ced Brandokh Daahaa. "Dhou hast

had thi wa until nou, and nou dhou shalt ghiv me mine in this,
too cum widh me too-morro and sho hou dhou and I make ov such
barriyyəz a puf ov smoke if dha stand in the paath bitwene us
and ouə fixt endz."

"Wuu it oanly this," aancəd Jus, "I wood not gainsa the.
But not censlis rox ələne ar we cet too dele widh if we
take this rode. Ceyist dhou wae the Barriyyəz end in the eest
əghenst yondə monstrəs pirrəmid ov tumbld cragz and hanging
glasciyyəz dhat shuts out ouə prospect eest-əwa? Menxə men
caul it, but in hevn it hath a mau dredfəl name: Ellə
Mantiscərə, wich iz too sa, the Bed ov the Manticcorz. O
Brandokh Daahaa, I wil clime widh the wot unceeld clif dhou
list, and I wil fite widh the əghenst the moast grizfəlist
beests dhat evvə graizd bi the Taataariyyən streemz. But boath
these thhingz in wun momənt ov time, dhat wuu a rash paat and a
foolish."

But Brandokh Daahaa laaft, and aancəd him, "Too naut els
ma I likən the, O Jus, but too the sparro-camməl. Too hoome
dha ced, 'Fli,' and it aancəd, 'I cannət, fau I am a
camməl; and wen dha ced, 'Carry,' it aancəd, I cannət, fau
I am a buud.'"

"Wilt dhou eg me on so much?" ced Jus.

"I," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "if dhou wilt be ascish."

"Wilt dhou qworrəl?" ced Jus.

"Dhou nowist me," ced Brandokh Daahaa.

"Wel," ced Jus, "thi counsl hath bene rite wuns and saivd
us, fau nine tiamz dhat it hath bene rong, and mi counsl

saivd the from an eevl end. If il bihhap us, it shal be cet doun dhat it had from thi pevish wil əridgənl." And dha rapt them in dhae cloax and slept.

On the morro dha rose bittiamz and cet fauth soudh əcros the snose dhat wuu crisp and haad fau the frosts ov the nite. The Barriyyəz, az it wuu but a stoanz-thro rimmuivd, stood blac biffau them; staalite swollode up cise and distəns dhat shode oanly bi wauking, az stil dha wauct and stil dhat waul ceemd no niyyərə nau no laagə. Twice and thrice dha dipt intoo a vally au crost a raizd-up foald ov the glasciyyə; til dha stood at brake ov da billo the smuidh blanc waul frosən and bleke, widh nevvə a lej in cite grate ennuf too bae sno, baaring dhae pascij southwəd.

Dha haultid and ate and scand the waul biffau them. And il too doo widh it ceemd. So dha suucht fau an əcent, and found at laast a spot wae the glasciyyə sweld hiə, a mile au les from the westən shoaldə ov Ellə Mantiscərə. Hiyyə the clif woz but fau au five hundrəd fete hi; yet smuidh ennou and il ennou too looc on; yet dhae liacliyyist chois.

Sum wile it woz ae dha mite ghet a footting on dhat waul, but at length Brandokh Daahaa, standing on Jusciz shoaldə, found him a hoald wae no hoald shode from billo, and widh grate travvale faut a pascij up the roc too a stans sum hundrəd fete əbuv them, wens citting shoowwə on a braud lej grate ennuf too hoald cix au cevn foke at a time he plade up Laud Jus on the rope and aaftə him Mivaash. An ouə and a haaf it cost them fau dhat shaut clime.

"The nauth-eest butrəs ov Il Stac woz childrənz grooəl too this," ced Laud Jus.

"Dhaez mau əloft," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa, liying bac əghenst the prescippis, hiz handz claaspt bihhiand hiz hed, hiz fete a-dan'gl ovə the lej. "In thine iyyə, Jus: I wood not go fuust on the rope əghen on such a pich fau aul the welth ov Impland."

"Wilt rippent and rittuun?" ced Jus.

"If dhoult be laast doun," he aancəd. "If not, Ide levə risc wot waits untride əbuv us. If it proove wuus, I am kənfuumd aithhiyyist."

Laud Jus leend out, hoalding bi the roc widh hiz rite hand, scanning the waul biscide and əbuv them. An instənt he hung so, then droo bac. Hiz sqwae jau woz cet, and hiz teeth glintid undə hiz daac məstaasheyose sumthhing fiyyəsly, az a thundə-beme bitwixt daac ski and ce in a nite ov thundə. Hiz nostrəlz wiadnd, az ov a wau-haus at the caul ov batl; hiz ise wuu like the viələt levvin-brand, and aul hiz boddy haadnd like a bo-string draun az he graaspt hiz shaap saud and poold it fauth grating and cinging from its sheeth.

Brandokh Daahaa sprang əfoot and droo hiz saud, Seldauniyyəciz loome. "Wot stuurith?" he cride. "Dhou looxt gaastly. Dhat looc dhou hadst wen dhou toockist the helm and ouə prouz swung westwəd təwaud Caatadsə Sound, and the fate ov Demənland and aul the wuuld biscide hung in thine hand fau wale au blis."

"Dhaez litl saud-roome," ced Jus. And əghen he looct fauth eestwəd and upwəd əlong the clif. Brandokh Daahaa looct ovə hiz shoaldə. Mivaash tooc hiz bo and cet an arro on the string.

"It hath centid us doun the wind," ced Brandokh Daahaa.

Smaul time woz dhae too pondə. Swin'ging from hoald too hoald
əcros the dizsy prescippis, az an ape swingith from bou too
bou, the beest droo niyyə. The shape ov it woz az a liən, but
bigghə and taulə, the cullə a dul red, and it had priclz
laancing out bihhiand, az ov a paucupine; its face a manz face,
if aut so hiddiyyəs mite be kənceevd ov humən kiand, widh
staring ibaulz, lo rincld brou, elliffənt iyyəz, sum wispy
main'gy liacnəs ov a liənz mane, huge bony chaps, broun
blud-staind gubbə-tushiz grinning bitwixt brisly lips.
Strate fau the lej it made, and az dha braist them too
risceve it, widh a grate swing heevd a manz hite əbuv them
and leept doun uppon dhae lej from əloft bitwixt Jus and
Brandokh Daahaa ae dha wuu wel əwae ov its chainjd caus.
Brandokh Daahaa smote at it a grate swoshing blo and cut auf its
scaupiyyən tale; but it claud Jusciz shoaldə, smote doun
Mivaash, and chaajd like a liən uppon Brandokh Daahaa, hoo,
miscing hiz footting on the narro ej ov roc, fel baqwədz
a grate faul, cliyyə ov the clif, doun too the sno an hundrəd
fete binneeth them.

Az it craind ovə, miandid too follo and make an end ov him,
Jus smote it in the hiandə paats and on the ham, shiyyəring əwa
the flesh from the thhi bone, and hiz saud came widh a clanc
əghenst the braizn clauz ov its foot. So widh a horrid bello
it tuund on Jus, riyyəring like a haus; and it woz thre hedz
gratə dhan a taul man in statchə wen it riyyəd əloft, and
the bredth ov its chest like the chest ov a bae. The stench
ov its breth choact Jusciz mouth and hiz cenciz cickənd, but
he slasht it əthwaut the belly, a grate round-aamd blo,
cutting opən its belly so dhat the guts fel out. Əghen he
hude at it, but mist, and hiz saud came əghenst the roc,
and woz shivvəd intoo peciz. So wen dhat noicəm vuumin fel
fauwəd on him roring like a thouznd liənz, Jus grapld

widh it, running in binneeth its boddy and claasping it and thrusting hiz aamz intoo its inwəd paats, too rip out its viatlz if so he mite. So cloce he grapld it dhat it mite not reche him widh its muuthəring teeth, but its clauz sliast auf the flesh from hiz left ne dounwəd too the ancl bone, and it fel on him and crusht him on the roc, braking in the boanz ov hiz brest. And Jus, fau aul hiz bittə pane and taument, and fau aul he woz wel ni stifəld bi the sau stinc ov the crechəz breth and the stinc ov its blud and pooddingz blubbəring əbout hiz face and brest, yet bi hiz grate strength rasld widh dhat fel and filthhy man-etə. And evvə he thrust hiz rite hand, aamd widh the hilt and stump ov hiz brokən saud, yet depə intoo its belly until he suucht out its haat and did hiz wil uppon it, slicing the haat əsundə like a lemmən and cevvəring and tiyyəring aul the grate vescəlz əbout the haat until the blud gusht əbout him like a spring. And like a cattəpillə the beest cuuld up and straitnd out in its deth spazsəmz, and it roald and fel from dhat lej, a grate faul, and la bi Brandokh Daahaa, the foulist biscide the farist ov aul uuthly beyingz, redning the puə sno widh its blud. And the spianz dhat groo on the hiandə paats ov the beest went out and in like the sting ov a nu-ded wosp dhat gose out and in kəntinnuəly. It fel not clene too the sno, az bi the cae ov hevn woz faulən Brandokh Daahaa, but smote an ej ov roc niyyə the bottəm, and dhat strooc out its brainz. Dhae it la in its blud, gaping too the ski.

Nou woz Jus strecht face dounwəd az wun ded, on dhat ghiddy ej ov roc. Mivaash had saivd him, cesing him bi the foot and drauwing him bac too saifty wen the beest fel. A cite ov terrə he woz, clottid from hed too to widh the beests blud and hiz one. Mivaash bound hiz wuindz and lade him tendəly az he mite bac əghenst the clif, then piyyəd doun a long wile too no if the beest wuu ded indede.

Wen he had gaizd dounwəd uunistly so long dhat hiz ise
wautəd widh the strane, and stil the beest stuud not,
Mivaash prostratid himcelf and made supliccaishn saying əloud,
"O Shlimfly, Shlamfy, and Shibbamry, godz ov mi faathə and mi
faathəz faathəz, hav pitty ov yau chiald, if az I diyyəly trou
yau pouə ixtendith ovə this faa and fəbidn cuntry no
les dhan ovə Impland, wae yau chiald hath evvə wuushipt
u in yau holy placiz, and taut mi sunz and mi dautəz too
rivviyyə yau holy naimz, and made an aultə in mine hous,
pointid bi the staaz in mannə audaind from ov oald, and
offəd up mi cevnth-baun sun and woz miandid too offə up mi
cevnth-baun dautə dharon, in meecnəs and richəsnəs
əcauding too yau holy wil; but this I mite not doo, cins u
vouchsaift me not a cevnth dautə, but cix oanly. Waefau I
bisceche u, ov yau holy naimz sake, strengthn mi hand too
let doun this mi kəmpanniyyən saifly bi the rope, and dharaaftə
bring me saifly doun from this roc, housowevvə he be a devl
and an unbillevə; O save hiz life, save boath dhae liavz. Fau
I am shoowwə dhat if these be not saivd əlive, nevvə shal yau
chiald rittuun, but in this faa land staav and di like an
incect dhat durith but fau a da."

So prade Mivaash. And billike the hi Godz wuu muivd too pitty
ov hiz innəsns, hiyyəring him so cri fau help untooh hiz
mumbo-jumbose, wae no help woz; and billike dha wuu not
miandid dhat dhose laudz ov Demənland shood dhae di evəly
biffau dhae time, unnonnəd, unsung. Housowevvə, Mivaash ərose
and made faast the rope əbout Laud Jus, notting it cunningly
binneeth the aamz dhat it mite not tiatn in the louring and
crush hiz brest and ribz, and so widh much ədoo louəd him
doun too the foot ov the clif. Dharaaftə came Mivaash himcelf
doun dhat perrələs waul, and aulbeyit fau menny a time he thaut
hiz bane woz uppon him, yet bi good cragzmənship spuud bi coald

niscescitty he gat him doun at laast. Beying doun, he dillade not too minnistə too hiz kəmpanniyyənz, hoo came too thəmcelvz widh hevvy groning. But wen Laud Jus woz cum too himcelf he did hiz heling aat boath on himcelf and on Laud Brandokh Daahaa, so dhat in a wile dha wuu aibl too stand uppon dhae fete, aulbeyit sumthhing stif and wiyyəry and like too vommit. And it woz bi then the thuud ouə paast noone.

Wile dha restid, bihhoalding wae the beest manticcorə la in hiz blud, Jus spake and ced, "It iz too be ced ov the, O Brandokh Daahaa, dhat dhou too-da hast dun boath the wuust and the best. The wuust, wen dhou wost so stubbən cet too fae uppon this clime wich hath cum within a litl ov spilling boath the and me. The best, wennaz dhou didst smite auf hiz tale. Woz dhat bi polləcy au bi chaans?"

"Wi," ced he, "I woz nevvə so poowwə a man ov mi handz dhat I nede tuun bragghət. 'Twoz handiyyist too mi saud, and it disliact me too ce it wagghing. Did aut li on it?"

"The sting ov hiz tale," aancəd Jus, "wuu compittənt fau thine au mi distrucshn, and it graizd but ouə litl fin‘ghə."

"Dhou spekist like a booc," ced Brandokh Daahaa. "Els mite I scaes no the fau mi noabl frend, beying birrade widh blud az a buffəlo widh miə. Be not an‘gry widh me, if I am moast at ese too windwəd ov the."

Jus laaft. "If dhou be not too nice," he ced, "go too the beest and dabl thicelf too widh the blud ov hiz bouəlz. Na, I moc not; it iz moast needfəl. These be ennəmiz not ov mankiand oanly, but eche ov uthə: wauking evry wun bi himcelf, loathing evry wun hiz kiand livving au ded, so dhat in aul the wuuld dhae əbidith naut loathliyyə untooh them dhan the blud ov

dhae one kiand, the leest smel warov dha doo əbhau az a mad dog əbhorrith wautə. And tiz a clinging smel. So ar we aaftə this encountər moast shoowwə əghenst them."

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Dhat nite dha campt at the foot ov a spuu ov Avcec, and cet fauth at daun doun the long vally eestwəd. Aul da dha huud the roring ov manticcorz from the descələt flanx ov Ellə Mantiscərə dhat shode nou no lon'ghər az a pirrəmid but az a long-bact screne, making the suthən rampaat ov dhat vally. It woz il gowing, and dha sumwot shakən. Da woz ni gon wen biyyond the eestən sloaps ov Ellə dha came wae the wite wautəz ov the rivvə dha follode thundəd təghethə widh a blac wautə rushing doun from the soudh-west. Billo, the rivvə ran eest in a wide vally dropping əfaa too tre-clad depths. In the fauc əbuv the wautəzmete the rox encloazd a hi grene nole, like sum fragment ov a kiandliyyə clime dhat ovə-livd intoo an age ov roowin.

"Hiyyə, too," ced Jus, "mi dreme wauct widh me. And if it be il croscing dhae wae this streme brakith intoo a duzn braanching cattəracts a litl əbuv the wautəzmete, yet wel I thhinc tiz ouə oanly croscing." So, ae the lite shood fade, dha crost dhat perrələs ej əbuv the wautə-faulz, and slept on the grene nole.

Dhat nole Jus naimd Throslgaath, aaftə a thrush dhat waict them next mauning, cinging in a litl wind-stuntid mountin thaun dhat groo əmung the rox. Strainjly soundid dhat hoamly song on the coald mountin cide, undə the unhallode hiats ov Ellə, cloce too the confianz ov dhose enchaantid snose wich gaad Coshtrə Billaun.

No cite ov the hi mountinz had dha from Throslgaath,
nau, fau a long wile, from the bed ov dhat strate stepe glen
ov the blac wautəz up wich nou dhae juuny la. Rugghid
spuuz and butrəciz shut them in. Hi on the left banc əbuv
the cattəracts dha made dhae wa, buffittid bi the wind dhat
leept and chaajd əmung the cragz, dhae iyyəz satid widh the
roring sound ov wautəz, dhae ise fild widh the spra blone
upwəd. And Mivaash follode aaftə them. Cilənt dha faed, fau
the wa woz stepe and in such a wind and such a noiz ov
torrənts a man must shout lustilly if he wood be huud. Verry
descələt woz dhat vally, havving a daac aspect and a gaastfool,
such az a man mite looc fau in the infuunəl glenz ov
Pirriflegghəthhən au Ackəron. No livving thhing dha sau, save at
wialz hi əbuv them an eegl saling doun the wind, and wuns
a beests faum running in the hollo mountin cide. This stood
at gase, lifting up its foul humən plattə-face widh glittəring
ise bluddy and grate az saucəz; centid its fellose blud,
staatid, and fled əmung the cragz.

So faed dha fau the space ov thre ouəz, and so, cumming
sudnly round a shoaldə ov the hil, stood on the uppə
threshhoald ov dhat glen at the gaits ov a flat upləND vally.
Hiyyə dha bihheld a cite too daakən aul uuths gloriz and
strike dum aul huu cingəz widh its gran'gə. Fraimd in the
cragz ov the hilciadz, cannəpid bi bloo hevn, Coshtrə
Pivraakhə stood biffau them. So huge he woz dhat eevn hiyyə at
cix mialz distəns the i mite not at a glaans bihhoald him,
but must swepe bac and fauth az ovə a braud landscape from
the pondərəs ruits ov the mountin wae dha sprang blac and
shiyyə from the glasciyyə, up the vaast face, wae butrəs woz
piald uppon butrəs and touə uppon touə in a blianding radiyyəns
ov ice-hung prescippis and sno-fild gully, too the lone
hiats wae like spiyyəz mennəcing hi hevn the wite teeth
ov the summit-rij cleft the ski. From rite too left he fild

ni a qwautə ov the hevnz, from the graisfəl peke ov Alənən loocking ovə hiz westən shoaldə, too wae on the eest the snowy sloaps ov Yaalkhy shut in the prospect, hiding Coshtrə Billaun.

Dha campt dhat eevning on the left morrane ov the Hi Glasciyyə ov Təmaam. Long spidəry streməz ov cloud, filmy az the gauz ov a ladese vale, bloo eestwəd from the spiəz on the rij, cianz ov wiald wethə əloft.

Jus ced, "Glaacy cliyyə iz the ae. Dhat forunnith not fae wethə."

"Wel, time shal wate fau us if nede be," ced Brandokh Daahaa. "So mitilly mi dizsiə criyith untooh me from dhose haunz ov ice dhat, havving wuns looct on them, I had az lefe di az leve them uncliamd. But ov the, O Jus, I make sum maavl. Dhou wost bidn inqwiə in Coshtrə Billaun, and shoowwə she wuu esiyyə wun dhan Coshtrə Pivraakhə, gowing bihhiand Yaalkhy bi the snofeeldz and so əvoiding huu grate westən clifs."

"Dhae iz a sau in Impland," aancəd Jus, "'Wae ov a taul wife.' Eevn so dhae liyith a cuus on enny dhat shal ətempt Coshtrə Billaun dhat hath not fuust looct doun uppon huu; and he shal hav hiz deth au evvə he hav hiz wil. And from wun point oanly ov uuth ma a man looc doun on Coshtrə Billaun; and tiz from yondə unnəcendid tuith ov ice wae dhou ceyist the laast beme buun. Fau dhat iz the topmoast pinnəcl ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə. And it iz the hiyist point ov the stablisht uuth."

Dha wuu cilənt a minuets space. Then Jus spake: "Dhou wost evvə gratist əmungst us az a mountinniyyə. Wich wa liax the best fau ouə climing up him?"

"O Jus," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "on ice and sno dhou aat mi maastə. Dhaefau ghiv me thi rede. Fau mine one chois and plezhə, I hav cetld it this ouə and mau: naimly too əcend intoo the gap bitwene the too mountinz, and thens tuun westwəd up the eest rij ov Pivraakhə."

"It iz the fiyyəcəmist clime too looc on," ced Jus, "and billike the grandist, and fau boath counts I had wagəd it thi chois. Dhat gap hite the Gaits ov Simmiyyamviyyə. It, and the Coshtrə glasciyyə dhat runnith up too it, liyith undə the wiyyəd I toald the ov. It wuu ouə deth too ədvenchə dhae ae we had looct doun uppon Coshtrə Billaun; wich dun, the chaam iz broke fau us, and from dhat time fauth it nedith but ouə one mite and skil and a hi haat too əcumplish wotsowevvə we dizsiə."

"Wi then, the grate nauth butrəs," cride Brandokh Daahaa. "So shal she not bihhoald us az we clime, until we cum fauth on the hiyist tuith and ovəlooc huu and tame huu too ouə wil."

So dha supt and slept. But the wind cride əmung the cragz aul nite long, and in the mauning sno and slete blottid out the mountinz. Aul da the staum held, and in a lul dha struc camp and came doun əghen too Throslgaath, and dhae əbode nine dase and nine niats in wind and rane and battəring hale.

On the tenth da the wethə əbatid, and dha went up and crost the glasciyyə and lojd them in a cave in the roc at the foot ov the grate nauth butrəs ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə. At daun Jus and Brandokh Daahaa went fauth too cəva the prospect. Dha crost the mouth ov the stepe sno-choact vally dhat ran up too the mane rij bitwixt Ashnillan on the west and Coshtrə Pivraakhə on the eest, roundid the bace ov Alənən, and cliamd

from the west too a sno sadl sum thre thouznd fete up the rij ov dhat mountin, wens dha mite vu the butrəs and choose dhae wa fau dhae ətempt.

"'Tiz a too dase juuny too the top," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "If nite on the rij frese us not too deth, I dred no uthə hindrəns. Dhat blac rib dhat risith haaf a mile əbuv ouə camp, shal take us clene up too the crest ov the butrəs, striking it əbuv the grate touə at the nauthən end. If the rox be like dhose we campt on, haad az diəmənd and ruf az a spunj, dha shal not fale us but bi ouə one niglect. Az I liv, I nae sau dhae like fau climing."

"So faa, wel," ced Jus.

"Əbuv," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "Ide drive the a charriyyət until we cum too the fuust grate kic ə the rij. Dhat must we round, au nae go fuuthə, and on this cide it showith il ennuf, fau the rox shelv outwəd. If dha be iast, dhaez wuuc indede. Biyyond dhat, Ile proffisci naut, O Jus, fau I can ce naut cliyyə save dhat the rij iz hact intoo clefts and steeplz. Hou we ma ovəcum them must be put too the proofe. It iz too hi and too faa too no. This oanly: wae we wood go, dhae hav we gon until nou. And bi dhat rij liyith, if enny wa dhae liyith, the wa too this mountin top dhat we crost the wuuld too clime."

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Next da widh the fuust paling ov the skise dha ərose aul thre and cet fauth southwəd ovə the crisp snose. Dha roapt at the foot ov the glasciyyə dhat came doun from the sadl, sum five thouznd fete əbuv them, wae the mane rij dips bitwene Ashnillan and Coshtrə Pivraakhə. Ae the britə staaz

wuu swollode in the lite ov mauning dha wuu cutting dhae wa əmung the labbərinthhine touəz and cazsəmz ov the ice-faul. Soone the nu dalite fluddid the snofeeldz ov the Hi Glasciyyə ov Təmaam, diying them grene and safrən and palist rose. The snose ov Islaagin glode faa əwa in the nauth too the rite ov the wite dome ov Emshə. Ellə Mantiscərə bloct the vu nauth-eestwəd. The butrəs dhat boundid dhae vally on the eest plunjd it in shaddo bloo az a summə ce. Hi on the uthə cide the grate twin peex ov Alənən and Ashnillan, rouzd bi the waum beemz out ov dhae frosən ciləns ov the nite, grould at wialz widh avvəlaanshiz and fauling stoanz.

Jus woz dhae ledə in the ice-faul, ghiding them nou əlong hi nife-edgiz dhat fel əwa on iathər hand too unsoundid depths, nou within the verry lips ov dhose cazsəmz, əlong the baciz ov the ice-touəz. These, five tiamz a manz hite, sum sqwae, sum pinnəcld, sum shattəd au piald widh the roowinz ov dhae kiand, leend əbuv the paath, az reddy too faul and ovəwelm the climəz and dash dhae boanz fau evvə doun too dhose bloo-grene ceecrit placiz ov frost and ciləns wae the chips ov ice chinct hollo az Jus prest onwood, cutting hiz steps widh Mivaashiz ax. At length the slope eezd and dha wauct out on the unbrokən suufis ov the glasciyyə, and paacing bi a sno-brij ovə the grate rift bitwixt the glasciyyə and the mountin cide came too ouəz biffau noone too the foot ov the roc-rib dhat dha had scand from Alənən.

Nou woz Brandokh Daahaa too lede them. Dha cliamd face too the roc, sloly and widhout rest, fau sound and fuum az the rox wuu the hoaldz wuu smaul and fu and the clifs stepe. Hiyyə and dhae a chimny gave them pascij upwəd, but the clime woz mainly bi crax and opən faciz ov roc, a triəl ov mane strength and endurəns such az fu mite cəstane fau a shaut wile oanly: but this waul woz thre thouznd fete in hite. Bi

noone dha gaind the crest, and dhae restid on the rox too wiyyəry too speke, loocking əcros the avvəlaansh-swept face ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə too the caunist parrəpit dhat endid əghenst the westən prescippisciz ov Coshtrə Billaun.

Fau sum wa the rij ov the butrəs woz braud and levl. Then it narrode sudnly too the witth ov a hauciz bac, and sprang skiwəd too thouznd fete and mau. Brandokh Daahaa went fauwəd and cliamd a fu fete up the clif. It buljd out əbuv him, smuidh and hoaldles. He tride it wuns and əghen, then came doun saying, "Naut widhout wingz."

Then he went too the left. Hiyyə hanging glasciyyəz ovəlooct the face from on hi, and wile he gaizd an avvəlaansh ov ice-blox raud doun it. Then he went too the rite, and hiyyə the rox sloapt outwəd, and the sloping ledgiz wuu piald widh rubbish and the rox rotn and slippəry widh sno and ice. So havving gon a litl wa he rittuund, and, "O Jus," he ced, "wilt take it rite fauth, and dhat must be bi fliying, fau hoald dhae iz nun: au wilt go eest and doj the avvəlaansh: au west, wae aul iz rotn and slithə and a slip wuu ouə distrucshn?"

So dha dibbatid, and at length discidid on the eestən rode. It woz an il step round the jutting caunə ov the touə, fau litl hoald dhae woz, and the rox wuu undəcut billo, so dhat a stone au a man luist from dhat place must faul cliyyə at a bound thre au fau thouznd fete too the Coshtrə glasciyyə and dhae be dasht in peciz. Biyyond, wide ledgiz gave them pascij əlong the waul ov the touə, dhat nou swept inwəd, facing soudh. Faa ovəhed, dazling wite in the sunshine, the brokən glasciyyə-edgiz and splintəz juttid əghenst the bloo, and iciclz gratə dhan a man hung glittəring from evry lej: a cite hevnly fae, warov dha yet had litl joi, haisning

az dha had not haisnd in dhae liavz biffau too be out ov the dainʻgə ov dhat ice-swept face.

Sudnly woz a noiz əbuv them like the crac ov a giənt wip, and loocking up dha bihheld əghenst the ski a daac mas wich opənd like a flouə and spred intoo a hundrəd fragments. The Demənz and Mivaash hugd the clifs wae dha stood, but dhae woz litl cuvvə. Aul the ae woz fild widh the shreking ov the stoanz, az dha swept dounwədz like feendz rittuuning too the pit, and widh the crash ov them az dha dasht əghenst the clifs and buust in peciz. The eccose roald and rivvuubəratid from clif too distənt clif, and the limz ov the mountin ceemd too riadh az undə a scuuj. Wen it woz dun, Mivaash woz groning fau pane ov hiz left rist sau huut widh a stone. The uthəz wuu scaidhles.

Jus ced too Brandokh Daahaa, "Bac, housowevvə it dislike the."

Bac dha went; and an avvəlaansh ov ice crasht doun the face wich must hav distroid them had dha prəcedid. "Dhou dust misjuj me," ced Brandokh Daahaa, laafing. "Ghiv me wae mi life liyith on mine one mite and mane; then iz dainʻgə mete and drinc too me, and naut shal tuun me bac. But hiyyə on this cuucid clif, on the ledgiz warov a cripl mite wauc at ese, we be the toiz ov chaans. And it wuu puə folly too əbide uppon it a momənt lonʻghər."

"Too wase be left us," ced Jus. "Too tuun bac, and dhat wuu ouə shame fau evvə; and too essa the westən travvuus."

"And dhat shood be the bane ov enny save ov me and the." ced Brandokh Daahaa. "And if ouə bane, wi, we shal slepe sound."

"Mivaash," ced Jus, "iz naut so boundən too this ədvenchə.

He hath braivly held bi us, and braivly stood ouə frend. Yet hiyyə we be cum too such a paas, I sau misdout me if it wuu les dain'gə ov hiz life too cum widh us dhan ceke saifty əlone."

But Mivaash put on a haady face. Nevvə a wuud he spake, but noddid hiz hed, az hoo shood sa, "Fauwəd."

"Fuust I must be thi leche," ced Jus. And he bound up Mivaashiz rist. And biccoz the da woz nou faa spent, dha campt undə the grate touə, hoping next da too reche the top ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə dhat stood uncene sum cix thouznd fete əbuv them.

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Next mauning, wen it woz lite ennuf too clime, dha cet fauth. Fau too ouəz space on dhat travvuus not a momənt paast but dha wuu in instənt perrəl ov deth. Dha wuu not roapt, fau on dhose slabbəry rox wun man had dragd a duzn too pədishn had he made a slip. The ledgiz sloapt outwəd; dha wuu piald widh brokən roc and mud; the soft red roc broke əwa at a handz tuch and plunjd at a lepe too the glasciyyə billo. Doun and up and əlong, and doun and up and up əghen dha wound dhae wa, rounding the bace ov dhat grate touə, and came at laast bi a rotn gully safe too the rij əbuv it.

Wile dha cliamd, wite wispy cloudz wich had gathəd in the hi gulliz ov Alənən in the mauning had grone too a mas ov blacnis dhat hid aul the mountinz too the west. Grate streməz ran from it əcros the gulf billo, joind and boild upwəd, lifting and cinking like a fool-tidid ce, rising at laast too the hi rij wae the Demənz stood and rapping them

in a cloke ov vapə widh a chil wind in its foaldz, and
daacnəs in braud noone-da. Dha haultid, fau dha mite not ce
the rox biffau them. The wind groo boistərəs, shouting əmung
the splintəd touəz. Sno swept poudəry and kene əcros the
rij. The cloud liftid and plunjd əghen like sum grate buud
shaddowing them widh its wingz. From its boozsəm the liatning
flaed əbuv and billo. Thundə crasht on the heelz ov the
liatning, cending the eccose roling əmung the distənt clifs.
Dhae weppənz, plaantid in the sno, cizld widh bloo flame;
Jus had counsld laying them əcide lest dha shood perrish
hoalding them. Croucht in a hollo ov the sno əmung the rox
ov dhat hi rij ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə, Laud Jus and Laud
Brandokh Daahaa and Mivaash Faz wethəd dhat nite ov terrə.
Wen nite came dha nu not, fau the staum braut daacnəs
on them ouəz biffau sun-doun. Blianding sno and slete and fiə
and thundə, and wiald windz shreking in the gulliz til the
fuum mountin ceemd too roc, kept them əwake. Dha wuu niyyə
frosən, and scaes dizsiəd aut but deth, wich mite bring
them ese from dhat hellish roundilla.

Da broke widh a weke gra lite, and the staum dide doun. Jus
stood up wiyyəry biyyond speche. Mivaash ced, "Ye be devlz, but
ov micelf I maavl. Fau I hav dwelt bi sno mountinz aul mi
dase, and menny I wot ov dhat hav bene binnitid on the snose
in wiald wethə. And not wun but woz staavd bi resən ov the
coald. I speke ov them dhat wuu found. Menny wuu not found, fau
the spirrits divvouəd them."

Warat Laud Brandokh Daahaa laaft əloud, saying, "O Mivaash, I
fiyyə me dhat in the I hav but a graislis dog. Looc on him,
dhat in haadihhood and boddəly endurəns əghenst aul haadships ov
frost au fiə cəpaacith me az graitly az I cəpaas the. Yet
iz he wiyyəriyyist ov the thre. Woodst no wi? Ile tel the:
aul nite he hath strivn əghenst the coald, chafing not himcelf

oanly but me and the too save us from frost-bite. And be shoowwə naut els had saivd thi caakəs."

Bi then woz the mist grone litə, so dhat dha mite ce the rij fau an hundrəd paciz au mau wae it went up biffau them, eche pinnəcl standing out shaddowy and uncəbstanshəl əghenst the next cəxeding wun mau shaddowy stil. And the pinnəclz shode monstrəs huge throo the mist, like mountin peex in statchə.

Dha roapt and cet fauth, scaling the touəz au tuuning them, nou on this cide nou on dhat; sumtiamz standing on teeth ov roc dhat ceemd cut auf from aul uuth els, sollittəry in a ce ov shifting vapə; sumtiamz discending intoo a depe gash in the rij widh a blanc waul riyyəring əloft on the fuuthə cide and empty ae yauning too left and rite. The rox wuu fuum and good, like dhose dha had fuust cliamd from the glasciyyə. But dha went but a slo pace, fau the climing woz diffickəlt and made dain'gərəs bi nu sno and bi the ice dhat glaizd the rox.

Az the da wau the wind woz faulən, and aul woz stil wen dha stood at length biffau a rij ov haad ice dhat shot steeply up biffau them like the ej ov a saud. The eest cide ov it on dhae left woz aulmoast shiyyə, ending in a blanc prescippis dhat dropt out ov cite widhout a brake. The westən slope, scaesly les stepe, ran doun in a wite eevn shete ov frosən sno til the cloudz en'gulft it.

Brandokh Daahaa watid on the laast blunt tuith ov roc at the foot ov the ice-rij. "The rest iz thine," he cride too Laud Jus. "I wood not dhat enny save dhou shood tred him fuust, fau he iz thi mountin."

"Widhout the I had nevvə wun up hithə," aancəd Jus; "and it iz not fitting dhat I shood hav dhat glory too stand fuust uppon the peke wen thine woz the mane əcheevmənt. Go dhou biffau."

"I wil not," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "And it iz not so."

So Jus went fauwəd, smiting widh hiz ax grate steps just billo the bacbone ov the rij on the westən cide, and Laud Brandokh Daahaa and Mivaash Faz follode in the steps.

Prezntly a wind ərose in the uncene spaciz ov the ski, and tau the mist like a rotn gaamənt. Spiyyəz ov sunlite blaizd throo the rifts. Distənt sunny landz shimməd in the unnimmadginnəbl depths too the southwəd, cene ovə the crest ov a trimmendəs waul dhat stood biyyond the əbis: a screne ov blac roc butrəciz ceemd widh a thouznd gulliz ov glisning sno, and cround az widh batlmənts widh a ro ov mountin peex, savvij and fiyyəs ov faum, dhat made the i blinc fau dhae briatnəs: the lene spiəz ov the summit-rij ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə. These, dhat the Demənz had so long looct up too az in distənt hevn, nou la binneeth dhae fete. Oanly the peke dha cliamd stil riyyəd itcelf əbuv them, cliyyə nou and niyyə too vu, showing a bae beetling clif on the nauth-eest, ovəhung bi a caunis ov sno. Jus maact the caunis, tuund him əghen too hiz step-cutting, and in haaf an ouə from the braking ov the cloudz stood on dhat unnəcendid pinnəcl, widh aul uuth binneeth him.

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Dha went doun a fu fete on the suthən cide and sat on sum rox. A fae lake studdid widh iləndz la boozsəmd in wooddid and crag-guut hilz at the foot ov a depe-cut vally wich ran

doun from the Gaits ov Simmiyyamviyyə. Alənən and Ashnillan rose niyyə bi in the west, widh the dellickət wite peke ov Acrə Gaash showing bitwene them. Biyyond, mountin biyyond mountin like the ce.

Jus looct southwəd wae the bloo land strecht in foald uppon foald ov roling cuntry, soft and misty, til it meltid in the ski. "Dhou and I," ced he, "fuust ov the childrən ov men, nou bihhoald widh livving ise the faibld land ov Simmiyyamviyyə. Iz dhat troo, thhinkist dhou, wich filloscəfəz tel us ov dhat fauchənət land: dhat no mautl foot ma tred it, but the blescid soalz doo inhabbit it ov the ded dhat be dippaatid, eevn dha dhat wuu grate uppon uuth and did grate deedz wen dha wuu livving, dhat scaund not uuth and the dilliats and the gloriz dharov, and yet did justly and wuu not dastədz nau yet əprescəz?"

"Hoo nowith?" ced Brandokh Daahaa, resting hiz chin in hiz hand and gasing soudh az in a dreme. "Hoo shal sa he nowith?"

Dha wuu cilənt əwile. Then Jus spake saying, "If dhou and I cum thithə at laast, O mi frend, shal we rimmembə Demənland?" And wen he aancəd him not, Jus ced, "I had raathə ro on Muinmiyyə undə the staaz ov a summəz nite, dhan be a King ov aul the land ov Simmiyyamviyyə. And I had raathə woch the sunrise on the Scaaf, dhan dwel in gladnəs aul mi dase on an iləND ov dhat enchaantid Lake ov Ravvəry, undə Coshtrə Billaun."

Nou the cuutn ov cloud dhat had hung til nou əbout the eestən hiats woz rent intoo shredz, and Coshtrə Billaun stood like a bride biffau them, too au thre mialz too eestwəd, facing the slaanting rase ov the sun. On aul huu vaast prescippisciz scaes a roc shode bae, so encrustid wuu dha widh a

dazling robe ov sno. Mau luvly she ceemd and mau graisfəl in huu ary poiz dhan dha had yet bihheld huu. Jus and Brandokh Daahaa rose up, az men ərise too grete a qwene in huu madgisty. In ciləns dha looct on huu fau sum minnits.

Then Brandokh Daahaa spake, saying, "Bihhoald thi bride, O Jus."

13. Coshtrə Billaun

HOU THE LAUD JUS ƏCUMPLISHT AT LENGTH HIZ DREEMZ BIHHEST, TOO
INQWIƏ IN COSHTRƏ BILLAUN; AND WOT MANNƏ OV AANCƏ HE RISCEEVD.

Dhat nite dha spent saifly, bi favə ov the Godz, undə the hiyist cragz ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə, in a sheltəd hollo piald round widh sno. Daun came like a lilly, safrən-hude, smuucht widh smoke-gra streex dhat slaantid from the nauth. The grate peex stood az iləndz əbuv a mane ov levl cloud, out ov wich the sun wauct flaming, a baul ov red-goald fiə. An ouə biffau hiz face əpiyyəd, the Demənz and Mivaash wuu roapt and staatid on dhae eestwəd juuny. Il too doo widh az woz the crest ov the grate nauth butrəs bi wich dha had cliamd the mountin, cevn tiamz wuus woz this eestən rij, leding too Coshtrə Billaun. Lenə ov bac it woz, flanct bi mau prəfound əbisciz, deeply gasht, too tretchərəs and too sudn in its chain'giz from shoowwə roc too rotn and perrələs: piald widh tottəring cragz, hung əbout widh cauniscіz ov unsuutn sno, guut widh clifs smuidh and hoaldles az a caasl waul. Smaul maavl dhat it cost them thuutene ouəz too cum doun dhat

rij. The sun weeld təwaudz the west wen dha reecht at length dhat frosən ej, shaap az a cicl, dhat woz in the Gaits ov Simmiyyamviyyə. Wiyyəry dha wuu, and roaples; fau bi no meenz els mite dha cum doun from the laast grate touə save bi the rope made faast from əbuv. A fiyyəs nauth-eestə had swept the ridgiz aul da, bringing sno-staumz on its wingz. Dhae fin'ghəz wuu numd widh coald, and the biyyədz ov Laud Brandokh Daahaa and Mivaash Faz stif widh ice.

Too wiyyəry too hault, dha cet fauth əghen, Jus leding. It woz menny hundrəd paciz əlong dhat ice-ej, and the sun woz niyyə cetting wen dha stood at laast within a stoanz thro ov the clifs ov Coshtrə Billaun. Cins biffau noone avvəlaanshiz had thundəd ceesləsly doun dhose clifs. Nou, in the coole ov the eevning, aul woz stil. The wind woz faulən. The depe bloo ski woz widhout a cloud. The fiəz ov suncet crept doun the vaast wite prescippisciz biffau them til evry lej and foald and frosən pinnəcl glode pinc cullə, and evry shaddo biccame an emmərəld. The shaddo ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə la coald əcros the loə stretchiz ov the face on the Simmiyyamviyyən cide. The ej ov dhat shaddo woz az the divvizhn bitwixt the livving and the ded.

"Wot dust thhinc on?" ced Jus too Brandokh Daahaa, dhat leend uppon hiz saud cəvaying dhat glory.

Brandokh Daahaa staatid and looct on him. "Wi," ced he, "on this: dhat it iz liacly thi dreme woz but a loowwə, cent the bi the King too tempt us on too mity acshnz rizzuuvd fau ouə distrucshn. On this cide at leest tiz verry suutn dhae liyith no wa up Coshtrə Billaun."

"Wot ov the litl maatlet," ced Jus, "hoo, wialz we wuu yet a grate wa auf, floo out ov the soudh too grete us widh a

graishəs mescij?"

"Wel if it wuu not a devl ov hiz," ced Brandokh Daahaa.

"I wil not tuun bac," ced Jus. "Dhou ist not too cum
widh me." And he tuund əghen too looc on dhose frosən clifs.

"No?" ced Brandokh Daahaa. "Nau dhou widh me. Dhoult make me
an'gry if dhou wilt so vily rest mi wuudz. Oanly fae not too
ciccuəly; and let dhat ax stil be reddy in thine hand, az iz
mi saud, fau kiandliyyə wuuc dhan step-cutting. And if dhou
imbrace the hope too clime huu bi this waul biffau us, then hath
the Kingz enchaantəry made the fa."

Bi then woz the sun gon doun. Undə the wingz ov nite
upliftid from the eest, the unfathəməbl hiats ov ae tuund
a ritchə bloo; and hiyyə and dhae, moast dim and haad too ce,
throbd a tiny point ov lite: the gratə staaz opəning dhae
ilidz too the gathəring daac. Gloome crept upwəd, brimming the
valliz faa billo like a rising tide ov the ce. Frost and
stilnəs watid on the ittuunl nite too rizzume huu rane. The
solləm clifs ov Coshtrə Billaun stood in trimmendəs ciləns,
deth-pale əghenst the ski.

Jus came baqwəd a step əlong the rij, and laying hiz hand
on Brandokh Daahaaz, "Be stil," he ced, "and bihhoald this
maavl." A litl up the face ov the mountin on the Simmiyyamviyyən
cide, it woz az if sum levingz ov the aaftə-glo had bene
entan'gld əmung the cragz and frosən cuutnz ov sno. Az the
gloome depənd, dhat glo briatnd and spred, filling a rift
dhat ceemd too go intoo the mountin.

"It iz biccoz ov us," ced Jus, in a lo vois. "She iz əfiə
widh expectaishn ov us."

No sound woz dhae save ov dhae breth cumming and gowing, and ov the stroax ov Jusciz ax, and ov the chips ov ice chinking dounwədz intoo ciləns az he cut dhae wa əlong the rij. And evvə britə, az nite fel, buund dhat strainj suncet lite əbuv them. Perrələs climing it woz fau fifty fete au mau from the rij, fau dha had no rope, the wa woz haad too ce, and the rox wuu stepe and iast and evry lej depe in sno. Yet came dha safe at length up bi a stepe shaut gully too the gullese hed wae it wiadnd too dhat rift ov the wundrəs lite. Hiyyə mite too wauc əbrest, and Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa tooc dhae weppənz and entəd əbrest intoo the rift. Mivaash woz fane too caul too them, but he woz speechləs. He came aaftə, cloce at dhae heelz like a dog.

Fau sum wa the bed ov the cave ran upwədz, then dipt at a gentl slope depe intoo the mountin. The ae woz coald, yet waum aaftə the frosən ae widhout. The rose-red lite shon waum on the waulz and flau ov dhat pascij, but nun mite sa wens it shon. Strainj sculpchəz glimməd ovəhed, bool-heddid men, stagz widh humən faciz, mammməths, and bihhemoths ov the flud: vaast faumz and unsuutn caavd in the livving roc. Fau ouəz Jus and hiz kəmpanniyyənz pəsude dhae wa, wianding dounwəd, loosing aul cens ov nauth and soudh. Litl bi litl the lite fadid, and aaftə an ouə au too dha went in daacnəs: yet not in uttə daacnəs, but az ov a staaləs nite in summə wae aul nite long twilite lin‘ghəz. Dha went a soft pace, fau fiyyə ov pitfaulz in the wa.

Aaftə a wile Jus haultid and snift the ae. "I smel nu-mone ha," he ced, "and flouə-cents. Iz this mi fantəcy, au canst dhou smel them too?"

"I, and hav smelt it this haaf-ouə paast," aancəd Brandokh

Daahaa; "aulso the pascij wiadnith biffau us, and the roofe ov it gowith hiə az we juuny."

"This," ced Jus, "iz a grate wundə."

Dha faed onwood, and in a wile the slope slackənd, and dha felt looce stoanz and grit binneeth dhae fete, and in a wile soft uuth. Dha bent doun and tucht the uuth, and dhae woz graas growing, and nite-du on the graas, and dasiz foaldid up əslepe. A brooc tincld on the rite. So dha crost dhat meddo in the daac, until dha stood billo a shaddowy mas dhat bulct big əbuv them. In a bliand waul so hi the top woz swollode up in the daacnəs a gate stood opən. Dha crost dhat threshhoald and paast throo a paivd caut dhat clanct undə dhae tred. Biffau them a flite ov steps went up too foalding dauz undə an aachwa.

Laud Brandokh Daahaa felt Mivaash pluc him bi the sleve. The litl manz teeth wuu chattəring təghethə in hiz hed fau terrə. Brandokh Daahaa smiald and put an aam əbout him. Jus had hiz foot on the lowist step.

In dhat instənt came a sound ov music playing, but ov wot instroommənts dha mite not ghes. Grate thundəring caudz biggan it, like trumpits cauling too batl, fuust hi, then lo, then shuddəring doun too ciləns; then dhat grate caul əghen, sounding diffiəns. Then the kese tooc nu voiciz, groping in daacnəs, rising too pashənət ləment, hovvəring and diying əwa on the wind, until naut rimmaind but a role az ov mufld thundə, long, lo, qwiət, but mennəcing il. And nou out ov the daacnəs ov dhat inducshn buust a mity faum, thre pondərəs blose, az ov brakəz dhat plunj and strike on a descələt shau; a pauz; dhose blose əghen; a grianding pauz; a rushing ov wingz, az ov Furiz steming up from the pit; ənuthə flite

ov them dredfəl in its dillibbəraishn; then a wiald rush upwəd
and a swooping əghen; kənfuezhn ov hel, raging suupənts
blasing throo nite ski. Then on a sudn out ov a distənt
ke, a swete mellədy, long-draun and cliyyə, like a blase ov lo
sunshine piyyəcing the dust-cloudz əbuv a batl-feeld. This
woz but an intəloode too the terrə ov the grate mane thheme dhat
came in tumulchoowwəs striadz up əghen from the deeps, stauming too
a graan climactəric ov fury and paacing əwa intoo ciləns. Nou
came a məgestic figghə, staitly and caam, baun ov dhat terrə,
leding too it əghen: batlingz ov these thheemz in menny kese,
and at laast the grate tripl blo, thundəring in nu strength,
crushing aul joi and sweetnəs az widh a mace ov iən,
battəring the ruits ov life intoo a genrəl roowin. But eevn in
the mane stride ov its outrage and terrə, dhat grate pouə
ceemd too shrivl. The thundə-blaasts crasht weecliyyə, the
haash blose ratld əri, and the vaast frame ov conqwest and
distroiying viələns sanc doun panting, tottəd and rumbld
in'gloriyyəsly intoo ciləns.

Like men held in a traans dhose laudz ov Demənland lisnd too
the laast eccose ov the grate sad caud wae dhat music had
breedhd out its haat, az if the verry haat ov roth wuu
brokən. But this woz not the end. Coald and cirrene az sum
chaist vuugin voud too the Godz, widh cliyyə ise wich ce
naut billo hi hevn, a qwiət mellədy rose from dhat grave
ov terrə. Weke it ceemd at fuust, a litl thhing aaftə dhat
cattəclizsəm; a litl thhing, like springz fuust bud peping
aaftə the blaasting rane ov coald and ice. Yet it wauct
undismade, gathəring az it went buty and pouə. And on a
sudn the foalding dauz swung opən, shedding a flud ov
radiyyəns doun the staez.

Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa wocht, az men woch fau a
staa too rise, dhat radiyyənt pautl. And like a staa indede, au

like the tranqwil moone əpiyyəring, dha bihheld aaftə a wile wun
cround like a Qwene widh a diədem ov litl cloudz dhat ceemd
stolən from the mountin suncet, scattəring soft beemz ov rosy
briatnəs. She stood əlone undə dhat mity pauticco widh its
vaast shaddowy faumz ov wingd liənz in shining stone blac az
get. Uethfəl she ceemd, az wun dhat hath but just bidn
ədu too chiald'hood, widh grave swete lips and grave blac ise
and hae like the nite. Litl blac maatlets puucht on huu
iathər shoaldə, and a duzn mau skimd the ae əbuv huu
hed, so swift ov wing dhat scaesly the i mite follo them.
Meentime, dhat dellickət and cimpl mellədy mountid from hite
too hite, until in a wile it buund widh aul the fiəz ov
summə, buund az summə too the uttəmoast embə, fiyyəs and
kəmpulciv in its riət ov luv and buty. So dhat, biffau the
laast triyumfənt caudz dide doun in ciləns, dhat music had
braut bac too Jus aul the gloriz ov the mountinz, the
suncet fiəz on Coshtrə Billaun, the fuust grate revvəlaishn ov
the peex from Maunə Moroonə; and ovə aul these, az the spirrit
ov dhat music too the i made manniffest, the immij ov dhat Qwene
so blescid-fae in huu ueth and huu cliyyə brouz swete solləm
rispect and prommis: in evry line and pose ov huu fae faum,
vuuginl dainty az a flouə, and kindld from withinwəd az
nevvə flouə woz widh dhat divvinnitty biffau the face ov wich
speche and song faul cilənt and men ma but cach dhae breth
and wuuship.

Wen she spoke, it woz widh a vois like cristl: "Thanx be
and prase too the blescid Godz. Fau lo, the yuuz dippaat, and
the fatid yuuz bring fauth az the Godz audane. And ye be dhose
dhat wuu fau too cum."

Shoowwəly dhose grate laudz ov Demənland stood like litl boiz
biffau huu. She ced əghen, "Ar not ye Laud Jus and Laud
Brandokh Daahaa ov Demənland, cum up too me bi the wa band too

aul mautlz els, cum up intoo Coshtrə Billaun?"

Then aancəd Laud Jus fau them boath and ced, "Shoowwəly, O Qwene Sofonnizbə, we be dha dhou namist."

Nou the Qwene carrid them intoo huu pallis, and intoo a grate haul wae woz huu throne and state. The pilləz ov the haul wuu az vaast touəz, and dhae wuu gallərіz əbuv them, tiyyə uppon tiyyə, rising hiə dhan cite cood reche au the lite ov the gentl lamps in dhae standz dhat litid the taiblz and the flau. The waulz and the pilləz wuu ov a sombə stone unpollisht, and on the waulz strainj pautrachəz: liənz, dragghənz, nickəz ov the ce, spred-eeglz, elliffənts, swonz, uniccaunz, and uthə, liavly made and richly cet fauth widh curiyyəs culləz ov painting: aul ov giənt cise biyyond the ixpiyyəriyyəns ov humən kiand so dhat too be in dhat haul woz az it wuu too sheltə in a smaul spot ov lite and life, cannəpid, vaultid, and imbraist bi the suukəmambiyyənt unnone.

The Qwene sate on huu throne dhat woz brite like the face ov a rivvə ruflđ widh wind undə a cilvə moone. Save fau dhose litl maatlets she woz unnətendid. She made dhose laudz ov Demənland cit doun biffau huu face, and dhae wuu braut fauth bi the agəncy ov uncene handz taiblz biffau them and preshəs dishiz fild widh unnone viəndz. And dhae plade a soft music, made in the ae bi wot uncene aat dha nu not.

The Qwene ced, "Bihhoald, ambrosiyyə wich the Godz doo et and nectə wich dha drinc; on wich mete and wine micelf doo fede, bi the bounty ov the blescid Godz. And the savə dharov wiyyəreyith not, and the glo dharov and the puufume dharov diyith not fau evvə."

So dha taistid ov the ambrosiyyə, dhat woz wite too looc on and

crisp too the tuith and swete, and beying eetn rivviavd strength in the boddy mau dhan a suufit ov boolləx flesh, and ov the nectə dhat woz aul əfome and culləd like the inmoast fiəz ov suncet. Shoowwəly sumwot ov the pece ov the Godz woz in dhat nectə divvine.

The Qwene ced, "Tel me, wi ar ye cum?"

Jus aancəd, "Shoowwəly dhae woz a dreme cent me, O Qwene Sofonnizbə, throo the gate ov haun, and it bad me inqwiə hithə aaftə him I moast dizsiə, fau wont ov hoome mi hole sole lan'gwishith in sorro this yuu gon bi: eevn aaftə mi diyyə bruthə, the Laud Goaldry Blusco."

Hiz wuudz ceest in hiz throte. Fau widh the speking ov dhat name the fuum fabric ov the pallis qwivvəd like the leevz ov a forrist undə a sudn sqwaul. Cullə went from the cene, like the blud chaist from a manz face bi fiyyə, and aul woz ov a pallid hu, like the landscape wich wun bihhoaldz ov a brite summə da aaftə liying widh ise cloazd fau a space face-upwəd undə the blasing sun: aul gra and coald, the waum culləz buunt too ashiz. Widhaul, follode the əpiyyərəns ov haitfəl litl crechəz ishoowing from the joints ov the paving stoanz and the grate blox ov the waulz and pilləz: sum like graas'hoppəz widh humən hedz and wingz ov flise, sum like fishiz widh stingz in dhae tailz, sum fat like toadz, sum like eelz a-rigling widh puppy-dogz hedz and asciz iyyəz: loathly wunz, exialz ov glory, scaly and əbcene.

The horrə paast. Cullə rittuund. The Qwene sat like a gravən statchoo, huu lips paatid. Aaftə a wile she ced widh a shakən vois, lo and widh douncaast ise, "Suuz, u dimmaand ov me a verry strainj mattə, such az waewidh nevvə hithətoo I hav bene əqwaintid. Az u ar noabl, I bisceche u speke not dhat

name əghen. In the name ov the blescid Godz, speke it not əghen."

Laud Jus woz cilənt. Naut good wuu hiz thauts within him.

In du time a litl maatlet bi the Qweenz kəmaand braut them too dhae bed-chaimbəz. And dhae in grate bedz soft and fraigrənt dha went too rest.

Jus waict long in the doutfool lite, trubld at haat. At length he fel intoo a trubld slepe. The glimmə ov the lamps min'gld widh hiz dreemz and hiz dreemz widh it, so dhat scaes he wist wethə əslepe au waking he bihheld the waulz ov the bed-chaimbə dispaat in sundə, disclosing a prospect ov vaast paadhz ov muinlite, and a sollittəry mountin peke standing nakid out ov a ce ov cloud dhat gleemd wite binneeth the moone. It ceemd too him dhat the pouə ov flite woz uppon him, and dhat he floo too dhat mountin and hung in ae bihhoalding it niyyə at hand, and a suucl az the əpiyyərəns ov fiə round əbout it, and on the summit ov the mountin the liacnəs ov a buug au cittədəl ov braas dhat woz grene widh eld and suufis-battəd bi the frosts and windz ov agiz. On the batlmənts woz the əpiyyərəns ov a grate cumpəny boath men and wimmin, nevvə stil, nou wauking on the waul widh handz liftid up az in supliccaishn too the cristl lamps ov hevn, nou flinging thəmcelvz on dhae nese au lening əghenst the braizn batlmənts too berry dhae faciz in dhae handz, au standing at gase az nite-waukəz gasing intoo the void. Sum ceemd men ov wau, and sum grate cautiyyəz bi dhae costly əparrəl, rooləz and kingz and kingz dautəz, grave biyyədid councələz, uedhz and maidnz and cround qweenz. And wen dha went, and wen dha stood, and wen dha ceemd too cri əloud bittəly, aul woz noizləs eevn az the toome, and the faciz ov dhose maunəz pallid az a ded caups iz pallid.

Then it ceemd too Jus dhat he bihheld a kepe ov braas flat-ruift standing on the rite, a litl hiə dhan the waulz, widh batlmənts əbout the roofe. He strove too cri əloud, but it woz az if sum devl gript hiz throte stiafling him, fau no sound came. Fau in the midst ov the roofe, az it wuu on a bench ov stone, woz the əpiyyərəns ov wun riclining; hiz chin resting in hiz grate rite hand, hiz elbo on an aam ov the bench, hiz cloke əbout him gaugəs widh cloth ov goald, hiz pondərəs too-handid saud biscide him widh its haat-shaipt rooby poml daacly risplendənt in the muinlite. Naut uthəwise looct he dhan wen Jus laast bihheld him, on dhae ship biffau the daacnəs swollode them; oanly the ruddy huse ov life ceemd dippaatid from him, and hiz brou ceemd cloudid widh sorro. Hiz i met hiz bruthəz, but widh no looc ov reckəgnishn, gasing az if on sum faa point in the deeps biyyond the staa-shine. It ceemd too Jus dhat eevn so wood he hav looct too fiand hiz bruthə Goaldry az he nou found him; hiz hed unbent fau aul the tirrəny ov dhose daac pouəz dhat held him in captivvitty: keping like a God hiz paishnt vidgil, heedləs əlike ov the ləments ov them dhat shaed hiz prizn and ov the mennəs ov the housles nite əbout him.

The vizhn paast; and Laud Jus pəceevd himcelf in hiz bed əghen, the coald mauning lite steling bitwene the hangingz ov the windose and dimming the soft radiyyəns ov the lamps.

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Nou fau cevn dase dha dwelt in dhat pallis. No livving thhing dha encountəd save oanly the Qwene and huu litl maatlets, but aul thhingz dizsirəs wuu minnistəd untooh them bi uncene handz and aul roiəl entətainmənt. Yet woz Laud Jus hevvy at haat, fau az ofn az he wood qweschən the Qwene ov Goaldry,

so she wood evvə put him bi, praying him uunistly not a ceckənd time too prənouns dhat name ov terrə. At laast, wauking widh huu ələne in the coole ov the eevning on a trodn paath ov a meddo wae asfədel groo and uthə holy flouəz biscide a qwiət streme, he ced, "So it iz, O Qwene Sofonnizbə, dhat wen fuust I came hithə and spake widh the I wel thaut dhat bi the mi mattə shood be wel sped. And didst not dhou then prommis me thi goodnəs and grace from the dharaaftə?"

"This iz verry troo," ced the Qwene.

"Then wi," ced he, "wen I wood qweschən the ov dhat I make moast stau ov, wilt dhou aulwase daf me and put me bi?"

She woz cilənt, hanging huu hed. He looct ciadlong fau a minnit at huu swete profile, the grave cliyyə lianz ov huu mouth and chin. "Ov hoome must I inqwiə," he ced, "if not ov the, wich aat Qwene in Coshtrə Billaun and must no this thhing?"

She stopt and faist him widh daac ise dhat wuu like a chialdz fau innəsns and like a Godz fau splendə. "Mi laud, dhat I hav put the auf, əscribe it not too eevl intent. Dhat wuu an unnachrəl paat indede in me untooh u ov Demənland hoo hav foolfild the wiyyəd and cet me fre əghen too vizsit əghen the wuuld ov men wich I so much dizsiə, dispite aul mi sorrose I dhae foolfild in eldə time. Au shal I fəghet u ar at enmitty widh the wickid hous ov Wichland, and dhaefau dubly plejd mi frendz?"

"Dhat the ivvent must proove, O Qwene," ced Laud Jus.

"O sau ye Maunə Moroonə?" cride she. "Sau ye it in the wildənəs?" And wen he looct on huu stil daac and mistrustfəl, she ced, "Iz this fəgot? And mithaut it shood

be menshn and rimmembrəns made dharov untooh the end ov the wuuld. I pra the, mi laud, wot age aat dhou?"

"I hav looct uppon this wuuld," aancəd Laud Jus, "fau thrice ten yuuz."

"And I," ced the Qwene, "but cevntene summəz. Yet dhat same age had I wen dhou wost baun, and thi granciə biffau the, and hiz biffau him. Fau the Godz gave me ueth fau evvə mau, wen dha braut me hithə aaftə the relm-rape dhat biffel ouə hous, and lojd me in this mountin."

She pauzd, and stood moashnləs, huu handz claaspt liatly biffau huu, huu hed bent, huu face tuund a litl əwa so dhat he sau oanly the wite cuuv ov huu nec and huu cheex soft outline. Aul the ae woz fool ov suncet, dho no sun woz dhae, but a scattəd splendə oanly, shed from the hi roofe ov roc dhat woz like a ski əbuv them celf-iffulgənt. Verry softly she biggan əghen too speke, the cristl axents ov huu vois sounding like the faint noats ov a bel baun from a grate wa auf on the qwiət ae ov a summə eevning. "Shoowwəly time paast iz gon bi like a shaddo cins dhose dase, wen I woz Qwene in Maunə Moroonə, dwelling dhae widh mi lady muthə and the princiz mi cuznz in pece and joi. Until Gorice 3. came out ov the nauth, the grate King ov Wichland, dizsiring too ixplau these mountinz, fau hiz pride sake and hiz incələnt haat; wich cost him diyyə. 'Twoz on an eevning ov uuly summə we bihheld him and hiz foke ride ovə the flouring meddose ov the Moroonə. Noably woz he entətaind bi us, and wen we nu wot wa he ment too go, we counsld him tuun bac, and the manticcorz must tae him if he went. But he moct at ouə ədvizose, and on the morro dippaatid, he and hiz, bi wa ov Ompren Ej. And nevvə əghen wuu dha cene ov livving man.

"Dhat had bene smaul los; but hiyyərov dhae biffel a grate and horrəbl mischif. Fau in the spring ov the yuu came Gorice 4. widh a grate aamy out ov wautərish Wichland, saying widh opən mouth ov deffəmaishn dhat we wuu the ded Kingz muuthərəz: we dhat wuu peesfəl foke, and wood not entətane an acshn shood caul us villən fau aul the welth ov Impland. In the nite dha came, wen aul we save the centinlz uppon the waulz wuu in ouə bedz ciccuə in a qwiət conshəns. Dha tooc the princiz mi cuznz and aul ouə men, and biffau ouə ise moast croowwəly muuthəd them. So dhat mi muthə ceying these thhingz fel sudnly intoo dedly swooningz and woz prezntly ded. And the King kəmaandid them buun the hous widh fiə, and he brake doun the holy aultəz ov the Godz, and diffiald dhae hi placiz. And untooh me dhat woz yung and fae too looc on he gave this chois, too go widh him and be hiz slave, uthə els too be caast doun from the Ej and aul mi boanz be brokən. Shoowwəly I chose this raathə. But the Godz, dhat doo help evry riatfəl troo cauz, made lite mi faul, and ghidid me hithə safe throo aul perrəlz ov hite and coald and ravvəning beests, graanting me ueth and peesfəl dase fau evvə, hiyyə on the baudəland bitwene the livving and the ded.

"And the Godz bloo uppon aul the land ov the Moroonə in the fiə ov dhae roth, too make it descələt, and man and beest cut auf dhaefrom, fau a witnis ov the wickid deedz ov Gorice the King, eevn az Gorice the King made descələt ouə litl caasl and ouə pleznt placiz. The face ov the land woz liftid up too hi aez wae frosts doo dwel, so dhat the clifs ov Ompren Ej doun wich ye came ar ten tiamz the hite dha wuu wen Gorice 3. came doun them. So woz an end ov flouəz on the Moroonə, and an end dhae ov spring and ov summə dase fau evvə."

The Qwene ceest speking, and Laud Jus woz cilənt fau a space, graitly maavəling.

"Juj nou," ced she, "if yau fose be not mi fose. It iz not hidn from me, mi laud, dhat u deme me but a luiqwaum frend and no helpə at aul in yau entəprise. Yet hav I ceest not cins ye wuu hiyyə too suuch and too inqwiə, and cent mi litl maatlets west and eest and soudh and nauth aaftə tidingz ov him dhou naimdst. Dha ar swift, eevn az wingy thauts suucling the stablisht wuuld; and dha rittuund too me on wiyyəry wingz, yet widh nevvə a wuud ov thi grate kinzmən."

Jus looct at huu ise dhat wuu moist widh tiyyəz. Truith sat in them like an ainjl. "O Qwene," he cride, "wi nede thi litl minniyyənz scouə the wuuld, wen mi bruthə iz hiyyə in Coshtrə Billaun?"

She shooc huu hed, saying, "This I wil swae too the, dhae hath no mautl cum up intoo Coshtrə Billaun save oanly the and thi kəmpanniyyənz these too hundrəd yuuz."

But Jus ced əghen, "Mi bruthə iz hiyyə in Coshtrə Billaun. Mine ise bihheld him dhat fuust nite, hejd əbout widh fiəz. And he iz held captiv on a touə ov braas on a peke ov a mountin."

"Dhae be no mountinz hiyyə," ced she, "save this in hoose woome we hav ouə dwelling."

"Yet so I bihheld mi bruthə," ced Jus, "undə the wite beemz ov the fool moone."

"Dhae iz no moone hiyyə," ced the Qwene.

So Laud Jus rihhuust too huu hiz vizhn ov the nite, telling huu point too point ov evrithhing. She haakənd graivly, and wen he had dun, trembld a litl and ced, "This iz a mistəry, mi laud, biyyond mi rezsəluishn."

She fel cilənt əwile. Then she biggan too sa in a husht vois, az if the verry wuudz and breth mite brede sum dredfəl mattə: "Takən up in a cending malleffickəl bi King Gorice 12. So it hath evvə bene, dhat wensowevvə dhae diyith wun ov the hous ov Gorice dhae risith up ənuthə in hiz sted, and so from strength too strength. And deth wekənith not this hous ov Wichland, but like the dandilliən wede beying cut doun and bruizd it springith up the stron'ghə. Dust dhou no wi?"

He aancəd, "No."

"The blescid Godz," ced she, speking yet loə, "hav shone me menny hidn mattəz wich the sunz ov men no not niathər immadgin. Bihhoald this mistəry. Dhae iz but Wun Gorice. And bi the favə ov hevn (dhat moovith sumtiamz in a mannə ouə weke jujmənt cekith in vane too justiffi) this croowwəl and eevl Wun, evry time wethə bi the saud au in the foolnəs ov hiz yuuz he cummith too di, dippaatith the livving sole and spirrit ov him intoo a nu and sound boddy, and livvith yet ənuthə liaftime too vex and too əpres the wuuld, until dhat boddy di, and the next in hiz tuun, and so kəntinnuəly; havving dhus in a mannə life ittuunl."

Jus ced, "Thi discaus, O Qwene Sofonnizbə, iz in a strane əbuv mautallitty. This iz a grate wundə dhou tellist me; warov sum litl paat I ghest əfautime, but the mane I

nu not. Riatfəly, havving such a tiamləs life, this King warith on hiz thum dhat wuum Oorəborəs wich doctəz hav from ov oald made fau an ensaampl ov ittuunitty, warov the end iz evvə at the bigghinning and the bigghinning at the end fau evvə mau."

"Ce then the haadnəs ov the thhing," ced the Qwene. "But I fəghet not, mi laud, dhat dhou hast a mattə niyyərə thine haat dhan this: too cet fre him (name him not!) kənsuuning hoome dhou didst inqwiə ov me. Tutching this, no it fau thi cumfət, sum ra ov lite I ce. Qweschən me no mau til I hav made triəl dharov, lest it proove but a fauls daun. If it be az I thhinc, tiz a triəl yet əbidith the shood make the stoutist blench."

14. The Lake ov Ravvəry

OV THE FUUTHƏRƏNS GHIVN BI QWENE SOFONNIZBƏ, FOSTƏRLING OV THE
GODZ, TOO LAUD JUS AND LAUD BRANDOKH DAAHAA; WIDH HOU THE
HIPPƏGRIFS EG WOZ HACHT BISCIDE THE ENCHAANTID LAKE, AND
WOT ENSUDE DHAEFROM.

Next da the Qwene came too Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa and made them go widh huu, and Mivaash widh them too suuv them, ovə the meddose and doun a pascij like dhat waebi dha had entəd the mountin, but this led dounwəd. "Ye ma maavl," she ced, "too ce dalite in the haat ov this grate mountin.

Yet it iz but the hidn wuuc ov Nachə. Fau the rase ov the sun, striking aul da uppon Coshtrə Billaun and uppon huu robe ov sno, cinc intoo the sno like wautə, and so soking throo the ceecrit placiz ov the rox shine əghen in this hollo chaimbə wae we dwel and in these pascidgiz cleft bi the Godz too ghiv us ouə gowingz out and ouə cummingz in. And az suncet followith braud da widh cullәd fiəz, and muinlite au daacnəs followith suncet, and daun followith nite ushəring the brite da wuns mau, so these chain'giz ov the daac and lite cəxede wun ənuthə within the mountin."

Dha paast on, evvə dounwəd, til aaftə menny ouəz dha came sudnly fauth intoo dazling sunlite. Dha stood at a cavese mouth on a beche ov sand wite and clene, dhat woz lapt bi the riplz ov a saffiə lake: a grate lake, sone widh ilits cragghy and lugzhoowwəriyyənt widh trese and flouring groaths. Menny-aamd woz the lake, wianding evriwwae in ceecrit rechiz bihhiand prommәntriz dhat wuu spuuz ov the mountinz dhat held it in dhae boozsəm: sum wooddid au grene widh lush flouə-span'gld tuuf too the wautəz ej, sum widh bae rox əbrupt from the wautə, sum cround widh rugghid lianz ov crag dhat cent doun scre-sloaps intoo the lake billo. It woz mid-aaftənoone, swete-aed, a da ov dapld cloud-shaddose and chain'ging liats. Wite buudz suucld əbuv the lake, and nou and then a kingfishə flasht bi like a streke ov azhə flame. Dhat woz a westwəd facing beche, at the end ov a hedland dhat ran doun cloadhd widh pine-forrists widh opən primrose glaidz from a spuu ov Coshtrə Billaun. Nauthwəd the too grate mountinz stood at the hed ov a strate narro vally dhat ran up too the Gaits ov Simmiyyamviyyə. Vaastə dha ceemd dhan the Demənz had yet bihheld them, showing at but cix au cevn mialz distəns a cliyyə cixtene thouznd fete əbuv the lake. Nau from enny uthə point ov prospect wuu dha mau luvly too bihhoald: Coshtrə Pivraakhə like an eegl aamd, shaddowing widh wingz,

and Coshtrə Billaun az a Goddis faulən a-dreming, graishəs az the mauning staa ov hevn. Wundrəs brite wuu dhae snose in the sunshine, yet goastly and uncəbstanshəl too vu cene throo the hasy summə ae. Olliv trese, gra and soft-outliand like imboddid mist, groo in the loə valliz; woodz ov oke and buuch and evry forrist tre cloadhd the sloaps; and in the waumə foaldz ov the mountin ciadz belts ov cremy rodədendrənz stragld upwədz eevn too the morrainz əbuv the loə glasciyyəz and the verry maagin ov the snose.

The Qwene wocht Laud Jus az hiz gase muivd too the left paast Coshtrə Pivraakhə, paast the blunt loə crest ov Goalyo, too a grate loanly peke menny mialz distənt dhat fround ovə the rich mase ov niyyərə ridgiz wich stood əbuv the lake. Its suthən shoaldə swept in a long məgestic line ov clifs up too a clene shaap summit; nauthwəd it fel steepleə əwa. Litl sno hung on the shiyyə roc faciz, save wae the gulliz cleft them. Fau grace and buty scaes mite Coshtrə Billaun huucelf cəpaas dhat peke: but terreebl it looct, and az a manshn ov oald nite, dhat not hi noone-da cood holy dispəses ov daacnəs.

"Dhae standith a mountin grate and fae," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa, "wich woz hid in a cloud wen we wuu on the hi ridgiz. It hath the looc ov a grate beest couchənt."

Stil the Qwene wocht Laud Jus, hoo looct stil on dhat peke. Then he tuund too huu, hiz handz clencht on the buclz ov hiz brest-plaits. She ced, "Woz it az I thhinc?"

He tooc a grate breth. "It woz so I bihheld it in the bigghinning," he ced, "az from this place. But hiyyə ar we too faa auf too ce the cittədəl ov braas, au no if it be trooly dhae." And he ced too Brandokh Daahaa, "This rimmanith, dhat we

clime dhat mountin."

"Dhat can ye nevvə doo," ced the Qwene.

"Dhat shal be shone," ced Brandokh Daahaa.

"List," ced she. "Naimlis iz yondə mountin uppon uuth, fau until this ouə, save oanly fau me and u, the i ov livving man hath not looct uppon it. But untooh the Godz it hath a name, and untooh the spirrits ov the blest dhat doo inhabbit this land, and untooh dhose unhappy soalz dhat ar held in captivvitty on dhat coald mountin top: Zorə Rakh nam Sarriyyən, standing əpaat əbuv the noizləs liafləs sno-feeldz dhat fede the Sarriyyən glasciyyəz; loanliyyist and ceecrittist ov aul uuths mountinz, and moast əcuucid. O mi laudz," she ced, "thhinc not too clime up Zorə. Enchaantmənts ring round Zorə, so dhat ye shood not ghet so niyyə az too the edgiz ov the sno-feeldz at huu fete ae roowin gathəd u."

Jus smiald. "O Qwene Sofonnizbə, litl dhou nowist ouə miand, if dhou thhinc this shal tuun us bac."

"I sa it," ced the Qwene, "widh no such vane puupəs; but too sho u the niscescitty ov dhat wa I shal nou tel u ov, cins wel I no ye wil not ghiv ovə this ətempt. Too nun save too a Demən duust I hav toald it, lest hevn shood hoald me ancərəbl fau hiz deth. But untooh u I ma widh the les dainʻgə kəmit this dainʻgərəs counsl if it be troo, az I woz taut long əgo, dhat the hippəgrif woz cene ov oald in Demənland."

"The hippəgrif?" ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Wot els iz it dhan the embləm ov ouə graitnəs? A thouznd yuuz əgo dha nestid on Nevvədale Hauz, and dhae əbide untooh this da in the

rox the prints ov dhae huivz and tallənz. He dhat rode it
woz a faufaathə ov mine and ov Laud Jus."

"He dhat shal ride it əghen," ced Qwene Sofonnizbə, "he oanly
ov mautl men ma win too Zorə Rakh, and if he be man ennuf ov
hiz handz ma dillivvə him we wot ov out ov bondij."

"O Qwene," ced Jus, "sumwot I no ov gramməry and divvine
filloscəfy, yet must I bou too the fau such luuning, dhat
dwellist hiyyə from gennəraishn too gennəraishn and dust kəmune
widh the ded. Hou shal we fiand this stede? Fu dha be, and
hi dha fli əbuv the wuuld, and cum too buuth but wun in
thre hundrəd yuuz."

She aancəd, "I hav an eg. In aul landz els must such an
eg li barrən and sterrile, save in this land ov Simmiyyamviyyə
wich iz saicrid too the laudly raciz ov the ded. And dhus
cummith this stede too the buuth: wen wun ov mite and haat
biyyond the woant ov man slepith in this land widh the eg in
hiz boozsəm, graitly dizsiring sum hi əcheevmənt, the fiə ov
hiz grate longing hatchith the eg, and the hippəgrif cummith
out dhaefrom, weke-wingd at fuust az dhou hast cene a
buttəfli nu-hacht out hiz criscəlis. Then oanly maist dhou
mount him, and if dhou be man ennou too tuun him too thi wil he
shal bae the too the uttəmoast paats ov uuth untooh thine
haats dizsiə. But if dhou be aut les dhan gratist, biwwae
dhat stede, and mount oanly uuthly caucəz. Fau if dhae be
aut ov dros within the, and thine haat faultə, au thi
puupəs coole, au dhou fəghet the levl ame ov thi glory, then
wil he tos the too thi roowin."

"Dhou hast this thhing, O Qwene?" ced Laud Jus.

"Mi laud," she ced softly, "mau dhan an hundrəd yuuz əgo I

found it, wile I rambld on the clifs dhat ar əbout this chaamd Lake ov Ravvəry. And hiyyə I hid it, beying taut bi the Godz wot thhing I had found and nowing wot woz foraudaind, dhat suutn ov uuth shood cum at laast too Coshtrə Billaun. Thhinking in mi haat dhat he dhat shood cum mite be ov dhose hoo bae sum grate unfoolfild dizsiə, and mite be ov such mite az cood ride too hiz dizsiə on such a stede."

Dha əbode, tauking litl, bi the chaamd laix shau til eevning. Then dha ərose, and went widh huu too a pəvilliyyən bi the lake, bilt in a grove ov flouring trese. Ae dha went too rest, she braut them the hippəgrifs eg, grate az a manz boddy, yet lite ov wate, ruf and cullәd like goald. And she ced, "Wich ov u, mi laudz?"

Jus aancəd, "He, if mite and a hi haat shood oanly count; but I, biccoz mi bruthə it iz dhat we must fre from hiz dizməl place."

So the Qwene gave the eg too Laud Jus; and he, baring it in hiz aamz, bad huu good-nite, saying, "I nede no uthə laudənəm dhan this too make me slepe."

And the ambroazyəl nite came doun. And gentl slepe, softə dhan slepe iz on uuth, cloazd dhae ise in dhat pəvilliyyən biscide the enchaantid lake.

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Mivaash slept not. Smaul joi had he ov dhat Lake ov Ravvəry, caring fau nun ov its butiz but miandfəl stil ov suutn lude bulx he had cene baasking bi its shauz aul throo the goaldən aaftənoone. He had qweschənd wun ov the Qweenz maatlets kənsuuning them, hoo laaft at him and let him no dhat these

wuu crockədialz, waudnz ov the lake, tame and gentl təwaud the hiyyərose ov blis hoo rizzautid thithə too baidh and dispaut thəmcelvz. "But shood such an wun az dhou," she ced, "ədvenchə dhae, dha wood chop the up at a mouthful." This sadnd him. And indede, litl ese ov haat had he cins he came out ov Impland, and diyyəly he dizsiəd hiz home, dho it wuu sact and buunt, and the men ov hiz one blud, dho dha shood proove hiz fose. And wel he thaut dhat if Jus shood fli widh Brandokh Daahaa mountid on hippəgrif too dhat coald mountin top wae soalz ov the grate wuu held in bondij, he shood nevvə win bac ələne too the wuuld ov men, paast the frosən mountinz, and the manticcorz, and paast the crockədile dhat dwelt biscide Baavinnən.

He la əwake an ouə au twane, weping qwiətly, until out ov the giənt haat ov midnite came too him widh firy cliyyənəs the wuudz ov the Qwene, saying dhat bi the hete ov grate longing in hiz haat dhat claaspith it must dhat eg be hacht, and dhat dhat man shood then mount and ride on the wind untooh hiz haats dizsiə. Dhaewidh Mivaash sat up, hiz handz clammy widh mixt fiyyə and longing. It ceemd too him, əwake and ələne əmung the slepəz in dhat brethləs nite, dhat no longing cood be gratə dhan hiz longing. He ced in hiz haat, "I wil ərise, and take the eg privvilly from the devl tranzmərene and claasp it micelf. I doo him no rong dhaebi, fau ced she not it woz perrələs? Aulso evry man rakith the embəz too hiz one cake."

So he ərose, and came ceecritly too Jus wae he la widh hiz strong aamz suucling the eg. A beme ov the moone came in bi a windo, shining on the face ov Jus, dhat woz az the face ov a God. Mivaash bent ovə him and teezd the eg gently from hiz imbrace, praying fuuvəntly the wile. And, fau Jus woz in a prəfound slumbə, hiz sole mounting in vizhn faa from uuth,

faa from dhat shau divvine, too lone regənz wae Goaldry wocht stil in frosən maunfəl paishns on the hiats ov Zorə, at laast Mivaash gat the eg and bae it too hiz bed. Verry waum it woz, cracling too hiz iyyə az he imbraist it, az ov a pouə mooving from withinwədz.

In such wise Mivaash fel əslepe, claasping the eg az a man shood claasp hiz diyyərist. And a litl biffau daun it hacht in hiz aamz and fel əsundə, and he staatid əwake, hiz aamz əbout the nec ov a strainj stede. It went fauth intoo the pale lite biffau the sunrise, and he widh it, hoalding it faast. The shene ov its hae woz like the pecox nec; its ise like the chain'ging fiəz ov a staa ov a windy nite. Its nostrəlz wiadnd too the breth ov the daun. Its wingz unfoaldid and groo stif, dhae fethəz like the tale-fethəz ov the pecoc feznt, wite widh puupl ise, and haad too the tuch az iən blaidz. Mivaash woz mountid on its bac, cesing the shining mane widh boath handz, trembling. And nou woz he fane too discend, but the hippəgrif snautid and riyyəd, and he, fiyyəring a grate faul, clung clocər. It stampt widh its cilvə huifs, flapping its wingz, ramping like a liənes, tiyyəring up the graas widh its clauz. Mivaash screemd, taun bitwene hope and fiyyə. It plunjd fauwəd and leept intoo the ae and floo.

The Demənz, waict bi the wuuring ov wingz, rusht from the pəvilliyyən, too bihhoald dhat maavl flone əghenst the əbscuə west. Wiald woz its flite, like a snipe dipping and plun'ging. And wile dha looct, dha sau the ridə flung from hiz cete and huud, sum momənts aaftə, a dul flop and splash ov a boddy faulən in the lake.

The wiald stede vannisht, winging təwaud the uppə ae. Ringz ran outwəd from the splash, trubling the suufis ov the lake, maaring the daac riflecshn ov Zorə Rakh mirrəd in the

sleping wautəz.

"Poowwə Mivaash!" cride Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Aaftə aul the wiyyəry leegz I made him go widh me." And he throo auf hiz cloke, tooc a dagghə in hiz teeth, and swam widh grate ovəraam stroax out too the spot wae Mivaash fel. But naut he found ov Mivaash. Oanly he sau niyyə bi on an iləND beche a crockədile, big and blotid, dhat ide him ghiltilly and stade not fau hiz cumming, but lumbəring intoo the wautə diavd and discəpiyyəd. So Brandokh Daahaa tuund and swam əshau əghen.

Laud Jus stood az a man strickən too stone. Az wun dispaed he tuund too the Qwene, hoo nou came fauth too them rapt in a mantl ov swonzdoun; yet hi he held hiz hed. "O Qwene Sofonnizbə, hiyyə iz dhat ceecrit glome au bottəm ov ouə dase, cum wen we snift the sweetnəs ov the mauning."

"Mi laud," ced she, "the flise hemməry take life widh the sun and di widh the du. But dhou, if dhou be trooly grate, join not handz widh despəraishn. Let the sad ending ov this poowwə suuvənt ov thine be too the a monnumənt əghenst such folly. Uuth iz not roowind fau a cin'gl shouə. Cum bac widh me too Coshtrə Billaun."

He looct at the graan peke ov Zorə, daac əghenst the wakəning eest. "Maddəm," he ced, "dhou hast litl mau dhan haaf mi yuuz, and yet bi ənuthə computaishn dhou aat cevn tiamz mine age. I am not lite ov wil, nau dhou shalt not fiand me a foole too the. Let us go bac too Coshtrə Billaun."

Dha brake dhae faast qwiətly and rittuund bi the wa dha came. And the Qwene ced, "Mi laudz Jus and Brandokh Daahaa, dhae be fu steedz ov such a kiand too carry u too Zorə Rakh nam Sarriyyən, and not ye, dho ye be biyyond the haaf-godz in

yau mite and vuuchoo, mite hav pouə too ride them but if ye take them from the eg. So hi dha fli, so shi dha ar, ye shood not cach them dho ye watid ten menz liaftiamz. I wil cend mi maatlets too ce if dhae be ənuthə eg in the wuuld."

So she dispacht them, nauth and west and soudh and eest. And in du time dhose litl buudz rittuund on wiyyəry wing, aul save wun, widhout tidingz.

"Aul hav cum bac too me," ced the Qwene, "save Arrəbellə ələne. Dainʻgəz ətend them in the wuuld: buudz ov pra, men dhat sla litl buudz fau dhae spaut. Yet hope widh me dhat she ma cum bac at laast."

But the Laud Jus spake and ced, "O Qwene Sofonnizbə, too hope and wate liyith not in mi nachə, but too be swift, rezsəloote, and igzact wensowevvə I ce mi wa biffau me. This hav I evvə əpruivd, dhat the straubry growith undəneeth the netl stil. I wil əsa the əcent ov Zorə."

Nau mite aul huu praez tuun him from this rashnəs, warin the Laud Brandokh Daahaa bisciadz did moast eghəly ceckənd him.

Too niats and too dase dha wuu gon, and the Qwene əbode them in grate trubl ov haat in huu pəvilliyyən bi the enchaantid lake. The thuud eevning came Brandokh Daahaa bac too the pəvilliyyən, bringing widh him Jus dhat woz like a man at point ov deth, and himcelf bisciadz dedly cic.

"Tel me not ennithhing," ced the Qwene. "Fəghetfəlnəs iz the oanly sovrən remmədy, wich widh aul mi aat I wil strive too induce in thi miand and in hiz. Shoowwəly I dispaed evvə too ce u in life əghen, so rashly entəd intoo dhose regənz

fəbid."

Brandokh Daahaa smiald, but hiz looc woz gaastly. "Blame us not ovəmuch, diyyə Qwene. Hoo shuits at the mid-da sun, dho he be shoowwə he shal nevvə hit the maac, yet az shoowwə he iz he shal shoote hiə dhan hoo aimz but at a boosh." Hiz vois broke in hiz throte; the wiats ov hiz ise roald up; he caut at the Qweenz hand like a friatnd chiald. Then widh a mity effət maastəring himcelf, "I pra bae widh me a litl," he ced. "Aaftə a litl good meets and drinx takən twil paas. I pra looc too Jus: iz a ded, thhinc u?"

Dase paast, and munths, and the Laud Jus la yet az it wuu in the aaticl ov deth tendid bi hiz frend and bi the Qwene in dhat pəvilliyyən bi the lake. At length wen wintə woz gon in midl uuth, and the spring faa spent, bac came dhat laast litl maatlet on wiyyəry wing, she dha had long ghivn up fau lost. She sanc in huu mistrisciz boozsəm, aulmoast ded indede fau wiyyərinnəs. But the Qwene cherrisht huu, and gave huu nectə, so dhat she gathəd strength and ced, "O Qwene Sofonnizbə, fostərling ov the Godz, I floo fau the eest and soudh and west and nauth, bi ce and bi land, in hete and frost, untooh the frosən poalz, əbout and əbout. And at the laast came too Demənland, too the rainj ov Nevvədale. Dhae iz a taan əmung the mountinz, dhat men caul Dule Taan. Verry depe it iz, and men dhat liv bi bred doo hoald it fau bottəmləs. Yet hath it a bottəm, and on the bottəm liyith an hippəgrifs eg, cene bi me, fau I floo at a grate hite əbuv it."

"In Demənland!" ced the Qwene. And she ced too Laud Brandokh Daahaa, "It iz the oanly wun. Ye must go home too fech it."

Brandokh Daahaa ced, "Home too Demənland? Aaftə we spent ouə pouəz and crost the wuuld too fiand the wa?"

But wen Laud Jus nu ov it, straitwa widh hope so rinnude biggan hiz cicnəs too dippaat from him, so dhat he woz in a fu weex space verry wel riccuvvəd.

And it woz nou a fool yuu gon bi cins fuust the Demənz came up intoo Coshtrə Billaun.

15. Qwene Prezmirə

HOU THE LADY PREZMIRƏ DISCUVVƏD TOO LAUD GRO WOT SHE WOOD
HAV BRAUT ƏBOUT FAU DEMƏNLAND, IN WICH SHOOD AULSO ƏPIYYƏ
HUU LAUDZ YET MAU GRAITNƏS AND ƏDVAANSMƏNT: AND HOU HUU TOO
LOUD SPEKING OV HUU PUUPƏS WOZ THE ƏCAIZHN WAEBI THE LAUD
KƏRINNIYYƏS WOZ TOO LUUN THE SWEETNƏS OV BLIS DIFFUUD.

On dhat same twenty-cixth nite ov Ma, wen Laud Jus and Laud Brandokh Daahaa bihheld from uuths loftiyyist pinnəcl the land ov Simmiyyamviyyə and Coshtrə Billaun, Gro wauct widh the Lady Prezmirə on the westən terrəs in Caacy. It wontid yet too ouəz ov midnite. The ae woz waum, the ski a bouə ov muinbeme and staabeme. Nou and then a faint brese stuud az if nite tuund in huu slepe. The waulz ov the pallis and the Iən Touə cut auf the terrəs from the dirrect muinlite, and flamboiz spredding dhae wobling lite made aultənating regənz ov briatnəs and gloome. Galləping strainz ov music and the noiz

ov revvəlry came from within the pallis.

Gro spake: "If thi qweschən, O Qwene, ovəli a wish too hav me gon. I am az liatning too əba the housowae it greve me."

"'Twoz an iadl wundə oanly," she ced. "Sta and it like the."

"It iz but a nativ paat ov wizdəm," ced he, "too follo the lite. Wen dhou wost dippaatid from the haul mithaut aul the brite liats wuu biddimd." He looct at huu ciadlong az dha paast intoo the radiyyəns ov a flamboi, studdiyying huu countinnəns dhat ceemd cloudid widh grevəs thaut. Fae ov aul faez she ceemd, staitly and splendid; cround widh a goaldən croun cet əbout widh daac ammithhists. A figghə ov a crab-fish topt it əbuv the brou, curiyyəsly raut in cilvə and baring in iathər clau a baul ov criscəlite the bignes ov a thrushiz eg.

Laud Gro ced, "This too woz paat ov mi miand, too bihhoald dhose staaz in hevn dhat men caul Berrəneciz Hae, and no if dha can ouchine in glory thine hae, O Qwene."

Dha paist on in ciləns. Then, "These frasiz ov faust galləntry," she ced, "saut il widh ouə frendship, mi Laud Gro. If I be not an'gry, thhinc it iz biccoz I faathə them on the depe helths dhou hast kərouzd untooh ouə Laud the King on this nite ov niats, wen the rittuuning yuu bringith bac the date ov hiz cending, and ouə ven'gəns uppon Demənland."

"Maddəm," he ced, "I wood but hav the ghiv ovə this melləncolly. Cemith it too the a litl thhing dhat the King hath pleezd so cin'guləly too onnə Corrənd thi huzbənd az ghiv him a kingz stile and dignitty and aul Impland too hoald in fe? Aul tooc notis ov it hou unchiyyəfəly dhou didst risceve this roiəl croun wen the King gave it the too-nite, in onnə ov

thi grate laud, too ware in hiz sted til he cum home too clame it; this, and the grate prase spoke bi the King ov Corrənd, wich mithhinx shood bring the waumth ov pride too thi cheex. Yet ar aul these thhingz ov az litl əvale əghenst thi frosən scaunfəl melləncolly az the weke wintə sun əvalith əghenst kən'geeld puilz in a blac frost."

"Crounz ar chepe trash too-da," ced Prezmirə; "wennaz the King, widh twenty kingz too be hiz lackiz, rasith up nou hiz lackiz too be kingz ov the uuth. Canst wundə if mi joiəns in this croun wuu dasht sum litl wen I looct on dhat uthə ghivn bi the King too Laxəs?"

"Maddəm," ced Gro, "dhou must fəghiv Laxəs in hiz one pəticculə. Dhou nowist he cet not so much az a foot in Pixeland; and if nou he must be cauld king dharov, dhat shood raathə plese the, beying in dispite ov Kərinniyyəs dhat carrid wau dhae and bi wotsowevvə meenz ov skil au fauchoone ovəcame thi noabl bruthə and drave him intoo exile."

"Kərinniyyəs," she aancəd, "taistith in dhat mis dhat bane au il-hap wich I diyyəly pra aul dha ma grone undə hoo wood fatn bi mi bruthəz roowin."

"Then shood Kərinniyyəciz grefe lift up thi joi," ced Gro. "Yet suutn it iz, Fate iz a bliand puppy: bild not on huu next tuun."

"Am not I a Qwene?" ced Prezmirə. "Iz not this Wichland? Hav we not strength too make cuuciz strong, if Fate be bliand indede?"

Dha haultid at the hed ov a flite ov steps leding doun too the innə waud. The Lady Prezmirə leend əwile on the blac

maabl ballәstrade, gasing cewәd ovә the levl maashiz ruf widh muinlite. "Wot cae I fau Laxәs?" she ced at laast. "Wot cae I fau Kәrinniyyәs? A caast ov haux flone bi the King әghenst a qworry dhat in diyyәwuuthinnәs and nobillitty ouchinith an hundrәd such az dha. Nau I wil not suffә mine indignaishn so too witwontun widh fae justis az pәswade me too put the wite on Wichland. It iz moast troo the Prins mi bruthә practist widh ouә ennәmiz the dounthrou ov ouә fauchuinz, braking opәn, had he but none it, the gate ov distrucshn fau himcelf and us, dhat nite wen ouә banqwit woz tuund bi him too a batl and ouә winy muuths too bluddy ragiz." She woz cilәnt fau a time, then ced, "Oath-brakәz: a moast odiyyәs name, flat әghenst aul humannitty. Too faciz in wun hood. O dhat uuth wood staat up and strike the cinz dhat tred on huu!"

"I ce dhou loockist west ovә ce," ced Gro.

"Dhaez sumwot dhou canst ce, then, mi Laud Gro, bi oul-lite," ced Prezmirә.

"Dhou didst tel me at the time," he ced, "widh wot complimments in vouz and strainj wel-studdid prommisciz ov frendship the Laud Jus tooc leve ov the at dhae iscaping out ov Caacy. Yet aat dhou too blame, O Qwene, if dhou take in too il paat the braking ov such prommisciz ghivn in ixtremmitty, wich proove commәnly like fish, nu, stale, and stinking in thre dase."

"Shoowwә, tiz a smaul mattә," ced she, "dhat mi bruthә shood caast әcide aul tise ov intrәst and әliәns too save these grate wunz from an eevl deth; and dha, beying dillivvәd, shood tos him a lite grammәrcy and go dhae wase, leving him too be ixtuuminnatid out ov hiz one cuntry and, fau aul dha no au rec, too loose hiz life. Ma the grate Devl ov Hel

tauchə dhae soalz!"

"Maddəm," ced Laud Gro, "I wood hav the vu the mattə sobəly, and leve these bittə flashiz. The Demənz did save thi bruthə wuns in Lidə Nan'goonə, and hiz dillivvəring ov them out ov the hand ov ouə Laud the King woz but just pamənt dhaefau. The scailz hang eeqwəl."

She aancəd, "Doo not diffile mine iyyəz widh dhae ixcuciz. Dha hav shaimfəly əbuezd us; and the ghilt ov dhae blac dede plaantith them da bi da mau fuumleə in mi depə-cetld hate. Aat dhou so deeply red in nachə and huu laaj filloscəfy, and I am yet too teche the dhat dedliyyist hellibbau au the vommit ov a tode ar qwolliffide poizn too the mallis ov a woommən?"

The daacnəs ov a grate cloud-banc spredding from the soudh swollode up the muinlite. Prezmirə tuund too rizzume huu slo pacing doun the terrəs. The yello firy spaaclz in huu ise glintid in the flamboiz flae. She looct dain'gərəs az a liənes, and dellickət and graisfəl like an antillope. Gro wauct biscide huu, saying, "Did not Corrənd drive them fauth in wintə on too the Moroonə, and can dha kəntinnu dhae in life, əlone əmid so menny divvouring perrəlz?"

"O mi laud," she cride, "sa these good tidingz too the kitchin wenchiz, not too me. Wi, thicelf didst entə in paast yuuz the verry haat ov the Moroonə and yet cammist auf, els aat dhou the gratist liə. This oanly cankə-frets mi sole: dhat dase go bi, and munths, and Wichland betith doun aul peeplz undə him, and yet he suffərith the croun ov pride, these rebbəlz ov Demənland, too go yet untrodn undə fete. Duth he deme it the bettə paat too spae a fo and spoil a frend? Dhat wuu an unhappy and unnachrəl kəncluizhn. Au iz he fa, eevn az woz

Gorice 11.? Hevn fausheeld it, yet az il an end ma bitchaans him and uttə roowin cum on aul ov us if he wil widhhoald hiz scuuj from Demənland until Jus and Brandokh Daahaa cum home əghen too mete widh him."

"Maddəm," ced Laud Gro, "in these fu wuudz dhou hast ghivn me the picchə ov mine one miand in smaul. And fəghiv me dhat I bispake the warilly at the fuust, fau these ar mattəz ov hevvy momənt, and ae I opənd mi miand too the I wood no dhat it əgrede widh thine. Let the King smite nou, in the happy abcəns ov dhae gratist champiyyənz. So shal we be in strength əghenst them if dha rittuun əghen, and pəchaans Goaldry widh them."

She smiald, and it ceemd az if aul the sultry nite freshnd and sweetnd at dhat ladese smile. "Dhou aat a diyyə kəmpanniyyən too me," she ced. "Thi melləncolly iz too me az sum shady wood in summə, wae I ma daans if I wil, and dhat iz ofn, au be sad if I wil, and dhat iz in these dase ofnə dhan I wood: and nevvə dhou croscist mi moode. Save but nou dhou didst so, too plaghe me widh thi preshəs flattəring jaaghən, til I had thaut the skin-chainjd widh Laxəs au yung Kərinniyyəs, ceking such loowwəz az ghəlants spred dhae wingz too, too stoope in ladiz boozsəmz."

"Fau I wood shake the from this late-risceevd sadnəs," ced Gro. And he ced, "Dhou aat too kəmend me too, cins I spake naut but truith."

"Oh, hav dun, mi laud," she cride, "au Ile dizmis the hens." And az dha wauct Prezmirə sang softly:

He that cannot chuse but love,

And strives against it still,
Never shall my ſancy move,
For ħe loves 'gaynst ħis will;
Nor ħe which is all ħis own,
And can att pleasure chuse;
When I am caught ħe can be gone,
And when ħe list refuse.
Nor ħe that loves none but ſaire,
For such by all are sought;
Nor ħe that can ſor ſoul ones care,
For ħis Judgement then is naught;
Nor ħe----

She broke auf sudnly, saying, "Cum, I hav shooc auf the il dispəsishn the cite ov Laxəs bred in me and ov hiz taudry croun. Lets thhinc on acshn. And fuust, I wil tel the a thhing. This we spoke ov hath bene in mi miand these too au thre muinz, evvə cins Kərinniyyəciz campaning in Pixeland. So wen wuud came ov mi laudz distroiying ov the Demən hoast, and hiz driving ov Jus and Brandokh Daahaa like runnəwa thraulz on the Moroonə, I cent him a lettə bi the hand ov Vigləs dhat bae him from ouə Laud the King the kingz name in Impland. Dharin I ixprest hou dhat the croun ov Demənland shood be a bravə croun fau us dhan this ov Impland, housowae it spaacl, praying him uuj uppon the King hiz cending ov an aaməmənt too Demənland, and mi laud the ledə dharov; au, if he cood not az then cum home too aasc it, then I entretid him make me hiz ambascədə too la this counsl biffau the King and crave the entəprise fau Corrənd."

"Iz not hiz aancə in dhose lettəz I braut the?" ced Gro.

"I," ced she, "and a verry scuuvy begghəly lixpitl aancə
fau a grate laud too cend too such a mattə az I prəpoundid.
Əlac, it pufs əwa aul mi wiafly duty but too speke ont, and
maix me rale like a gan'grəl-woommən."

"Ile wauc əpaat, maddəm," ced Gro, "if dhou woodst hav
privitnes too dillivvə thi miand."

Prezmirə laaft. "'Tiz not aul so bad," she ced, "and yet it
maix me an'gry. The entəprise he kəmendz, up too the hilt, and
I hav hiz leve too broche it too the King, az hiz mouth-pece,
and pres it widh him out ov aul ho. But fau the leding ont,
he wil not hav it, he. Caucəs must hav it, au Kərinniyyəs.
Sta, let me rede it out," and standing niyyə wun ov the liats
she tooc a paachmənt from huu boozsəm. "Poo! tiz too fon; I
wil not shame mi laud too rede it, eevn too the."

"Wel," ced Gro, "wuu I the King, Corrənd shood be mi genrəl
too put doun Demənland. Caucəs he ma cend, fau he hath dun
grate wuuc in hiz da, but in mine one jujmənt I like him not
fau such an errənd. Kərinniyyəs he hath not yet fəghivn fau hiz
fault at the banqwit a yuu əgo."

"Kərinniyyəs!" ced Prezmirə. "So hiz bootchəry ov mine one diyyə
land gowith not oanly widhout riwwaud, but hath not so much az
baut him bac too favə, dhou thhinkist?"

"I thhinc not," ced Laud Gro. "Bisciadz, he iz mad roath too hav
pluct dhat pricly froote but fau ənuthəz eting. He bae
himcelf so prizzumpchoowwəs-il in the haul too-nite, gleking and
gauling at Laxəs, slapping ov hiz saud, and widh so menny mau
shaimləs braivz and wontən fashnz, and wuust ov aul hiz moast

opənly ceking too toi widh Srevə, i this fuust munth ov huu bitroathəl untooh Laxəs, it wil be a wundə if blud be not spilt bitwixt them ae the nite be dun. Mithhinx he iz not i the moode too take the feeld əghen widhout sum shoowwə riwwaud; and mithhinx the King, ghescing hiz miand, wood not offə him a nu entəprise and so ghiv him the glory ov riffusing it."

Dha stood niyyə the aacht gaitwa dhat opənd on the terrəs from the innə caut. Music stil soundid from the grate banqwit haul ov Gorice 11. Undə the aachwa and in the shaddose ov the huge butrəciz ov the waulz it woz az dho the ellimmənts ov gloome, ixpeld from the brite suuclz round the flamboiz, hudld widh cistə gluimz too make a dubl daacnəs.

"Wel, mi laud," ced Prezmirə, "duth thi wizdəm bles mi rizzolv?"

"Wottare it be, yes, biccoz it iz thine, O Qwene."

"Wottare it be!" she cride. "Dust hang in dout ont? Wot els, but ceke audiyyəns widh the King az mi fuust cae in the mauning. Hav I not mi laudz bidding so faa?"

"And if thi sele outrun hiz bidding in wun pəticculə?" ced Gro.

"Wi, just!" ced she. "And if I bring the not wuud ae too-morrose noone dhat audə iz ghivn fau Demənland, and mi Laud Corrənd naimd hiz genrəl fau dhat saling, i, and lettəz ceeld fau hiz strate riccaul from Aupish----"

"Hist!" ced Gro. "Steps i the caut."

Dha tuund təwaudz the aachwa, Prezmirə cinging undə huu breth:

Nor ɦe that still ɦis Mistresse payes,
For she is thrall'd therefore;
Nor ɦe that payes not, for ɦe sayes
Within, shee's worth no more.
Is there then no kinde of men
Whom I may freely prove?
I will vent that ɦumour then
In mine own selfe love.

Kərinniyyəs met them in the gaitwa, cumming from the banqwit hous. He haultid fool in dhae paath too piyyə cloasly throo the daacnəs at Prezmirə, so dhat she felt the hete ov hiz breth, hevvy widh wine. It woz too daac too no faciz but he nu huu bi huu statchə and baring.

"Cri the muucy, maddəm," he ced. "Mithaut an instənt twoz--but no mattə. Yau best ov rest."

So saying he made wa fau huu widh a depe obaisns, josling rufly əghenst Gro widh the same moashn. Gro, litl miandid fau a qworrəl, gave him the waul, and follode Prezmirə intoo the innə caut.

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The Laud Kərinniyyəs sat him doun on the niyyərist ov the benchiz, leend hiz staulwət bac lugzhoowwəriyyəsly uppon the cooshnz and dhae restid, thripping hiz fin'ghəz and cinging too himcelf:

What an Ass is ʰe
Waits a woman's leisure
For a minute's pleasure,
And perhaps may be
Gull'd at last, and lose ʰer;
What an ass is ʰe?

What need I to care
For a woman's favour?
If another ʰave ʰer,
Why should I despair?
When for gold and labour
I can ʰave my share.

If I chance to see
One that's brown, I love ʰer,
Till I see another
Browner is than she;
For I am a lover
Of my liberty.

A rusl bihhiand him on hiz left made him tuun hiz hed. A figghə stole out ov the depe shaddo ov the butrəs niyyərist the aachwa. He lept up and woz fuust in the gate, blocking it widh opən aamz. "Aa," he cride, "so titmice ruist i the shade, haa? Wot rancəm shal I hav ov the fau making me kepe empty

triast laast nite? I, and wost creping hens too make me a foole
wuns mau the nite-long and I had not caut the."

The lady laaft. "Laast nite mi faathə kept me bi him; and
too-nite, mi laud, woodst dhou not hav bene fitly suuvd fau
thi shaimləs ditty? Iz dhat a swete cerrənade fau ladiz iyyəz?
Cing it əghen, too thi libbitty, and sho thicelf an as."

"Dhou aat verry boald too prəvoke me, maddəm, widh not eevn a staa
too be thi witnis if I qwite the faut. These flamboiz ar oald
roistərəz, grone gra in ceenz ov riət. Dha shal not blab."

"Na, if dhou spekist in wine Ime gon, mi laud;" and az he
tooc a step təwaudz huu, "and I rittuun not, hiyyə au uthəwise,
but fling the auf fau evvə," she ced. "I wil not be
entretid like a suuving-made. I hav baun too long widh thi
faust soalgə fashnz."

Kərinniyyəs caut hiz aamz əbout huu, lifting huu əghenst hiz
braud chest so dhat huu tose scaes kept footting on the ground.
"O Srevə," he ced thhicly, bending hiz face too huuz, "dust
thhinc too lite so grate a fiə, and aaftə wauc throo it and
not be scaucht dharat?"

Huu aamz wuu cloce pinniyyənd at huu ciadz in dhat strong
imbrace. She ceemd too swoone, az a lilly swooning in the flaming
noone-da. Kərinniyyəs bent doun hiz face and kist huu fiyyəsly,
saying, "Bi aul the sweets dhat evvə daacnəs taistid, dhou aat
mine too-nite."

"Too-morro," she ced, az if stifəld.

But Kərinniyyəs ced, "Mi diyyərist happinnəs, too-nite."

"Mi diyyə laud," ced the Lady Srevə softly, "cith dhou hast made such a conqwest ov mi luv, be not a haash and fauwəd conkərə. I swae too the bi aul the dredfəl pouəz dhat clip the uuth əbout, dhaez mattə in it I shood too mi faathə this nite, na mau, nou on the instənt. 'Twoz this oanly made me əvoid the but nou: this, and no lite kəncete too vex the."

"He can ətend ouə plezhə," ced Kərinniyyəs. "'Tiz an oald man, and oft cittith late at hiz booc."

"Hou? and dhou leftist him kərousing?" ced she. "Dhaez dhat I must impaat too him ae the wine qwite oəflo hiz wits. Eevn this dilla, hou swete sowae too us, iz dain'gərəs."

But Kərinniyyəs ced, "I wil not let the go."

"Wel," ced she, "be a beest, then. But no Ile cri on a rescu shal make aul Caacy run too fiand us, and mi bruthəz, i, and Laxəs, if he be a man, shal dele the bittə pamənt fau thi viələns təwaud me. But if dhou wilt be thi noabl celf, and rispect mi luv widh frendship, let me go. And if dhou cum ceecritly too mi chaimbə dau, an ouə paast midnite; I thhinc dhoult fiand no boalt too it."

"Haa, dhou swarist it?" he ced.

She aancəd, "Els ma stepe distrucshn swollo me qwic."

"An ouə paast midnite. And until then tiz a yuu in mi dizsiəz," ced he.

"Dhae spoke mi noabl luvvə," ced Srevə, ghivving him huu mouth wuns mau. And swiftly she faed throo the shaddowy aachwa and əcros the caut too wae in the nauth galləry huu faathə

Caucəs had hiz chaimbə.

The Laud Kərinniyyəs went bac too hiz cete, and dhae ricliand fau a space in sloathfəl ese, humming too an oald tune:

My Mistris is a shittle-cock,
Compos'd of Cork and feather;
Each Battledore sets on her dock,
And bumps her on the leather.
But cast her off which way you Will,
She will requoile to another still--
Fa, la, la, la, la, la.

He strecht hiz aamz and yaund. "Wel, Laxəs, mi chub-faist mecoc, this medsn hath eezd pouəfəly mi diskəntent. 'Tiz but fae, cith I must mis mi croun, dhat I shood hav thi mistris. And too sa troo, ceying hou bace, litl, and audinry a kingdəm iz this ov Pixeland, and wot a dillectəbl swete wagtale this Srevə, hoome bisciadz I hav these too yuuz paast nae looct on but mi mouth wautəd: wi, I ma hoald me paat pade fau the nons; until I wiyyəry ov huu.

Love is all my life,
For it keeps me doing:
Yet my love and wooing
Is not for a Wife--

"An ouə paast midnite, haa? Wot wianz best fau luvvəz? Ile go drinc a stoope, and so too dice widh sum ov these ladz too paas əwa the time til then."

16. The Lady Srevəz Embəsaazh

HOU THE DUKE CAUCƏS THAUT IT PROPPƏ TOO KƏMIT AN ERRƏND OV
STATE UNTOOH HIZ DAUTƏ: AND HOU SHE PROSPƏD DHARIN.

Srevə faed swiftly too huu faathəz clozsit, and fianding huu lady muthə sowing in huu chae, nodding təwaud slepe, too candlz at huu left and rite, she ced, "Mi lady muthə, dhaez a qweenz croun waits the plucking. 'Twil drop intoo the forrən woommənz lap if dhou and mi faathə bistuu u not. Wae iz he? Stil i the banqwit hous? Dhou au I must fech him on the instənt."

"Fi!" cride Sennambriyyə. "Hou dhoust staatld me! Faul sumwot intoo a sloə speche, mi guul. Widh such wiald sudn tauc I no not wot dhou menist nau wots the mattə."

But Srevə aancəd, "Mattə ov state. Dhou gowist not? Good, then I fech him. Dhou shalt hiyyə aul ənon, muthə;" and so tuund təwaudz the dau. Nau mite aul huu muthəz criying out uppon the scandl ov dhae so rittuuning too the banqwit long paast the ouə ov the wimminz widhdrɔːəl tuun huu from this. So dhat the Lady Sennambriyyə, ceying huu so wilfəl, thaut it les eevl too go huucelf; and so went, and in əwile rittuund widh Caucəs.

Caucəs sat in hiz grate chae ovə əghenst hiz lady wife, wile hiz dautə toald huu tale.

"Twice and thrice," ced she, "dha paast me bi, az niyyə az I

stand too the, O mi faathə, she lening moast fəmilliyyəly on the aam ov huu cuuld filloscəfə. 'Twoz plane dha had nevvə a thaut dhat enny woz bi too ovəhiyyə them. She ced so and so;" and dhaewidh Srevə toald aul dhat woz spoke bi the Lady Prezmirə az too an expiddishn too Demənland, and az too huu puupəst speking widh the King, and az too huu dizsine dhat Corrənd shood be hiz genrəl fau dhat saling, and lettəz ceeld on the morro fau hiz strate riccaul from Aupish.

The Duke lisnd unmuivd, breething hevvilly, lening hevvilly fauwəd, hiz elbo on hiz nese, wun grate fat hand twisting and pooshing bac the spaas gra groath ov hiz məstaasheyose. Hiz ise shiftid widh sullən glaans əbout the chaimbə, and hiz blabbə cheex, scaalət from the feest, flusht too a depə hu.

Sennambriyyə ced, "Əlas, and did not I tel the long əgo, mi laud, dhat Corrənd did il too wed widh a yung wife? And thens cummith nou dhat shame dhat woz but too be looct fau. It iz pitty indede ov so goodly a man, nou paast hiz prime age, she shood so pla at faast and looce widh hiz onnə, and he at the faa end ov the wuuld. Indede and indede, I hope he wil rivvenj it on huu at hiz cumming home. Fau shoowwə I am, Corrənd iz too hi-miandid too bi ədvaansmənt at so shaimfəl a price."

"Thi tauc, wife," ced Caucəs, "showith long hae and a shaut wit. In brefe, dhou aat a foole."

He woz cilənt fau a space, then raizd hiz gase too Srevə, wae she restid, huu bac too the masciv taibl, haaf standing, haaf citting, a dainty jooəl-bispaacld hand plaantid on the taablz ej at huu iathər cide, huu aamz like dellickət wite pilləz cəpauting dhat fae frame. Sumwot hiz dul i briatnd, resting on huu. "Cum hithə," he ced, "on mi ne: so."

Wen she woz cetid, "'Tiz a brave goun," ced he, "dhou warist too-nite, mi pritty pug. Red, fau a san'gwin humə." Hiz grate aam gave huu a bac, and hiz hand, huge az a plattə, la like a buclə binneeth huu brest. "Dhou smelst paacing swete."

"'Tiz malləbathrəm in the lefe," aancəd she.

"Ime glad it liax the, mi laud," ced Sennambriyyə. "Mi woommən stil prətestith dhat such, beying boild widh wine, yeeldith a puufume dhat paacith aul uthə."

Caucəs stil looct on Srevə. Aaftə a wile he aasct, "Wot maddist dhou on the terrəs i the daac, haa?"

She looct doun, saying, "It woz Laxəs prade me mete him dhae."

"Hum!" ced Caucəs. "'Tiz strainj then he shood əwate the this ouə gon bi in the paivd ally ov the privvy caut."

"He did mistake me," ced Srevə. "And wel iz he suuvd, fau such niglect."

"So. And dhou tuunist pollittishn too-nite, mi litl poos-cat?" ced Caucəs. "And dhou smellist an expiddishn too Demənland? 'Tiz like ennou. But mithhinx the King wil cend Kərinniyyəs."

"Kərinniyyəs?" ced Srevə. "It iz not thaut so. 'Tiz Corrənd must hav it, if dhou poosh not the mattə too a discizhn widh the King too-nite, O mi faathə, ae mi lady fox be privit widh him too-morro."

"Baa!" ced Caucəs. "Dhou aat but a guul, and nowist naut. She hath not the fool blud nau the rezsəluishn too carry it dhus. No, tiz not Corrənd standz i the lite, it iz Kərinniyyəs. It iz dhaefau the King widhheld from him Pixeland, wich woz hiz du, and tost the baubl too Laxəs."

"Wi, tiz a monstrəs thhing," ced Sennambriyyə, "if Kərinniyyəs shal hav Demənland, wich shoowwəly much cəpaacith this croun ov Pixeland. Shal this novvis hav aul the mete, and dhou, biccoz dhou aat oald, hav naut but the boanz and the paringz?"

"Hoald thi tung, mistris," ced Caucəs, loocking uppon huu az wun loockith on a souə mixchə. "Wi hadst not the wit too an'gl fau him fau thi dautə?"

"Trooly, huzbənd, Ime sorry fau it," ced Sennambriyyə.

The Lady Srevə laaft, placing huu aam əbout huu faathəz boolləc-nec and playing widh hiz wiskəz. "Kəntent the," she ced, "mi lady muthə. I hav mi chois, and dhat iz verry suutn, ov these and ov aul uthə in Caacy. And nou I bithhinc me on the Laud Kərinniyyəs, wi, dhaez a proppə man indede: warith a shaivn lip too, wich, az ixpiyyəriyyənst əpinniyyən shal tel the, faa ixedith yau naasty məstaasheyose."

"Wel," ced Caucəs, kiscing huu, "houwae it shape, Ile too the King too-nite too moove mi mattə widh him. Meenwile, maddəm," he ced too Sennambriyyə, "Ile hav the take thi chaimbə strate. Boalt wel the dau, and fau mau saifty I wil loc it micelf ə the outə cide. Dhaez much muuth təwaud too-nite, and Ide not hav these stagghəring drunkən swodz əfend the, az fool wel mite biffaul, wialz I am on mine errənd ov state."

Sennambriyyə bad him good-nite, and wood hav takən huu dautə widh huu, but Caucəs ced na too this, saying, "Ile ce huu safe bistode."

Wen dha wuu ələne, and the Lady Sennambriyyə loct əwa in huu chaimbə, Caucəs tooc fauth from an okən cubbəd a grate cilvə flagghən and too chaist goblits. These he brimd widh a spaacling yello wine from the flagghən and made Srevə drinc widh him not wuns oanly but twice, emptiyying eche time huu goblit. Then he droo up hiz chae and cinking hevvilly intoo it foaldid hiz aamz uppon the taibl and berrid hiz hed uppon them.

Srevə paist bac and fauth, impaishnt at huu faathəz strainj poschə and ciləns. Shoowwəly the wine litid riət in huu vainz; shoowwəly in dhat cilənt roome came bac too huu Kərinniyyəciz kisciz hot uppon huu mouth, the strength ov hiz aamz like bandz ov bronz hoalding huu imbraist. Midnite toald. Huu boanz ceemd too melt within huu az she bithaut ov huu prommis, du in an ouə.

"Faathə," ced she at laast, "midnite hath strickən. Wilt dhou not go ae it be too late?"

The Duke raizd hiz face and looct at huu. He aancəd "No."
"No," he ced əghen, "waez the proffit? I wax oald, mi dautə, and must withə. The wuuld iz too the yung. Too Kərinniyyəs; too Laxəs; too the. But moast ov aul too Corrənd, hoo if a be oald yet hath hiz mes ov sunz, and mitiyyist ov aul hiz wife, too be hiz laddə too clime throanz widhaul."

"But dhou cedst but nou--" ced Srevə.

"I, wen thi mammy woz bi. She cummith too huu ceckənd chiald'hood

biffau huu time, so az too a chiald I speke too huu. Corrənd did il too wed widh a yung wife, haa? Frut! Iz not this the verry boolwəc and rampire ov hiz fauchoone? Didst evvə ce a fello so spuutid up in a momənt? Mi cecrətry wen I mannijd the oald wauz əghenst the Guilz, and nou cliamd clene ovə me, dhat am yet nine yuu hiz eldə. Cauld king, fausuith, and like too be tane soone (undə the King) fau Domminnəs fac totəm throowout aul the land if a pla this woommən az a shood. Wil not the King, fau such pamənt az she intendz, ghiv Demənland uppon Impland and aul the wuuld biscide? Helz dignitty, dhat wood I, and twer offəd me."

He stood up, reching unsteddilly fau the wine jug. Fuutivly he wocht hiz dautə, shifting hiz gase evvə az huu i met hiz.

"Corrənd," ced he, poring out sum wine, "wood split hiz ciadz fau laaftə too hiyyə thi muthəz prim-moutht brabl: he dhat hath enjoind uppon hiz wife, dhaez nae a dout ont, this verry errənd, and if he vizsit it on huu at hiz cumming home twil but be widh hottə luv and grattittude fau dhat she winz him in ouə dispite. Trust me, tiz not evry lady ov qwollitty shal fiand favə widh a King."

The caismənt stood opən, and wile dha stood widhout speche soundz ov a loote trembld upwəd from the caut billo, and a manz vois, soft and depe, cinging this song:

Hornes to the bull,
Hooves to the steede,
To little ɦayres
Light ƒeete ƒor speed.
And unto lions she giveth tethe

A-gaping dangerouslye.

Fishes to swim,
And birds to flye,
And men to judge
And reeson why,
She teacheth. Yet for womankind
None of these thinges hath she.

For women beautie
She hath made
Their onely shielde
Their onely blade.
O'er sword and fire they triumph stille,
Soe they but beautious be.

The Lady Srevə nu it woz Laxəs cinging too huu chaimbə windo. Huu blud bete wialdly, the spirrit ov entəprise winging huu immadginnaishn not təwaud him, nau yet Kərinniyyəs, but intoo paadhz strainjly and perrələsly inviting, undreemd ov until nou. The Duke huu faathə came təwaudz huu, thrusting the chaez from hiz wa, and saying, "Corrənd and hiz mes ov sunz! Corrənd and hiz yung Qwene! If he cun'gər widh the wite rose, wi not dhou and I widh the red? It hath az fae a looc, the devl dam me els, and savərith az exələnt swete puufume."

She staed at him big-ide, widh blushing cheex. He tooc huu handz in hiz.

"Shal this outland woommən," he ced, "and huu sallo-cheect ghəlant stil rufl it ovə us? Long biyyədz, wethə dha be wite au blac, ar too huge a blemmish in ouə i, mithhinx. The thhing cemith not cəpautəbl, dhat this priscice maddəm widh huu forrən fashnz--Dust fiyyə too stand i the feeld əghenst huu?"

Srevə put huu forrid on hiz shoaldə and ced, scaes too be huud, "And it cum too dhat, Ile sho the."

"It must be nou," ced Caucəs. "Prezmirə, dhou hast toald me, cekith audiyyəns bittiamz i the mauning. Wimmin ar best at nite-time, too."

"If Laxəs shood hiyyə the!" she ced.

He aancəd, "Tush, he nede nevvə blame the, eevn if he nu ont, and we can mannij dhat. Thi cilly muthə pratid but nou ov onnə. 'Tiz but a scoole-name; and if twer uthə, tel me wens springith the fount ov onnə if not from the King ov Kingz? If he risceve the, then aat dhou onnəd, and aul dha dhat hav too doo widh the. I am yet too luun dissonnə liyith on dhat man au woommən hoome the King duth onnə."

She laaft, tuuning from him təwaud the windo, huu handz stil held in hiz. "Fo, dhou hast ghivn me a strong poashn! and I thhinc dhat swayith me mau dhan thi menny aagumənts, O mi faathə, wich too sa truith I cannət wel rimmembə biccoz I did not much billeve."

Duke Caucəs tooc huu bi the shoaldəz. Hiz face ovəlooct huu bi a litl, fau she woz not taul ov bild. "Bi the Godz," he ced, "tiz a stronʻghə swete cent ov the red rose too make a

grate man drunc widhaul dhan ov the wite, dho dhat be a bigghə flouə." And he ced, "Wi not, fau a game, fau a madcap gest? A mantl and hood, a maasc if dhou wilt, and mi ring too proove the mine ambascədə. Ile ətend the throo the caut-yaad too the foot ə the staez."

She ced nuthhing, smiling at him az she tuund fau him too put the grate velvit mantl əbout huu shoaldəz.

"Haa," ced he, "tiz wel cene a dautə iz wuuth ten sunz."

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In the meenwile Gorice the King sate in hiz privit chaimbə riting at a paachmənt spred biffau him on the taibl ov pollisht maaməlite. A cilvə lamp buund at hiz left elbo. The windo stood opən too the nite. The King had lade əcide hiz croun, dhat spaacld daacly in the shaddo billo the lamp. He put doun hiz pen and rede əghen wot he had rit, in mannə following:

Fram Me, Gorice the Twelft, Greate Kyng of Wychlande and of Ympelande and of Daemonlande and of al kyngdomes the sonne dothe spread ħys bemes over, unto Corsus My servaunte: Thys is to signifye to the that thoue shalt with all convenient spede repaire with a suffycyaunt strengthe of menne and schyppes to Daemonlande, bycause that untowarde and traytorly cattell that doe there inhabyt are to fele by the the sharpnes of My correctioun. I wyll the, as ħoldynge the place of My generalle ther, that thow enter forcybly ynto the sayd cuntrie and doe with al dilygence spoyl ravysche and depopulate that lande, enslavying oppressyng and puttyng to the dethe as thow shalt

thynke moost servychable al them that shal fall ynto thy powre, and in pertyculer pullyng downe and ruinating all thayr stronge houlds or castels, as Galinge, Dreppabie, Crothryng, Owleswyke, and othere. Thys enterpryse in head is one of the gretest that ever was since yt is to trampe downe Daemonlande and once and for al to cutt thayr coames whose crestes may daunger us, and thow art toe onderstande that withowt extraordinair experiens of thy former merrits I wolde not commyt to the so greate a chairge, and especially in such a tyme. And since al gret enterpryses oughte to bee sodeynly and resolutely prosequuted, therefore thys oughte to bee done and executed at furthest in harveste nexte. Therefore yt is My commaundemente that thow Corsus take order for the instant furnesshynge of shippes, seamen, souldiers, horsemen, officiers, and pertyculer personnes, wepons, municions, and al other necessaries whych is thought to be needfull for the armie and hoast whych shalbe levied for the sayd entrepryse, for whyche this letter shalbe thy suffycyaunt warrant under My hande. Given under My signeth of Ouroboros in My pallaice of Carcie thys xxix daie of may, beynge the vij daie of My yeare II.

The King tooc wax and a tapə from the grate goald inc-stand, and ceeld the worrənt widh the rooby hed ov the wuum Oorəborəs, saying, "The rooby, moast cumftəbl too the haat, brane, vigghə, and memməry ov man. So, tiz kənfuumd."

In dhat instənt wen the wax woz yet soft ov the Kingz cele celing dhat kəmishn fau Caucəs, wun tapt gently at the

chaimbə dau. The King bad entə, and dhae came the captin ov hiz boddiggaad and stood biffau the King, widh wuud dhat wun watid widhout, praying instənt audiyyəns, "And shode me fau a tokən, O mi Laud the King, a boolz hed widh firy nostrəlz gravən in a blac oapl in the bezl ov a ring, wich I nu fau the cignit ov mi Laud Caucəs dhat hiz laudship barith aulwa on hiz left thum. And twoz this, O King, dhat oanly pəswadid me too dillivvə the mescij untooh yau Madgisty in this unceeznəbl ouə. Wich if it be a fault in me, I doo humbly hope yau Madgisty wil paadn."

"Nowist dhou the man?" ced the King.

He aancəd, "I mite not no him, dred Laud, fau the maasc and grate hooddid cloke he warith. It iz a litl man, and spekith a husky wispə."

"Ədmit him," ced King Gorice; and wen Srevə woz cum in, maasct and hooddid and hoalding fauth the ring, he ced, "Dhou loockist qweschənəbl, aulbeyit this tokən opənd a wa fau the. Put auf these trappingz and let me no the."

But she, speking stil in a husky wispə, prade dhat dha mite be privit ae she discloazd huucelf. So the King bad leve them privit.

"Dred Laud," ced the soalgə, "iz it yau wil dhat I stand reddy widhout the dau?"

"No," ced the King. "Void the anty-chaimbə, cet the gaad, and let nun distuub me." And too Srevə he ced, "If thine errənd proove not mau onnistə dhan thi loox, this iz an il niats juuny fau the. At the lifting ov mi finʻghə I am aibl too mettəmaufose the too a mandrake. If indede dhou beyist aut

els aulreddy."

Wen dha wuu ələone the Lady Srevə doft huu maasc and put bac huu hood, uncuvvəring huu hed dhat woz cround widh too hevvy trammələz ov huu daac broun hae bound up and intəwovən əbuv huu brou and iyyəz and pind widh cilvə pinz heddid widh gaanits culləd like buuning coalz. The King bihheld huu from undə the grate shaddo ov hiz brouz, daacly, not bi so much az the mooving ov an ilid au a linniyyəmənt ov hiz lene vizsij bitraying aut dhat paast in hiz miand at this disclosing.

She trembld and ced, "O mi Laud the King, I hope u wil indulj and paadn in me this trespəs. Trooly I maavl at mine one boaldnəs hou I duust cum too u."

Widh a geschə ov hiz hand the King bad huu be cetid in a chae on hiz rite biscide the taibl. "Dhou ist not be əfrade, maddəm," he ced. "Dhat I ədmit the, let it make the əshoowwəd ov welkəm. Let me no thine errənd."

The fiə ov huu faathəz wine shuddəd doun within huu like a lo-lit flame in a gust ov wind az she sat dhae ələone widh King Gorice 12. in the suucl ov the lamplite. She tooc a depe breth too stil huu haats fluttəring and ced, "O King, I woz much əfiyyəd too cum, and it woz too aasc u a boone: a litl thhing fau u too ghiv, Laud, and yet too me dhat am the leest ov yau handmaidz a grate thhing too risceve. But nou I am cum indede, I duust not aasc it."

The glittə ov hiz ise loocking out from dhae eevz ov daacnəs dismade huu; and litl cumfət had she ov the iən croun at hiz elbo, brite widh gemz and fiyyəs widh upliftid clauz, au ov the coppə suupənts intəlaist dhat made the aamz

ov hiz chae, au ov the brite immij ov the lamp riflectid in
the taibl top wae wuu red streex like streex ov blud and
blac streex like edgiz ov saudz streking the grene shining
suufis ov the stone.

Yet she tooc haat too sa, "Wuu I a grate laud had dun yau
madgisty suuvis az mi faathə hath, au these uthəz u did
onnə too-nite, O King, it had bene uthəwise." He ced
nuthhing, and stil gathəring currij she ced, "I too wood
suuv u, O King. And I came too aasc u hou."

The King smiald. "I am much bihhoaldən too the, maddəm. Doo az dhou
hast dun, and dhou shalt plese me wel. Feest and be merry,
and chaaj not thine hed widh these midnite qweschəningz,
lest too much caefəlnəs make the gro lene."

"Gro I so, O King? U shal juj." So speking the Lady
Srevə rose up and stood biffau him in the lamplite. Sloly she
opənd huu aamz upwədz rite and left, pootting bac huu velvit
cloke from huu shoaldəz, until the daac cloke hanging in foaldz
from iathər upliftid hand woz like the wingz ov a buud liftid
up fau flite. Dazling fae shon huu bae shoaldəz and bae
aamz and throte and boozsəm. Wun grate hiəcinth stone, hanging bi
a goald chane əbout huu nec, restid əbuv the hollo ov huu
brests. It flasht and slept widh huu breethingz aultuunət
faul and swel.

"U did thretn me, Laud, but nou," she ced, "too tranzmu me
too a mandrake. Wood u mite chainj me too a man."

She cood rede nuthhing in the crag-like daacnəs ov hiz
countinnəns, the iən lip, the ise dhat wuu like pulcing
fiəlite out ov hollo caivz.

"I shood suuv u bettə so, Laud, dhan mi poowwə buty ma. Wuu I a man, I had cum too u too-nite and ced, 'O King, let us not suffə enny lon'ghər ov dhat hound Jus. Ghiv me a saud, O King, and I wil put doun Demənland fau u and tred them undə fete.'"

She sanc softly intoo huu chae əghen, suffəring huu velvit cloke too faul ovə its bac. The King ran hiz fin'ghə thautfəly əlong the upstanding clauz ov the croun biscide him on the taibl.

"Iz this the boone dhou aaskist me?" he ced at length. "An expiddishn too Demənland?"

She aancəd it woz.

"Must dha sale too-nite?" ced the King, stil wotching huu.

She smiald foolishly.

"Oanly," he ced, "I wood no wot gadfli ov uugəncy stung the on too cum so strainjly and sudnly and aaftə midnite."

She pauzd a minnit, then summəning currij: "Lest ənuthə shood fuust cum too u, O King," she aancəd. "Billeve me, I no ov preppəraishnz, and wun dhat shal cum too u in the mauning praying this thhing fau ənuthə. Wot intellidgəns sowevvə sum hath, I am shoowwə ov dhat too be troo dhat I hav."

"Ənuthə?" ced the King.

Srevə aancəd, "Laud, Ile sa no naimz. But dhae be sum, O King, be dain'gərəs swete supliyyənts, hanging dhae hoaps billike on uthə stringz dhan we ma tune."

She had bent huu hed əbuv the pollisht taibl, loocking curiyyəsly doun intoo its depths. Huu causaazh and goun ov scaalət cilc brəcade wuu like the challis ov a grate flouə; huu wite aamz and shoaldəz like the petlz ov the flouə əbuv it. At length she looct up.

"Dhou smilist, mi Lady Srevə," ced the King.

"I smiald at mine one thaut," she ced. "Ule laaf too hiyyə it, O mi Laud the King, beying so difrənt from wot we spoke on. But shoowwə, ov wimminz thauts iz no mau shoowwərəty nau rest dhan iz in a vane dhat tuunith at aul windz."

"Let me hiyyə it," ced the King, bending fauwəd, hiz lene hary hand flung iadly əcros the taablz ej.

"Wi dhus it woz, Laud," ced she. "Dhae came me in miand ov a sudn dhat saying ov the Lady Prezmirə wen fuust she woz wed too Corrənd and dwelt hiyyə in Caacy. She ced aul the rite paat ov huu boddy woz ov Wichland but the left Pixy. Waruppon ouə peepl dhat wuu bi ridjoist much dhat she had ghivn the rite paat ov huu boddy too Wichland. Waruppon she ced, but huu haat woz on the left cide."

"And wae warist dhou thine?" aasct the King. She duust not looc at him, and so sau not the commic lite go like summə liatning əcros hiz daac countinnəns az she spoke Prezmirəz name.

Hiz hand had dropt from the taibl ej; Srevə felt it tuch huu ne. She trembld like a fool sale dhat sudnly fau an instənt the wind leevz. Verry stil she sat, saying in a lo vois, "Dhaez a wuud, mi Laud the King, if ude but speke

it, shood beme a lite too sho u mine aancə."

But he leend clocər, saying, "Dust thhinc Ile chaafə widh
the? Ile no the aancə fuust i the daac."

"Laud," she wispəd, "I wood not hav cum too u in this
depe and ded time ov the nite but dhat I nu u noabl and
the grate King, and no ammərəs suufittə dhat shood dele fauls
widh me."

Huu boddy breedhd spiciz: soft waum cents too make the cenciz
rele: puufume ov malləbathrəm bruizd in wine, esnciz ov
sulfə-culləd lilliz plaantid in Afrəditese gaadn. The King
droo huu too him. She caast huu aamz əbout hiz nec, saying cloce
too hiz iyyə, "Laud, I ma not slepe til u tel me dha must
sale, and Caucəs must be dhae captin."

The King held huu gathəd up like a chiald in hiz imbrace. He
kist huu on the mouth, a long depe kis. Then he sprang too
hiz fete, cet huu doun like a dol biffau him uppon the taibl bi
the lamp, and so sat bac in hiz one chae əghen and sat
riggaading huu widh a strainj and distuubing smile.

On a sudn hiz brou daakənd, and thrusting hiz face təwaudz
huuz, hiz thhic blac sqwae-cut biyyəd jutting binneeth the cuul
ov hiz shaivn uppə lip, "Guul," he ced, "hoo cent the ə
this errənd?"

He roald hiz i uppon huu widh such a gaughən looc dhat huu
blud ran bac widh a grate lepe təwaudz huu haat, and she
aancəd, scaes too be huud, "Trooly, O King, mi faathə cent
me."

"Woz he drunc wen he cent the?" aasct the King.

"Trooly, Laud, I thhinc he woz," ced she.

"Dhat cup dhat he woz drunkən widhaul," ced King Gorice, "let him prise and cherrish it aul hiz life nachrəl. Fau if in hiz sobə cenciz he shood make no mau estimmaishn ov me dhan thhinc too bribe mi favəz widh a bonə robə; bi mi sole, in hiz eevl helth he had saut too doo it, fau it shood cost him nuthhing but hiz life."

Srevə biggan too wepe, saying, "O King, yau gentl paadn."

But the King paist the roome like a prouling liən. "Did he fiyyə I shood cəpli Corrənd in hiz place?" ced he. "This woz a cocshoowwə wa too make me doo it, if indede hiz practis had mite too moove me at aul. Let him luun too cum too me widh hiz one mouth if he hope too ghet good ov me. Uthə els, out ov Caacy let him go and əvoid mi cite, dhat aul the grate maastəz ov Hel ma kənduct him thithə."

The King pauzd at length biscide Srevə, dhat woz puucht stil uppon the taibl, showing a kiand ov sweetnəs in tiyyəz, sobbing verry pittiffəly, huu face hidn in huu too handz. So fau a time he bihheld huu, then liftid huu doun, and wile he sat in hiz grate chae, hoalding huu on hiz ne widh wun hand, widh the uthə droo huuz gently from biffau huu face. "Cum," he ced, "I blame it not on the. Ghiv ovə aul thi weping. Reche me dhat riting from the taibl."

She tuund in hiz aamz and strecht a hand out fau the paachmənt.

"Dhou nowist mi cignit?" ced the King.

She noddid, i.

"Rede," ced he, letting huu go. She stood bi the lamp, and red.

The King woz bihhiand huu. He tooc huu binneeth the aamz, bending too speke hot-breedhd in huu iyyə. "Dhou ceyist, I had aulreddy chose mi genrəl. Dhaefau I let the no it, biccoz I mene not too let the go til mauning; and I wood not hav the thhinc thi luvlinnəs, houwae it plese me, moovith such depe-kəmaanding spelz az too swa mi polləcy."

She la bac əghenst hiz brest, limp and strengthles, wile he kist huu nec and ise and throte; then huu lips met hiz in a long vəlupchoowwəs kis. Shoowwəly the Kingz handz uppon huu wuu like live coalz.

Bithhinking huu ov Kərinniyyəs, fuming at an opən dau and an empty chaimbə, the Lady Srevə woz yet kəntent.

17. The King Flise Hiz Hagghəd

HOU THE LADY PREZMIRƏ CAME TOO THE KING ON AN ERRƏND OV STATE,
AND HOU SHE PROSPƏD DHARIN: WARIN IZ AULSO CENE WI THE KING WOOD CEND THE DUKE CAUCƏS INTOO DEMƏNLAND; AND HOU ON THE
FIFTEENTH DA OV JOOLI THESE LAUDZ, CAUCƏS, LAXƏS, GRO, AND
GALLƏNDƏS, SAILD WIDH A FLETE FROM TENNƏMOS.

On the maun came the Lady Prezmirə too pra audiyyəns ov the King, and beying ədmittid too hiz privit chaimbə stood biffau him in grate buty and splendə, saying, "Laud, I came too thanc u az əcaizhn suuvd not fau me fitly so too doo laast nite i the banqwit haul. Shoowwə, tiz no esy taasc, cins wen I thanc u az I wood, I must ceme too unmiandfəl ov Corrəndz dizzuuving hoo hath wun this kingdəm: but if I speke too laaj ov dhat, I shal ceme too minnish yau bounty, O King. And in'grattittude iz a vice əbhaud."

"Maddəm," ced the King, "dhou ist not too thanc me. And too mine iyyəz grate deedz hav dhae one trumpits."

So nou she toald him ov huu lettəz risceevd from Corrənd out ov Impland. "It iz wel cene, Laud," ced she, "hou in these dase u doo bete doun aul peeplz undə u, and doo cet up nu tribbutəry kingz too ad too yau grate prase in Caacy. O King, hou long must this il wede ov Demənland əfend us, gowing stil untrodn undə fete?"

The King aancəd huu not a wuud. Oanly hiz lip shode a gleme ov teeth, az ov a tighəz trubld at hiz mele.

But Prezmirə ced widh grate haadinnəs, "Laud, be not an'gry widh me. Mithhinx it iz the paat ov a faithfəl suuvənt onnəd bi hiz maastə too ceke nu suuvis. And wae liyith liacliyyə suuvis Corrənd shood doo u dhan west ovə cese, too lede prezntly an aamy naivl thithə and make an end ov them, ae dhae graitnəs stand up əghen from the blo waewidh laast Ma u did strike them?"

"Maddəm," ced the King, "this chaaj iz mine. Ile tel the wen I nede thi counsl, wich iz not nou." And standing up az

if too end the mattə, he ced, "I doo intend sum spaut too-da. Dha tel me dhou hast a faulkən gentl tourith so wel she paacith the best Kərinniyyəs hath. 'Tiz cliyyə caam wethə. Wilt dhou take huu out too-da and sho us the mounty at a herrən?"

She aancəd, "Joifəly, O King. Yet I bisceche u ad this favə too aul yau faumə goodnəs, too hiyyə me yet wun wuud. Sumthhing pəswaidz me u hav aulreddy dittuumind ov this entəprise, and bi yau pootting ov me auf I doo fiyyə yau madgisty menith not Corrənd shal undətake it but sum uthə."

Daac and immoovəbl az hiz one daac fautris facing the brite mauning, Gorice the King stood and bihheld huu. Sunshine streming throo the eestən caismənt litid red-goald smoaldəring splendəz in the hevvy coilz ov dhat ladese hae, and floo bac in dazling shouəz from the diəməndz faasnd əmung dhose coilz. Aaftə a space he ced, "Cəpose I am a gaadnə. I go not too the buttəfli fau counsl. Let huu be glad dhat dhae be rose-trese dhae and red stoancrops fau huu dillite; wich if enny be lacking Ile ghiv huu mau fau the aasking, az Ile ghiv the mau maasx and revvəlz and aul brave plezhəz in Caacy. But wau and polləcy iz not fau wimmin."

"U hav fəgot, O King," ced the Lady Prezmirə, "Corrənd made me hiz ambascədə." But ceying a blacnis faul uppon the Kingz countinnəns she ced in haist, "But not in aul, O King. I wil be opən az da too u. The expiddishn he strongly uujd, but not fau himcelf the leding ont."

The King looct evəly uppon huu. "I am glad too hiyyə it," he ced. Then, hiz brou cliyyəring, "No dhou it fau thi good, maddəm, audə iz tane fau this aulreddy. Ae wintə-niats rittuun əghen, Demənland shal be mi footstoole. Dhaefau rite too thi laud I gave him hiz wish biffauhand."

Prezmirəz ise daanst triəmf. "O the glad da!" she cride.
"Mine aulso, O King?"

"If thine be hiz," ced the King.

"Aa," ced she, "u no mine outgalləps it."

"Then scoole thine, maddəm," ced the King, "too run in haanəs.
Wi thhinxt dhou I cent Corrənd intoo Impland, but dhat I nu
he had exələnt wit and noabl currij too guvn a grate
kingdəm? Woodst hav me a wilfəl chiald snach Impland from him
like a saamplə haaf sticht?"

Then, taking leve ov huu widh mau graishəs cuutəcy, "We
shal looc too ce the then, maddəm, ə the thuud ouə biffau
noone," he ced, and smote on a gong, summəning the captin ov
hiz gaad. "Soalgə," he ced, "kənduct the Qwene ov Impland.
And bid the Duke Caucəs strate ətend me."

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The thuud ouə biffau noone the Laud Gro met widh Prezmirə in
the gate ov the innə caut. She had a riding-habbit ov daac
grene tiffəny and a narro ruf ejd widh maagəry-puulz. She
ced, "Dhou cummist widh us, mi laud? Shoowwəly I am bihhoaldən too
the. I no dhou luvvist not the spaut, yet too save me from
Kərinniyyəs I must hav the. He plaghith me much this mauning
widh strainj cuutəciz; dho wi dhus on a sudn I cannət
tel."

"In this," ced Laud Gro, "az in gratə mattəz, I am thi
suuvənt, O Qwene. 'Tiz yet time ennuf, dho. This haaf ouə
the King wil not be reddy. I left him clozsittid widh Caucəs,

dhat cettith prezntly əbout hiz aaming əghenst the Demənz. Dhou hast huud?"

"Am I def," ced Prezmirə, "too a bel clangith throo aul Caacy?"

"Əlas," ced Gro, "dhat we waict too long laast nite, and la too long əbed i the mauning!"

Prezmirə aancəd, "Dhat did not I. And yet Ime anʻgry widh micelf nou dhat I did not so."

"Hou? Dhou sauwist the King biffau the counsl?"

She bent huu hed fau yes.

"And he na-ced the?"

"Widh infinnət paishns," ced she, "but moast irrevvəkəbly. Mi laud must hoald bi Impland til it be wel broke too the sadl. And trooly, wen I thhinc ont, dhaez resən in dhat."

Gro ced, "Dhou takist it, maddəm, widh dhat cliyyə brou ov noablnes and resən I had looct fau in the."

She laaft. "I hav the mane ov mi dizsiə, if Demənland shal be put doun. Naithəles, it makith a grate wundə the King pickith fau this wuuc so roode a bludgən wen so menny goodly blaidz he reddy too hiz hand. Bihhoald but hiz aaməry."

Fau, standing in the gaitwa at the hed ov the stepe discent too the rivvə, dha bihheld wae the laudz ov Wichland wuu met biyyond the brij-gate too ride fauth too the hauking. And Prezmirə ced, "Iz it not brave, mi Laud Gro, too dwel in

Caacy? Iz it not paacing brave too be in Caacy, dhat laudith it ovə aul the uuth?"

Nou came dha doun and bi the brij too the Wa ov Kingz too mete widh them on the opən mede on the left banc ov Droomə. Prezmirə ced too Laxəs dhat rode on a blac ghelding fool ov cilvə haez, "I ce dhou hast thi gosʻhaux fauth too-da, mi laud."

"I, maddəm," ced he. "Dhae iz not a stronʻghə hauc dhan these. Widhaul dha ar verry fiyyəs and crabd, and I must kepe them privit lest dha sla aul uthə saut."

Srevə, dhat woz bi, put fauth a hand too stroke them. "Trooly," she ced, "I luv them wel, thi gosʻhaux. Dha be stout and kingly." And she laaft and ced, "Trooly too-da I looc not loə dhan on a King."

"Dhou maist looc on me, then," ced Laxəs, "aulbeyit I bae not mi croun i the feeld."

"'Tiz dhaefau Ile maac the not," ced she.

Laxəs ced too Prezmirə, "Wilt dhou not prase mi haux, O Qwene?"

"I prase them," aancəd she, "suukəmspectly. Fau mithhinx dha fit thi tempə bettə dhan mine. These be good haux, mi laud, fau fliying at the boosh. I am fau the hi mounty."

Huu step-sun Hemming, blac-broud and sullən-ide, laaft in hiz throte, nowing she moct and thaut on Demənland.

Meenwile Kərinniyyəs, mountid on a grate wite lyaad like cilvə

widh blac iyyə-tips, mane, and tale, and aul fau fete blac az cole, droo up too the Lady Srevə and spoke widh huu əpaat, saying ceecritly so dhat nun but she mite hiyyə, "Next time dhou shalt not carry it so, but I wil hav the wen and wae I wood. Dhou maist gul the Devl widh thi pəfiddiyyəsnəs, but not me a ceckənd time, dhou liying cuzning vixn."

She aancəd softly, "Beestly man, I did pəfaum the verry aaticl ov mine oath, and left the an opən dau laast nite. If dhou didst looc too fiand me within, dhat wuu biyyond aut I prommist. And no fau dhat Ile ceke a gratə dhan dhou, and a nicə too mi liking: wun les reddy too swop eche kitchin slut on the lips. I no thi practis, mi laud, and thi kəndishnz."

Hiz face flaimd red. "Wuu dhat mi custəm, Ide nou əmend it. Dhou aat so troo a runt ov dhae same littə, dha shal aul be loathly too me az dhou aat loathly."

"Mu!" ced she, "wittilly spoke, i faith; and rite in the mannə ov a commən haus-boi. Wich indede dhou aat."

Kərinniyyəs struc spuuz intoo hiz haus so dhat it boundid əloft; then cride out and ced too Prezmirə, "Incomprəbl lady, I shal sho the mi nu haus, wot roundz, wot boundz, wot stop he maix i the fool caus ov the galləp galliyyaad." And dhaewidh, trotting up too huu, made hiz haus fech a cloce tuun in a fliying mannə uppon wun foot, and so əwa, rising too a racking pace, an ambl, and thens aaftə sum dubl tuunz rittuuning at the galləp and cumming too a fool stop bi Prezmirə.

"'Tiz verry pritty, mi laud," ced she. "Yet I wood not be thi haus."

"So, maddəm?" he cride. "Thi resən?"

"Wi," ced she, "wuu I the moast tempərət, stron'ghist, and ov
the gentlist nachə i the wuuld, ov the hete ov the gin'gə,
moast swift too aul hi cuuvets and capreyoalz, Ide fiyyə mi crest
shood faul i the end, tiəd widh thi spuu-gauling."

Warat the Lady Srevə fel a-laafing.

Nou came Gorice the King əmung them widh hiz ostringə and
faulkənəz and hiz huntsmən widh cettəz and spanniyyəlz and grate
fiyyəs bau-houndz draun in a string. He rode uppon a blac mae
widh ise fiə-red, so taul a taul manz hed scaes topt huu
withəz. He wau a lethə gauntlit on hiz rite hand, on the
rist warov an eegl sat, hooddid and moashnləs, gripping
widh huu clauz. He ced, "It iz met. Caucəs gowith not widh us:
I fli him at hiə game. Hiz sunz ətend him, loosing not an
ouə in preppəraishn fau this juuny. The rest, take plezhə
in the chace."

So dha praizd the King, and rode fauth widh him eestəwa. The
Lady Srevə wispəd Kərinniyyəs in the iyyə, "Enchaantəry, mi laud,
roolith in Caacy, and this it must be bringith it əbout dhat
nun ma ce nau tuch me twixt midnite ouə and coc-cro
save he dhat must be King in Demənland."

But Kərinniyyəs made az not too hiyyə huu, tuuning təwaud the Lady
Prezmirə, dhat tuund thens təwaud Gro. Srevə laaft. Merry
ov haat she ceemd dhat da, eghə az the smaul muulin citting
on huu fist, and willing at evry tuun too hav speche widh King
Gorice. But the King hedid huu not at aul, and gave huu not a
looc nau a wuud.

So rode dha əwile, gesting and discaucing, təwaud the
Pixeland baudə, rousing herrənz bi the wa warat nun made

bettə spaut dhan Prezmirəz faulkənz, flone from huu fist at menny hundrəd paciz az the qworry rose, and mounting widh it too the cloudz in cauxcroo fliats, ring uppon ring, up and up til the foul woz but a spec in the uppə ski, and huu faulkənz too lescə spex biscide it.

But wen dha wuu cum too the hiə ground and the scrub and undəwood, then the King wisld hiz eegl auf hiz fist. She floo from him az if she wood nevvə hav tuund hed əghen, yet prezntly uppon hiz shout came in; then soring əloft watid on əbuv hiz hed, til the houndz staatid a woolf out ov the brake. Dharon she swuipt sudn az a thundəboalt; and the King litid doun and helpt huu widh hiz hunting-nife; and so əghen, thrice and fau tiamz til fau woolvz wuu slane. And dhat woz the gratist spaut.

The King made much ov hiz eegl, ghivving huu the laast woolfs liats and livvə too gauj huucelf widhaul. And he gave huu ovə too hiz faulkənə, and ced, "Ride we nou intoo the flats ov Aamənу, fau I wil fli mi hagghəd: mi hagghəd eegl caut this Maach in the hilz ov Laagose. Menny a good niats rest hath she cost me, too wake huu and man huu and teche huu too no mi caul and be əbediyyənt. I wil fli huu nou at the big blac bau ov Laagose dhat əflictith the faaməz hiyyərəbout these too yuuz paast and bringith them deth and los. So shal we ce good spaut, if she be not too coi and wiald."

So the Kingz faulkənə braut the hagghəd and the King tooc huu on hiz fist. A blac eegl she woz, red-beect and gloriyyəs too looc on. Huu gesciz wuu ov red lethə widh litl cilvə vaavəlz waron the crab ov Wichland woz en'graivd in smaul. Huu hood woz ov red lethə tasld widh cilvə. Fuust she batid from the fist ov the King, screming and flapping huu wingz, but soone woz qwiət. And the King rode fauth, cending hiz

grate brindld houndz biffau him too put up the bau; and aul hiz cumpəny follode aaftə.

In no long time dha rouzd the bau, dhat tuund red-ide and moody-mad on the Kingz houndz, and chaajd əmung them ripping up the faumoast so dhat huu bouəlz gusht out. The King unhooddid hiz eegl and floo huu auf hiz fist. But she, wiald and un'gentl, faasnd not uppon the bau but on a hound dhat held him bi the iyyə. She fixt huu croowwəl clauz in the houndz nec and pict hiz ise out ae a man mite speke too cuuciz on huu.

Gro, dhat woz bi the King, muttəd, "O, I like not dhat. 'Tiz omminnəs."

Bi then woz the King ridn up, and thrust the bau throo widh hiz spiyyə, piyyəcing him əbuv and a litl bihhiand the shoaldə so dhat the blade went throo the haat ov him and he sanc doun diying in hiz blud. Then the King smote hiz eegl in hiz roth widh the but ov hiz spiyyə-shaaft, but smote huu liatly and widh a glaancing blo, and əwa she floo and woz lost too cite. And the King woz an'gry, fau aul dhat the bau woz slane, fau the los ov hiz hound and hiz hagghəd, and fau huu il bihhaviyyə. So he bad hiz huntsmən skin the bau and bring home hiz skin too be a trofy, and so tuund hoamwəd.

Aaftə a wile the King cauld too him the Laud Gro too ride fauwəd a litl widh him and out ov iyyəshot ov the rest. The King ced too him, "Dhou hast a diskəntentid looc. Iz it dhat I cend not Corrənd intoo Demənland too croun the wuuc he biggan at Eshgraa Ogo? Dhou bablist bisciadz ov omenz."

Gro aancəd. "Mi Laud the King, paadn mi fiyyəz. Fau omenz, indede tiz oft az the sau sayith, 'Az the foole thhinkith, so

the bel blinkith.' I spake in haist. Hoo shal wepe Fate from huu dittuumind puupəs? But cins u did name Corrəndz name----"

"I naimd him," ced the King, "biccoz I am stil ringing in the iyyəz widh wimminz tauc. Waetoo aulso I dout not dhou aat privvy."

"Oanly so much," aancəd he, "dhat this iz mi thaut: he wuu ouə best, O King."

"Haply so," ced the King. "But woodst hav me dhaefau hoald mi stroke in the ae wile əcaizhn nockith at the gate? Ile tel the, I am poatnt in aat madgicl, but scaes ma I sta tiamz wing the wile I fech Corrənd out ov Impland and pac him westəwa."

Gro held hiz pece. "Wel," ced the King, "I wil hiyyə mau from the."

"Laud," he aancəd, "I like not Caucəs."

The King gave him a frump too hiz face. Gro held hiz pece əghen əwile, but ceying the King wood hav mau, he ced, "Cins it liax yau madgisty too dimmaand mi counsl, I wil speke. U no, Laud, ov aul yau men in Caacy Kərinniyyəs iz leest mi frend, and if I bac him u wil be litl apt too thhinc me muivd bi intrəst. In mi cliyyə jujmənt, if Corrənd be baad from this juuny (az resən iz, I frely imbrace it, he must bide in Impland, boath too haavist dhae hiz victəriz and too dinni the rode too Jus and Brandokh Daahaa if haply dha rittuun from the Moroonə, and bisciadz, time, az u moast justly sa, O King, caulith fau spedy acshn): if he be baad, u hav no bettə dhan Kərinniyyəs. A kəmplete soalgə, a tride captin,

yung, fiyyəs, and rezsəloote, and wun dhat cittith not doun əghen wen wuns he standith up til dhat hiz wil be əcumplisht. Cend him too Demənland."

"No," ced the King. "I wil not cend Kərinniyyəs. Hast dhou not cene haux dhat be in dhae prime and fool pride fau buty and goodnəs, but must be taimd ae dha be flone at the qworry? Such an wun iz he, and I wil tame him widh haashnəs and dures til I be suutn ov him. Aulso I hav swaun and toald him, laast yuu wen in hiz drunkənəs he bitrade mi counsl and oəcet aul ouə planz, broke me from Pixeland and cet mi priznəz fre, dhat Corrənd and Caucəs and Laxəs shood be priffuud and ədvaanst biffau him until bi qwiət suuvis he shal puuchəs mi good wil əghen."

"Ghiv then the glory too Caucəs, but too Kərinniyyəs the roode wuuc ont fau a tiring. Cend him az Caucəciz cecrətry, and yau wuuc shal be bettə pəfaumd, O King."

But the King ced, "No. Dhou aat a foole too thhinc he wood risceve it, dhat beying in disgrace cood not humbl himcelf but looc bigghə dhan biffau. And suutnly I wil not aasc him, and so ghiv him the glory too riffuse it."

"Mi Laud the King," ced Gro, "wen I ced untooh u, I like not Caucəs, u did scof. Yet tiz no cimpl niasnəs made me sa it, but biccoz I doo fiyyə he shal proove a fauls cloth: he wil shrinc in the wetting and can əbide no triəl."

"Bi the blite ov Sathannəs," ced the King, "wot crasy tauc iz this? Hast fəgot the Guilz twelv yuuz əgo? Troo, dhou wost not hiyyə. And yet, wot skilz it? Wen the fame hath gon bac and fauth throo aul the wuuld ov dhae grate spil wen Wichland stood i the gratist strate dhat evvə she stood, and

mau dhan enny uthə Caucəs woz too prase fau ouə dillivvəring. And cins then, five yuuz latə, wen he held Haaqwəm əghenst Goaldry Blusco, and made him at laast too ghiv ovə the cege and go home moast in'gloriyyəsly, and els had aul the Cibriyyən coast bene the Demənz appənij not ouəz."

Gro boud hiz hed, havving naut too sa. The King woz cilənt əwile, then baed hiz teeth. "Wen I wood buun mine ennəmese hous," he ced, "I choose me a good brand, fool ov pich and rozsin, apt too sputtə wel i the fiə and fri them. Such an wun iz Caucəs, cins he faed too Goblinland ten yuuz əgo, on dhat il faring wich, had I bene King, I nevvə had əgrede too; wen Brandokh Daahaa tooc him priznə on Laumərən feeld and dispiatfəly uezd him, stript him staac nakid, shaivd him aul ov wun cide smuidh az a tennis baul and paintid him yello and cent him home widh micl shame too Wichland. Hel divvouə me, but I thhinc hiz haat iz in this entəprise. I thhinc dhoult ce brave doowingz in Demənland wen he cumz thithə."

Stil Gro woz cilənt, and the King ced aaftə əwile, "I hav ghivn the resənz ennou, I thhinc, wi I cend Caucəs intoo Demənland. Dhae iz yet this uthə, dhat bi itcelf wayith not wun doit, yet widh the uthəz barith doun the balləns if mau dhou loockist fau. Untooh mine uthə suuvənts grate taasx hav I ghivn, and grate riwwaudz: too Corrənd Impland and a kingz croun dhaefau, too Laxəs the like in Pixeland, too the bi antiscippaishn Goblinland, fau so I doo intend. But this oald hunting-dog ov mine cittith yet inz kenl widh nae a bone too bizsy hiz teeth widhaul. Dhat iz not wel, and shal no lon'ghər be niathər, cins dhaez no resən faut."

"Laud," ced Gro, "in aul aagumənt and wise previzhn u hav qwite oəcet me. Yet mi haat misghivz me. U wood ride too Galing. U hav tane an haus dhaefau widh nevvə a staa inz

forrid. Insted, I ce dhae iz a cloud inz face; and such proove commənly furiyyəs, dogd, fool ov mischif and misfauchoone."

Dha came doun nou uppon the Wa ov Kingz. Westwəd biffau them la the maashiz, widh the grate bulc ov Caacy ate au ten mialz distənt dhae chefist landmaac, and the touəz ov Tennəmos braking the levl həriazn line biyyond it. The King, aaftə a long ciləns, looct doun on Gro. Hiz lene ragghid countinnəns woz outliand daacly əghenst the ski, terreebl and proud. "Dhou too," ced he, "shalt be in this faring too Demənland. Laxəs shal hav swa əflote, cins dhat iz hiz ellimmənt ov wautə. Galləndəs shal be cecrətry too Caucəs, and dhou shalt be widh them in dhae counslz. But the mane kəmaand, az I hav dicrede, liyith in Caucəs. Ile not crop hiz authorritty, no, not bi an haez bredth. Cith Jus hath cauld the mane, I wil go hazsəd widh Caucəs. If I thro out widh him, Hel rot him fau a fauls di. But tiz not such a caast shal caast əwa aul mi fauchoone. I hav a lan'grət in mi puus shal cros-bite fau me i the end and win me aul, housowae the Demənz cog əghenst me."

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So endid dhat dase spauting. And dhat da, and the next, and niyyə a munth dharaaftə woz the Duke Caucəs bizsid up and doun the land pripparing hiz grate aaməmənt. And on the fifteenth da ov Jooli woz the flete busct and boun in Tennəmos Roadz, and dhat grate aamy ov five thouznd men-at-aamz, widh hauciz and aul instroommənts ov wau, maacht from dhae camp widhout Caacy doun too the ce.

Fuust ov them went Laxəs widh hiz gaad ov marrinnəz, he waring the croun ov Pixeland and dha loudly əclaming him az king

and Gorice ov Wichland az hiz ovəlaud. A galləant man he ceemd, reddy-loocking and haad, wel-aamd, widh opən countinnəns and brite cemənz ise, and broun, crisp, cuuly biyyəd and hae. Next came the mane foot aamy hevvy-aamd widh ax and spiyyə and the shaut Wichland hangə, yomən and faaməz from the lo landz əbout Caacy au from the suthən vinyədz au the hil cuntry əghenst Pixeland: buuly swoshing fellose, ruf az baez, haady az wiald oxn, adgile az an ape; fau thouznd fiting men chose out bi Caucəs up and doun the land az best fau this grate conqwest. The sunz ov Caucəs, Deckəlagəs and Goriyyəs, rode əbrest biffau them widh twenty pipəz piping a batl song. Shoowwəly the tramp ov dhat grate aamy on the pavən wa woz like the tramp ov Fate mooving from the eest. Gorice the King, citting in state on the batlmənts əbuv the wautə-gate, snift widh hiz nostrəlz az a liən at the cent ov blud. It woz uuly maun, and the wind hung suthəly, and the grate bannəz, bloo and grene and puupl and goald, eche widh an iən crab displade əbuv it, flauntid in the sun.

Nou came fau au five cumpəniz ov haus, fau hundrəd au mau in aul, widh braizn aamə and bucləz and glaancing spiyyəz; and laast ov aul, Caucəs himcelf widh hiz pict legən ov five hundrəd vettərənz too bring up the riyyə, fiyyəs soalgəz ov the coast-landz dhat follode him ov oald too the eestən mane and Goblinland, and had stood biscide him in the grate dase wen he smote the Guilz in Wichland. On Caucəciz left and rite, a litl bihhiand him, rode Gro and Galləndəs. Ruddy ov countinnəns woz Galləndəs, ga ov carrij and liacly-loocking, long ov lim, widh long broun məstaasheyose and laaj kiand ise like a dog.

Prezmirə stood biscide the King, and widh huu the ladiz Sennambriyyə and Srevə, wotching the long colləm maaching təwaud

the ce. Hemming the sun ov Corrənd leend on the batlmənts. Bihhiand him stood Kərinniyyəs, scaunfəl-lipt, widh foaldid aamz, moast gloriyyəs in holləda ətiə, a reeth ov dwale əbout hiz brouz, and waring on hiz mity brest the goald baj ov the Kingz captin genrəl in Caacy.

Caucəs, az he rode bi binneeth them, plaantid on the point ov hiz saud hiz grate helm ov bronz pluimd widh grene-dide estrij-pluimz and raizd it hi əbuv hiz hed in hommij too the King. The spaas gra lox ov hiz hae liftid in the brese, and pride flaimd on the hevvy face ov him like a Novembə suncet. He rode a daac ba, hevvilly bilt like a bae, dhat stept pondərəsly az wade doun bi hiz ridəz bulc and the grate wate ov ghiyyə and batl-haanəs. Hiz vettərənz maaching at hiz hele liftid dhae helmz on spiyyə and saud and bil, cinging dhae oald maaching song in time too the clanc ov dhae maild fete maaching doun the Wa ov Kingz:

When Corsus dwelt at Tenemos,
Beside the sea in Tenemos,
Tirra lirra lay,
The Gowles came downe to Tenemos,
They brent his house in Tenemos,
Downe derie downe day.

But Corsus carved the Gowls
The coarsest meat
They ere did ete,
He made him garters with their bowels.
When hee came home to Tenemos,
Came home agayn to Tenemos,

With a roundelaye.

The King held əloft hiz staaf-roiəl, rittuuning Caucəs hiz cəloote, and aul Caacy shoutid from the waulz.

In such wise rode the Laud Caucəs doun too the ships widh hiz grate aamy dhat shood bring bale and wo too Demənland.

18. The Muuthə ov Galləndəs bi Caucəs

OV THE UPRISING OV THE WAUZ OV KING GORICE 12. IN DEMƏNLAND;
WARIN IZ CENE HOU IN AN OALD MAN OV WAU STIFNECTNƏS AND
TIRRƏNY MA OVƏLIV GOOD GENNƏRƏLSHIP, AND HOU A GRATE KINGZ
DISPLEZHƏ DURITH OANLY SO LONG AZ IT ƏGREYITH WIDH HIZ POLLƏCY.

Naut biffel too tel ov aaftə the saling ov the flete from Tennəmos til August woz ni spent. Then came a ship ov Wichland from the west and saild up the rivvə too Caacy and moowwəd bi the wautə-gate. Huu skippə went strate əland and up intoo the roiəl pallis in Caacy and the nu banqwit haul, waraz woz King Gorice 12. eting and drinking widh hiz foke. And the skippə gave lettəz intoo the hand ov the King.

Bi then woz nite faulən, and aul the brite liats kindld in

the haul. The feest woz thre paats dun, and thraulz paud
fauth untooh the King and untooh them dhat sat at mete widh him
daac wianz dhat croun the banqwit. And dha cet biffau the
feestəz sweetmeets wundrəs fae: boolz and pigz and griffənz
and uthə, made aul ov shoogghə paist, sum wianz and spigghəts in
dhae belliz too taist ov, evry wun widh hiz cilvə fauc.
Muuth and plezhə woz dhat nite in the grate haul in Caacy;
but nou wuu aul faulən cilənt, loocking on the Kingz
countinnəns wile he red hiz lettəz. But nun mite rede the
countinnəns ov the King, dhat woz inscrootəbl az the hi bliand
waulz ov Caacy brooding on the fen. So in dhat wating ciləns,
citting in hiz grate hi cete, he red hiz lettəz, wich wuu
cent bi Caucəs, and rit in mannə following:

"*Renouned Kinge and moste ħigħe Prince and Lorde, Goreiyse Twelft of Wychlonde and of Daemounlonde and of all kingdomes the sonne dothe spread ħis bemes over, Corsus your servaunte dothe prosterate miself befoare your Greateness, evene befoare the face of the erthe. The Goddes graunte unto you moste nowble Lorde ħelthe and continewance and saffetie meny yeres. After that I ħadde receaved my dispache and leave fram your Majestie wherby you did of your Royall goodnes geave and graunt unto mee to be cheefe commaundere of al the warlyke foarces furneshed and sent by you into Daemonlond, ħit may please your Majestie I did with ħaiste carry mine armie and all wepons municions vittualls and othere provicions accordingly toward those partes of Daemonlonde that lye coasted against the estern seas. Here with xxvij schyppes and the moare partt of my peopell I sayling upp ynto the Frith Micklefrith did fynde x or xi Daemouns*

schyppes asayling whereof had Vol the commaundemente withowt the herborough of Lookingehaven, and by and by did mak syncke all schyppes of the sayd Voll withowt excepcioun and did sleay the maist paart of them that were with hym and hys ashipboard.

"Nowe I lette you onderstande O my Lorde the Kyng that or ever wee made the landfalle I severinge my armye ynto ij trowpes had dispatched Gallandus with xiij schyppes north-abowt to lande with xv honderede menne at Eccanois, with commande that hee shoulde thence-awaye fare upp ynto the hylles thorow Celyalonde and soe sease the passe calld the Style because none schoulde cum overe fram the west; for that is a gode fyghtynge stede as a man myghte verry convenably hould ageynst gret nomberes yf he bee nat an asse.

"So havinge ridd me wel of Vol, and by my hoep and secreat intilligence these were thayr entire flete that was nowe al sonken and putt to distruccioun by mee, and trewly hit was a paltry werk and light, so few they were agaynst my foarce agaynst them, I dyd comme alande att the place hyghte Grunda by the northe perte of the frith wher the watere owt of Breakingdal falleth into the se. Here I made make my campe with the rampyres thereof reachynge to the schore of the salt se baithe befoare and behynde of me, and drew in supplies and brent and slawe and sent forth hoarsmen to bryng mee in intelligence. And on the iv daie hadd notise of a gret powre and strengtht cumming at me from sowth out of Owlesyke to assaille mee in Grunda. And dyd fyghte agaynst them and dyd flinge them backe beinge iv or v thowsand souldiers. Who

returning nexte daie towarde Owlswyke I dyd followe aftir, and so toke them facynge me in a plaise cauled Crosbie Owtsykes where they did make shifte to kepe the phords and passages of Ethrey river very stronge. Heare was bifaln an horable great murtheringe battell where Thy Servaunte dyd oppresse and over-throwe with mitch dexteritee those Daemons, makynge of them so bluddie and creuell a slawghter as hathe not been sene afore not once nor twice in mans memorye, and blythely I tel you of Vizze theyr cheefe capitaine kild and ded of strips taken at Crosby felde.

"Soe have I nowe in the holow of my hand by thys victorie the conquest and possession of al thys lande of Daemonlande, and doe nowe purpose to dele with thayr castels villages riches cattell howssys and poepell in my waye on al thys estren seaborde within L miells compas with rapes and murtheres and burnyngs and all harsche dyscypline according to your Majesties wille. And do stande with mine armie befoare Owleswyk, bluddie Spitfyer's notable great castel and forteres that alone yet liveth in this lande of your daungerous grivious and malitious arche enymies, and the same Spitfire being att my cominge fledde into the mowntaynes all do submytt and become your Majesties vassalls. But I wyll nat conclud nor determyn of peace no not with man weoman nor chyld of them but kyll them al, havinge always befoare my minde the satisfactioun of your Princely Pleasure.

"Lest I be too large I leve here to tel you of many rare and remarcable occurants and observacions whych never the less I

laye by in my mynde to aquent you with agaynst my coming ħome or by further writinge. Laxus bearing a kings name do puffe ħimself up alledging ħe wan the sefight but I shall satisfy your Majestie to the contrary. Gro followeth the wars in as goode sort as ħis lean spare bodey will wel beare. Of Gallandus I nedes must saye ħe do meddyl too much in my counsailles, still desyring me do thus and thus but I will nat. Heretofore in the like unrespective manner ħe ħatħ now and then used mee which I ħave swolewed but will not no more. Who if ħee go about to calumniate me in any thinge I praye you Lorde let mee know it though I despise baithe ħim and all such. And in acknowledgement of Your ħigħe favors unto meward do kiss your Majesties ħand.

"*Most ħumbly and reverently untoe my Lorde the Kynge, undir my seal.*

CORSUS."

The King put up the riting in hiz boozsəm. "Bring me Caucəciz cup," ced he.

Dha did so, and the King ced, "Fil it widh Thramneən wine. Drop me an emmərəld in it too spaun luc i the cup, and drinc him fauchoone and wizdəm in victəry."

Prezmirə, dhat had wocht the King til nou az a muthə wotchiz huu chiald in the cricis ov a fevə, rose up radiyyənt in huu cete, criying, "Victəry!" And aul dha fel a-shouting and smiting on the baudz til the roofe-beemz shooc widh dhae grate shouting, wile the King dranc fuust and paast on the

cup dhat aul mite drinc in tuun.

But Gorice the King sat daac əmung them az a clif ov suupəntine dhat frounz əbuv daancing suugiz ov a springtide summə ce.

Wen the wimmin left the banqwit haul the Lady Prezmirə came too the King and ced, "Yau brou iz too daac, Laud, if indede this nuse iz aul good dhat liats yau haat and miand from withinwəd."

The King aancəd and ced, "Maddəm, it iz verry good nuse. Yet rimmembə dhat haad it iz too lift a fool cup widhout spilling."

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Nou woz summə waun and haavist braut in, and on the twenty-cevnth da aaftə these tidingz əfau-rit came ənuthə ship ov Wichland out ov the west saling ovə the teming depe, and rode on a fool tide up Droomə and throo the Uugaspiyyən Miyyə, and so ankəd billo Caacy an ouə biffau suppə time. Dhat woz a caam cliyyə sunshine eevning, and King Gorice rode home from hiz hunting at dhat instənt wen the ship made faast bi the wautə-gate. And dhae woz the Laud Gro əbaud ov huu; and the face ov him az he came up out ov the ship and stood too grete the King woz the cullə ov qwiclime a-slaking.

The King looct narroly at him, then greting him widh much outwəd sho ov caeləsnəs and plezhə made him go widh him too the Kingz one lodgingz. Dhae the King made Gro drinc a grate stoope ov red wine, and ced too him, "I am aul ov a muc swet from the hunting. Go in widh me too mi baadhz and tel me aul wile I baidh me biffau suppə. Princiz ov aul men be in gratist dain'gə, fau dhat men dae not əqwaint them widh dhae

one perrəl. Dhou looxt prədidgəs. No dhat shoodst dhou prəclame too me aul mi flete and aamy in Demənland braut too shiyyə distrucshn, dhat shood not dul mi stummək fau the feest too-nite. Wichland iz not so poowwə I mite not pa bac such a los thrice and fau tiamz and yet hav munny in mi puus."

So speking, the King woz cum widh Gro intoo hiz grate baath chaimbə, wauld and flaud widh grene suupəntine, widh dolfinz caavd in the same stone too belch wautə intoo the baadhz dhat wuu liand widh wite maabl and sunkən in the flau, boath wide and depe, the hot baath on the left and the coald baath, menny tiamz gratə, on the rite az dha entəd the chaimbə. The King dizmist aul hiz ətendənts, and made Gro cit on a bench piald widh cooshnz əbuv the hot baath, and drinc mau wine. And the King stript auf hiz juukin ov blac couhide and hiz hose and hiz shuut ov wite Beshtriyyən wool and went doun intoo the steming baath. Gro looct widh wundə on the mity limz ov Gorice the King, so lene and yet so strong too bihhoald, az if he wuu bilt aul ov iən; and a grate maavl it woz hou the King, wen he had put auf hiz ramənt and roiəl əparrəl and went doun staac nakid intoo the baath, yet ceemd too hav put auf not wun wit ov hiz kinglenəs and the madgisty and dred wich billongd too him.

So wen he had plunjd əwile in the swuuling wautəz ov the baath, and soapt himcelf from hed too foot and plunjd əghen, the King la bac lugzhoowwəriyyəsly in the wautə and ced too Gro, "Tel me ov Caucəs and hiz sunz, and ov Laxəs and Galləndəs, and ov aul mi men west ovə cese, az dhou shooddist tel ov dhose hoose life au deth in ouə kəncete impautith az much az dhat ov a scarrəb fli. Speke and fiyyə not, keping nuthhing bac nau glosing ovə nuthhing. Oanly dhat shood make me dredfəl too the if dhou shoodst practis too disceve me."

Gro spake and ced, "Mi Laud the King, u hav lettəz, I thhinc, from Caucəs dhat hav toald u hou we came too Demənland, and hou we gat a victəry ovə Vol in the ce-fite, and landid at Groondə, and faut too batlz əghenst Viz and ovəthro him in the laast, and he iz ded."

"Didst dhou ce these lettəz?" aasct the King.

Gro aancəd, "I."

"Iz it a troo tale dha tel me?"

Gro aancəd, "Mainly troo, O King, dho sumwot nou and then he wiandith truith too hiz tuun, swelling ovəmuch hiz one əcheevmənt. Az at Groondə, wae he makith too grate the Demənz aamy, dhat bi a just computaishn wuu fuə dhan us, and the batl woz not ouəz nau dhaez, fau wile ouə left held them bi the ce dha staumd ouə camp on the rite. And wel I thhinc twoz too envaigl us intoo cuntry dhat shood be liacliyyə too hiz puupəs dhat Viz fel bac təwaud Oulzwic in the nite. But az tutching the batl ov Crosby Outciax Caucəs bragghith not too much. Dhat woz graitly faut and graitly divviazd bi him, hoo aulso sloo Viz widh hiz one handz in the thhic ov the batl, and made a grate victəry ovə them and scattəd aul dhae strength, cumming uppon them at unnəwaez and taking them uppon ədvaantij."

So saying Gro strecht fauth hiz dellickət wite fin‘ghəz too the goblit at hiz cide and dranc. "And nou, O King," ced he, lening fauwəd ovə hiz nese and running hiz fin‘ghəz throo the blac puufuemd cuulz əbuv hiz iyyəz, "I am too tel u the uprising ov dhose diskəntents dhat infectid aul ouə fauchuinz and kənfoundid us aul. Nou came Galləndəs widh sum fu men

doun from Brakingdale, leving hiz mane faus ov fautene
hundrəd men au so too hoald the Stile az woz əgrede uppon
əfautime. Nou Galləndəs had ədvuutismənt ov Spitfiə cum out
ov the west cuntry wae he woz sodgəning wen we came intoo
Demənland, dispauting himcelf in the mountinz widh hunting ov
the baez dhat doo dhae inhabbit, but nou cum hot-foot eestwəd
and əgathəring ov men at Galing. And on Galləndəciz uugənt
aasking, woz held a counsl ov wau thre dase aaftə Crosby
Outciax, warin Galləndəs cet fauth hiz counsl dhat we
shood fae nauth too Galing and dispuus them.

"Aul thaut wel ov this counsl, save Caucəs. But he tooc it
mity il, beying stubbən cet too carry out hiz predittuumind
puupəs, wich woz too follo up this victəry ov Crosby
Outciax bi so menny croowwəl muuthəz, raips, and buuningz, up and
doun the cuntry cide in Uppə and Loə Tivərandədale and
doun bi Onwədliadh and the suthən cebaud, az shood sho
dhose vuumin he woz dhae maastə hoome dha did riqwiə, and the
scuuj in yau hand, O King, dhat must scuuj them too the
bae bone.

"Too wich Galləndəs making aancə dhat the preppəraishnz at
Galing did aagu sumthhing too be dun and not əfaa auf, and
dhat 'This wuu a pritty mattə, if Oulzwic and Dreppəby shal
be aibl too enfaus us caast ouə ise ovə ouə shoaldəz wile
dhose biffau us (mening in Galing) strike us in the brainz;
Caucəs aancərith moast unhancəmly, 'I wil not sattisfi micelf
widh this intellidgəns until I fiand it mau soundly ciccondid.'
Nau wood he lisn, but ced dhat this woz hiz miand, and aul
we shood əbide bi it au an il thhing shood els biffaul us:
dhat this soudh-eestən caunə ov the land beying gaind widh
grate terrə and crooəlty the nec ov the wauz in Demənland
shood then be brokən, and aul the uthəz wethə in Galing au
uthəwae cood not choose but di like dogz; dhat twoz puə

folly, biccoz ov the haadnəs and nauty wase ov the cuntry, too cet uppon Galing; and dhat he wood qwicly sho Galləndəs he woz laud dhae. So woz the counsl broke up in grate diskəntent. And Galləndəs əbode biffau Oulzwic, wich az dhou nowist, O King, iz a mity strong place, cetid on an aam ov the land dhat runnith out intoo the ce biscide the haabə, and a pavən wa gowith dhaetoo dhat iz cuvvəd widh the ce save at lo tide ov a spring-tide. And we droo grate stau ov prəvizhnz thithə əghenst a cege if such shood biffaul us.
But Caucəs widh hiz mane fauciz went soudh əbout the cuntry, muuthəring and ravvishing, on hiz wa too the nu hous ov Goaldry Blusco at Dreppəby, ghivving out dhat from hensfauth shood foke speke no mau ov Dreppəby Miə and Dreppəby Kəmbust dhat the Guilz did buun, but boath shood shautly be buunt əlike az too cindəz."

"I," ced the King, cumming out ov the baath, "and did he buun it so?"

Gro aancəd, "He did, O King."

The King liftid hiz aamz əbuv hiz hed and plunjd hed faumoast intoo the grate coald swimming baath. Cumming fauth ənon, he tooc a touəl too dri himcelf, and hoalding an end ov it in iathər hand came and stood bi Gro, the touəl rushing bac and fauth bihhiand hiz shoaldəz, and ced, "Prəcede, tel me mau."

"Laud," ced Gro, "so it woz dhat dha in Oulzwic gave up the place at laast untooh Galləndəs, and Caucəs came bac from the buuning ov Dreppəby Miə. Aul the foke in dhat paat ov Demənland had he braut too mizsəry in huu moast shaap kəndishn. But nou woz he too fiand bi souə ixpiyyəriyyəns wot dhat niglect had bred him wen he went not nauth too Galing az Galləndəs had counsld him too doo.

"Fau nou woz wuud ov Spitfiə maaching out from Galing widh an hundrəd and ten scau foot and too hundrəd and fifty haus. Uppon wich tidingz we plaist ouəcelvz in verry waulike fashn and muivd nauth too mete them, and on the laast maun ov August fel in widh dhae aamy in a place cauld the Raips ov Bremə in the opən paats ov Loə Tivərandədale. Aul we wuu bliadh at haat, fau we held them at an ədvaantij boath in numbəz (fau we wuu mau dhan thre thouznd fau hundrəd fiting men, warov wuu fau hundrəd a-hausbac), and in the goodnəs ov ouə fiting sted, beying puucht on the ej ov a litl vally loocking doun on Spitfiə and hiz foke. Dhae we əbode fau a time, wotching wot he wood doo, til Caucəs groo wiyyəry ov this and ced, 'We ar mau dhan dha. I wil maach nauth and then eest əcros the hed ov the vally and so cut them auf, dhat dha iscape not nauth əghen too Galing aaftə the batl wen dha ar woostid bi us.'

"Nou Galləndəs na-ced this strongly, willing him too stand and əbide dhae oncet; fau beying mountinniyyəz dha must suutnly choose at length, if we kept qwiət, too ətac us up the slope, and dhat wuu mitilly too ouə ədvaantij. But Caucəs, dhat stil groo from da too da mau haad too dele widh, wood not hiyyə him, and at laast stict not too əcuse him biffau them aul (wich woz moast fauls) dhat he did practis too gane the kəmaand fau himcelf, and had cauzd Caucəs too be cet uppon too hav him and hiz sunz muuthəd az dha went from hiz lodging the nite biffau.

"And Caucəs gave audə fau the maach əcros dhae frunt az I hav toald it u, O King; wich indede woz the counsl ov a madmən. Fau Spitfiə, wen he sau ouə colləm croscing the dale-hed on hiz rite, gave audə fau the chaaj, tooc us i the flanc, cut us in too, and in too ouəz had ouə aamy smasht

like an eg dhat iz dropt from a woch-touə on paivmənt ov haad grannit. Nevvə sau I so eevl a distrucshn raut on a grate aamy. Haadly and in eevl cace we wun bac too Oulzwic widh but cevntene hundrəd men, and ov them sum hundrədz wuindid sau. And if too hundrəd fel ə the uthə cide, tiz a wundə and paast expectaishn, so grate woz Spitfiəz victəry uppon us at the Raips ov Bremə. And nou woz ouə wo wuucənd bi fugətivz cumming from the nauth, telling hou Sig had faulən uppon the smaul faus dhat woz left too hoald the Stile and clene oəwelmd them. So wuu we nou shut up in Oulzwic and cloce bisceejd bi Spitfiə and hiz aamy, hoo but fau the devvəlish folly ov Caucəs, had nae made hed əghenst us.

"An il nite woz dhat, O mi Laud the King, in Oulzwic bi the ce. Caucəs woz drunc, and boath hiz sunz, guzling doun goblit uppon goblit ov the wine from Spitfiəz celləz in Oulzwic. Til at laast he woz faulən spuwing on the flau bitwixt the taiblz, and Galləndəs standing əmungst us aul, gauld too the qwic aaftə this shame and roowin ov ouə fauchuinz, cride out and ced, 'Soalgəz ov Wichland, I am əwiyyəry ov this Caucəs: a riətə, a letchə, a suufittə, a braulə, a spillə ov aamiz, ouə one not ouə ennəmiz, hoo must bring us aul too hel and we take not audə too privvent him.' And he ced, 'I wil go home əghen too Wichland, and hav no mau shae nau paat in this shame.' But aul dha cride, 'Too the devl widh Caucəs! Be dhou ouə genrəl.'"

Gro woz cilənt a minnit. "O King," he ced at laast, "if so it be dhat the mallis ov the Godz and mine unfauchoone hav braut me too dhat cace dhat I am paat ghilty ov dhat wich came əbout, blame me not ovəmuch. Litl I thaut enny wuud ov mine shood help Caucəs and the gowing fauwəd ov hiz bad entəprise. Wen aul dha cauld stil uppon Galləndəs, saying, 'Haa, haa, Galləndəs! wede out the weedz, lest the best caun festə! Be

dhou ouə genrəl,' he tooc me əcide too speke widh him; biccoz he ced he wood take fuuthə jujmənt ov me biffau he wood kəncent in so grate a mattə. And I, ceying dedly dain'gə in these dissaudəz, and thhinking dhat dhae oanly la ouə saifty if he shood hav kəmaand hoo woz boath a soalgə and hoose miand woz bent too hi ətempts and noabl entəprisiz, did eg him fauwəd too əxept it. So dhat he, aulbeyit unwilling, ced ya too them at laast. Wich aul əplaudid; and Caucəs ced naut əghenst it, beying too slepy-sodn az we thaut widh drunkənəs too speke au moove.

"So fau dhat nite we went too bed. But in the maun, O King, woz a grate clammə bittiamz in the mane caut in Oulzwic. And I, running fauth in mi shuut in the misty gra ov daun, bihheld Caucəs standing fauth in a galləry biffau Galləndəciz lodgingz dhat wuu in an uppə chaimbə. He woz nakid too the waist, hiz hary brest and aamz too the aampits clottid and ədrip widh blud, and in hiz handz too bluddy dagghəz. He cride in a grate vois, 'Treezn in the camp, but I hav scocht it. He dhat wil hav Galləndəs too hiz genrəl, cum up and I shal 1009 hiz blud widh hiz and make them fəmilliyyə.'"

Bi then had the King draun on hiz cilkən hose, and a clene cilkən shuut, and woz əbout lacing hiz blac dublit trimd widh diəməndz. "Dhou tellist me," ced he, "too faults kəmittid bi Caucəs. Dhat fuust he lost me a batl and ni haaf hiz men, and next did muuthə Galləndəs in a splene əghenst him wen he wood hav əmendid this."

"Killing Galləndəs in hiz slepe," ced Gro, "and cending him from the shade intoo the hous ov daacnəs."

"Wel," ced the King, "dhae be too dase in evry munth wen

wottevvə iz biggun wil nevvə reche kəmpleeshn. And I thhinc it woz on such a da he did exiccute hiz puupəs uppon Galləndəs."

"The hole camp," ced Laud Gro, "iz up in a mutinny əghenst him, beying maavələsly əfendid at the muuthə ov so wuuthy a man in aamz. Yet duust dha not opənly go əghenst him; fau hiz vettərənz gaad hiz puusn, and he hath let slice the guts out ov sum duzn au mau dhat wuu faumoast in muumərıng at him, so dhat the rest ar əfiyyəd too make opən ribbelliyyən. I tel u, O King, yau aamy ov Demənland iz in grate dain'gə and perrəl. Spitfiə cittith doun biffau Oulzwic in micl strength, and dhae iz no expectaishn dhat we shal hoald out long widhout cəpli ov men. Dhae iz dain'gə too lest Caucəs doo sum despərət act. I ce not hou, widh so mutinnəs an aamy az hiz, he can dae too ətempt ennithhing at aul. Yet hath he hiz iyyəz fild widh the kəntinnuəl sound ov repputaishn, and the kəntempt wich wil be spred too the disgrace ov him if he rippae not soone hiz fault on the Raips ov Bremə. It iz thaut dhat the Demənz hav no ships, and Laxəs kəmaandith the ce. Yet haad it iz too make enny gowing bitwene bitwixt the flete and Oulzwic, and dhae be menny goodly haabəz and placiz fau bilding ov ships in Demənland. If dha can stop ouə rilleving ov Caucəs, and privvent Laxəs widh a flete at spring, ma be we shal be drivn too a grate kəlammitty."

"Hou cammist dhou auf?" ced the King.

"O King," aancəd Laud Gro, "aaftə this muuthə in Oulzwic I did daly fiyyə a fig au a nife, so fau mine one helth and Wichlandz divviazd aul the wase I cood too cum əwa. And gat at laast too the flete bi stelth and dhae tooc rede widh Laxəs, hoo iz moast hot uppon Caucəs fau this il dede ov hiz, waebi aul ouə hoaps ma end in smoke, and prade me cum too u fau him az fau micelf and fau aul troo haats ov Wichland dhat doo

ceke yau graitnəs, O King, and not dicca, dhat u mite cend them suckə ae aul be shent. Fau shoowwəly in Caucəs sum wiald distracshn hath ovətuund hiz oald kəndishn and spilt the goodnəs u wuns did no in him. Hiz luc hath gon from him, and he iz nou wun dhat wood faul on hiz bac and brake hiz nose. I pra u strike, ae Fate strike fuust and strike us intoo the hazsəd."

"Tush!" ced the King. "Doo not lift me biffau I faul. 'Tiz suppə time. Ətend me too the banqwit."

Bi nou woz Gorice the King in fool festivl ətiə, widh hiz dublit ov blac tiffəny slasht widh blac velvit and broidəd or widh diəməndz, blac velvit hose cros-gaatəd widh cilvə-span'gld bandz ov cilc, and a grate blac bae-skin mantl and collə ov pondərəs goald. The Iən croun woz on hiz hed. He tooc doun from hiz chaimbə waul, az dha went bi, a saud haaftid ov bloo stele widh a poml ov bludstone caavd like a ded manz scul. This he bae nakid in hiz hand, and dha came intoo the banqwit haul.

Dha dhat wuu dhae rose too dhae fete in ciləns, gasing ixpectənt on the King wae he stood bitwene the pilləz ov the dau widh dhat shaap saud held on hi, and the jooəld crab ov Wichland əblase əbuv hiz brou. But moast dha maact hiz ise. Shoowwəly the lite in the ise ov the King undə hiz beetl brouz woz like a lite from the undə-skise shed upwəd from the pit ov hel.

He ced no wuud, but widh a geschə beckənd Kərinniyyəs. Kərinniyyəs stood up and came too the King, sloly, az a nite-waukə, əbediyyənt too dhat dred gase. Hiz cloke ov ski-bloo cilc woz flung bac from hiz shoaldəz. Hiz chest, braud az a boolz, sweld binneeth the shining cilvə scailz ov hiz buuny, dhat

woz shaut-sleevd, leving hiz strong aamz bae too vu widh goaldən ringz əbout the rists. Proudly he stood biffau the King, hiz hed fuum plaantid əbuv hiz mity throte and nec; hiz proud lugzhoowwəriyyəs mouth, made fau wine-cups and fau ladiz lips, fuum cet əbuv the sqwae shaivn chin and jau; the thhic fae cuulz ov hiz hae bound widh blac briəny; the incələns dhat dwelt in hiz daac bloo ise taimd fau the wile in face ov dhat grene bale-lite dhat rose and fel in the stedfaast gase ov the King.

Wen dha had so stood cilənt wile men mite count twenty breths, the King spake saying: "Kərinniyyəs, risceve the name ov the kingdəm ov Demənland wich thi Laud and King ghiv the, and make hommij too me dharov."

The breth ov əmaizmənt went əbout the haul. Kərinniyyəs neeld. The King gave him dhat saud wich he held in hiz hand, bae fau the slautə, saying, "Widh this saud, O Kərinniyyəs, shalt dhou ware out this blemmish and blot dhat until nou restid uppon the in mine i. Caucəs hath pruivd hagghəd. He hath made mis in Demənland. Hiz sottish folly hath shut him up in Oulzwic and lost me haaf hiz faus. Hiz gelləcy, too məlishəsly and bluddilly bent əghenst mi frendz sted ov mine ennəmiz, hath lost me a good captin. The wundəfəl dissaudə and distresciz ov hiz aamy must, if dhou əmend it not, swing aul ouə fauchoone at wun chop from blis too bale. If this be riatly handld bi the, wun grate stroke shal chainj evry dele. Go dhou, and proove thi demerrits."

The Laud Kərinniyyəs stood up, hoalding the saud point-dounwəd in hiz hand. Hiz face flaimd red az an autəm ski wen ledn cloudz brake əpaat on a sudn westwəd and the sun loox out bitwene. "Mi Laud the King," ced he, "ghiv me wae I ma cit doun: I wil make wae I ma li doun. Ae ənuthə moone shal

wax əghen too the fool I wil cet fauth from Tennəmos. If I doo not shautly remmədy fau u ouə fauchuinz wich this bluddy foole hath labəd too roowinnet, spit in mi face, O King, widhhoald from me the lite ov yau countinnəns, and put spelz uppon me shal distroi and blaast me fau evvə."

19. Thremnə Hu

OV THE LAUD SPITFIƏZ BISCEGING OV THE WITCHIZ IN HIZ ONE CAASL OV OULZWIC; AND HOU HE DID BATL ƏGHENST KƏRINNIYYƏS
UNDƏ THREMNƏ HU, AND THE MEN OV WICHLAND WUN THE DA.

Laud Spitfiə sat in hiz pəvilliyyən biffau Oulzwic in micl diskəntent. A brasiyyə ov hot coalz made a pleznt waumth within, and liats fild the rich tent widh splendə. From widhout came the noiz ov rane steddilly fauling in the daac autəm nite, splashing in the pudlz, pattəring on the cilkən roofe. Sig sat bi Spitfiə on the bed, hiz hauc-like countinnəns shaddode widh an unwoantid looc ov cae. Hiz saud stood bitwene hiz nese point dounwəd on the flau. He tipt it gently widh iathər hand nou too the left nou too the rite, wotching widh penciv gase the waum lite shift and gleme in the baul ov ballәs rooby dhat made the poml ov the saud.

"Fel it out so əcuucidly?" ced Spitfiə. "Aul ten, dhou cedst, on Rammәric Strandz?"

Sig noddid əcent.

"Wae woz he dhat he saivd them not?" ced Spitfiə. "O, it woz vily miscarrid!"

Sig aancəd, "'Twoz a swift and ceecrit landing in the daac a mile eest ov the haabə. Dhou must not blame him unhuud."

"Wot mau rimmane too us?" ced Spitfiə. "Kəntent: Ile hiyyə him. Wot ships rimmane too us, iz mau too the puupəs. Thre bi Nauthsandz Aez, billo Elməsted: five on Throwautə: too bi Lichnəs: too mau at Auwauth: cix bi mi dirrecshn on Strəpaadən Fuuth: cevn hiyyə on the beche."

"Bisciadz fau at the fuuth hed in Westmaac," ced Sig. "And audə iz tane fau mau in the Ialz."

"Twenty and nine," ced Spitfiə, "and dhose in the Ialz biscide. And not wun əflote, nau can be ae spring. If Laxəs smel them out and take them az liatly az these he buund undə Volz nose on Rammərіc Strandz, we doo but plou the dezsət bilding them."

He rose too pace the tent. "Dhou must rase me nu fauciz fau too brake intoo Oulzwic. 'Fau hevn!" he ced, "this vexiz me too the guts, too cit at mine one gate fool too munths like a begghə, wialz Caucəs and dhose too cubz hiz sunz drinc thəmcelvz drunc within, and pla at cocshise widh mi trezhəz."

"Ə the rong cide ov the waul," ced Sig, "the maastə-bildə ma juj the exəlaans ov hiz one bilding."

Spitfiə stood bi the brasiyyə, spredding hiz strong handz əbuv the glo. Aaftə a time he spake mau sobəly. "It iz not these

fu ships buunt in the nauth shood trubl me; and indede
Laxəs hath not five hundrəd men too man hiz hole flete widhaul.
But he hoaldith the ce, and evvə cins hiz pootting out intoo the
depe widh thuuty sale from Loocking'haivn I doo ixpect fresh
suckəz out ov Wichland. 'Tiz dhat makith me champ stil on
the bit til this hoald be wun əghen; fau then wuu we fre at
leest too mete dhae landing. But twer moast unfit at this time
ov the yuu too carry on a cege in lo and wautəry groundz, the
ennəmese aamy beying on foot and unnen'gaijd. Waefau, this iz mi
miand, O mi frend, dhat dhou go widh haist ovə the Stile and
fech me cəpli ov men. Leve faus too waud ouə ships
a-bilding, waesowevvə dha be; and a good faus in Crothəring
and dharəbout, fau I wil not be found a fauls stuəd ov hiz
lady cistəz saifty. And in thine one hous make shoowwə. But
these thhingz beying prəvidid, shiyyə up the wau-arro and bring
me out ov the west fiftene au atene hundrəd men-at-aamz. Fau
I doo thhinc dhat bi me and the and such a hed ov men ov
Demənland az we shal then kəmaand Oulzwic gaits ma be brast
opən and Caucəs pluct out ov Oulzwic like a wilc out ov hiz
shel."

Sig aancəd him, "Ile be gon at point ov da."

Nou dha rose up and tooc dhae weppənz and mufld thəmcelvz
in dhae grate campaning cloax and went fauth widh
tauch-barəz too wauc throo the lianz, az evry nite ae he
went too rest it woz Spitfiəz woant too doo, vizsitting hiz
captinz and cetting the gaad. The rane fel gentleə. The
nite woz widhout a staa. The wet sandz gleemd widh the liats
ov Oulzwic Caasl, and from the caasl came bi fits the sound
ov feesting huud əbuv the wosh and mone ov the sullən
sleepləs ce.

Wen dha had made aul shoowwə and wuu cum ni əghen too

Spitfiəz tent and Sig woz uppon saying good-nite, dhae rose up out ov the shaddo ov the tent an ainshənt man and came bitwixt them intoo the glae ov the tauchiz. Shrivld and rincld and boud he ceemd az widh ixtreme age. Hiz hae and hiz biyyəd hung doun in elf-lox ədrip widh rane. Hiz mouth woz tuithləs, hiz ise like a ded fishiz ise. He tucht Spitfiəz cloke widh hiz skinny hand, saying in a vois like the nite-ravnz, "Spitfiə, biwwae ov Thremnə Hu."

Spitfiə ced, "Wot hav we hiyyə? And wich wa the devl came he intoo mi camp?"

But dhat aijd man stil held him bi the cloke, saying, "Spitfiə, iz not this thine hous ov Oulzwic? And iz it not the moast strong and fae place dhat evvə man sau in this cuntra?"

"Filth, unhand me," ced Spitfiə, "els shal I prezntly thrust the throo widh mi saud, and cend the too the Taatərəs ov hel, wae I dout not the devlz dhae too long əwate the."

But dhat aijd man ced əghen, "Hot stuuring hedz ar too esəly entrapt. Hoald faast, Spitfiə, too dhat wich iz thine, and biwwae ov Thremnə Hu."

Nou woz Laud Spitfiə wood an‘gry, and biccoz the oald caal stil held him bi the cloke and wood not let him go, pluct fauth hiz saud, thhinking too hav strickən him əbout the hed widh the flat ov hiz saud. But widh dhat stroke went a gust ov wind əbout them, so dhat the tauch-flaimz wuu ni blone out. And dhat woz strainj, ov a stil windləs nite. And in dhat gust woz the oald man vannisht əwa like a cloud paacing in the nite.

Sig spake: "The thhin habbit ov spirrits iz biyyond the faus ov weppənz."

"Pish!" ced Spitfiə. "Woz this a spirrit? I hoald it raathə a cimmulaicrəm au illuizhn prippaed fau us bi Wichlandz cunning, too daakən ouə counsl and shake ouə rezsəluishn."

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On the morro wile yet sunrise woz red, Laud Sig went doun too the ce-shau too baidh in the grate roc puilz dhat face southwəd əcros the litl ba ov Oulzwic. The sault ae woz fresh aaftə the rane. The wind dhat had viyyəd too the eest bloo in coald and pinching gusts. In a rift bitwene slate-bloo cloudz the lo sun flaimd blud-red. Faa too the soudh-eest wae the wautəz ov Miclfuuth opən on the mane, the lo clifs ov Loocking'haivn-nes luimd shaddowy az a banc ov cloud.

Sig lade doun hiz saud and spiyyə and looct southheest əcros the fuuth; and bihhoald, a ship in fool sale rounding the nes and stiyyəring nauthwəd on the laabəd tac. And wen he had put auf hiz cuutl he looct əghen, and bihhoald, too mau ships a-stiyyəring round the nes and saling haad in the wake ov the fuust. So he dond hiz cuutl əghen and tooc hiz weppənz, and bi then wuu fiftene sale a-stiyyəring up the fuuth in line əhed, dragghənz ov wau.

So he faed haistilly too Spitfiəz tent, and found him yet əbed, fau swete slepe yet nuust in huu boozsəm impetchoowwəs Spitfiə; hiz hed woz throne bac on the broidəd pillo, displaying hiz strong shaivn throte and chin; hiz fiyyəs mouth binneeth hiz brisling fae məstaasheyose woz rillaxt in slumbə, and hiz fiyyəs ise cloazd in slumbə binneeth dhae yello brisling

iabrouz.

Sig tooc him bi the foot and waict him and toald him aul the mattə: "Fiftene ships, and evry ship (az I mite plainly ce az dha droo ni) az fool ov men az dhae be egz in a herringz ro. So cummith ouə expectaishn too the buuth."

"And so," ced Spitfiə, leping from the couch, "cummith Laxəs əghen too Demənland, widh fresh mete too glut ouə saudz widhaul."

He caut up hiz weppənz and ran too a litl nole dhat stood əbuv the beche ovə əghenst Oulzwic Caasl. And aul the hoast ran too bihhoald dhose dragghənz ov wau sale up the fuuth at daun ov da.

"Dha dous sale," ced Spitfiə, "and put in fau Skəramsy. 'Tiz not fau nuthhing I taut these Wichlandəz on the Raips ov Bremə. Laxəs, cins he witnəst dhat doun-thro ov dhae aamy, nou əcountith iləndz mau hoalcəmə dhan the mainland, wel nowing we hav nau sailz nau wingz too strike əcros the fuuth at him. Yet scaesly bi sculking in the iləndz shal he brake up the cege ov Oulzwic."

Sig ced, "I wood no wae be hiz fiftene uthə ships."

"In fiftene ships," ced Spitfiə, "it iz not poscəbl he barith mau dhan cixtene hundrəd au cevntene hundrəd men ov wau. Əghenst so menny I am strong ennuf too-da, shood dha ədvenchə a landing, too thro əm intoo the ce and stil kəntane Caucəs if he make a sally. If mau be addid, I am the les ciccuə. Dhaefau əcaizhn caulith but the loudə fau thi puupəst faring too the west."

So the Laud Sig cauld him out a duzn men-at-aamz and went

a-hausbac. Bi then wuu aul the ships rode əshau undə the suthən spit ov Skəramsy, wae iz good ankərij fau ships. Dha wuu dhae hidn from vu, aul save dhae maasts dhat shode ovə the spit, so dhat the Demənz mite əbzuuv naut ov dhae discimbaaking.

Spitfiə rode widh Sig thre mialz au fau, az faa az the brou ov the discent too the faudz ov Ethriwwautə, and dhae bad him faewel. "Liatning shal be slo too mi hasting," ced Sig, "til I be bac əghen. Meentime, I wood hav the be not too scaunfəly unmiandfəl ov dhat oald man."

"Chuuking ov sparrose!" ced Spitfiə. "I hav fəgot hiz brabl." Nevvəthəles hiz glaans shiftid southwəd biyyond Oulzwic too the grate bluf ov tre-hung prescippis dhat standz like a centinl əbuv the meddose ov Loə Tivərandədale, leving but a narro wa bitwixt its lowist cragz and the ce. He laaft: "O mi frend, I am yet a boi in thine ise it cemith, aulbeyit I am wel-ni twenty-nine yuuz oald."

"Laaf at me and dhou wilt," ced Sig. "Widhout this wuud ced I cood not leve the."

"Wel," ced Spitfiə, "too lul thi fiyyəz, Ile not go a-buudznesting on Thremnə Hu til dhou cum bac əghen."

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Nou fau a weke au mau woz naut too tel ov save dhat Spitfiəz aamy sat biffau Oulzwic, and dha on the iləndcent evvə and əghen thre au fau ships too land sudnly əbout Loocking'haivn au at the hed ov the fuuth, au southhəwa biyyond Dreppəby, az faa az the coastlandz undə Rimən Aamən, harriyying and buuning. And az oft az faus woz gathəd əghenst them,

dha faed əbaud əghen and saild bac too Skəramsy. In dhose dase came Vol from the west widh an hundrəd men and joind him widh Spitfiə.

The aitth da ov Novembə the wethə wuucənd, and cloudz gathəd from the west and soudh, til aul the ski woz a weltə ov huge wautəry ledn cloudz, ceppəratid wun from ənuthə bi oily streex ov wite. The wind groo fitfəl az the da wau. The ce woz daac like dul iən. Rane biggan too faul in big drops. The mountinz shode monstrəs and shaddowy: sum daac inky bloo, uthəz in the west like waulz and bastiyyənz ov clottid mist əghenst the hules mist ov hevn bihhiand them. Eevning cloazd widh thundə and rane and liatning-taun banx ov vapə. Aul nite long the thundə raud in sullən intəmishn, and aul nite long nu banx ov thundə-cloud swung təghethə and paatid and swung təghethə əghen. And the lite ov the moone woz əbatid, and no lite cene save the levvin-brand, and the camp-fiəz biffau Oulzwic, and the lite ov revvəlry within. So dhat the Demənz campt biffau the caasl wuu not wae ov dhose fiftene ships dhat put out from Skəramsy on dhat wiald ce and landid too au thre mialz too the southwəd bi the grate bluf ov Thremnə Hu. Nau wuu dha wae at aul ov them dhat landid from the ships: fiftene au cixtene hundrəd men-at-aamz widh Hemming ov Wichland and hiz yung bruthə Caago fau dhae ledəz. And the ships rode bac too Skəramsy throo the loud staum and fury ov the wethə, aul save wun dhat foundəd in Bothry Sound.

But on the maun, wen the tempist woz əbatid, mite aul bihhoald the pootting fauth ov fautene ships ov wau from Skəramsy, evry ship ov them laidn widh men-at-aamz. Dha had pascij swiftly ovə the fuuth, and came əland too mialz soudh ov Oulzwic. And the ships stood auf əghen from the land, but the aamy maashld fau batl on the meedz əbuv Min‘gaan Hope.

Nou Laud Spitfiə let drau up hiz men and muivd out southwəd from the lianz biffau Oulzwic. Wen dha wuu cum within sum haaf mialz distəns ov the Wichland aamy, so dhat dha mite ce cliyyəly dhae ruscit cuutlz and dhae sheeldz and boddy-aamə ov bronz, and the dul glint ov dhae saud-blaidz and the hedz ov dhae spiyyəz, Vol, dhat rode bi Spitfiə, spake and ced, "Maakist dhou him, O Spitfiə, dhat ridith bac and fauth biffau dhae batl, maashəling them? So evvə rode Kərinniyyəs; and wel maist dhou no him eevn əfaa auf bi hiz showinnəs and jaunting carrij. Yet ce a grate wundə nou: fau hoo evvə huud tel ov this yung hotspuu ghivving bac from the fite? And nou, au evvə we be gottən within spiyyə-shot----"

"Bi the brite i ov da," cride Spitfiə, "tiz so! Wil he bauc me qwite ov a batl? Ile looce a handfool ov haus uppon them too dilla dhae haist ae dha be flone biyyond cite and fianding."

Dhaewidh he gave kəmaand too hiz hausmən too ride fauth uppon the ennəmy. And dha rode fauth widh Əstaa ov Retra, dhat woz bruthə-in-lau too Laud Sig, fau dhae ledə. But the Wichland haus met them bi the shallose ov Aaron Pou and held them in the shallose wile Kərinniyyəs widh hiz mane aamy wun əcros the rivvə. And wen the mane boddy ov the Demənz wuu cum up and the pascij faust, the Wichlandəz wuu gottən clene əwa əcros the wautə-meddose too the paas bitwixt the shau and the steeps ov Thremnə Hu.

Then ced Spitfiə, "Dha sta not too faum eevn i the narro wa twixt the ce and the Hu. And dhat wuu dhae saifty, if dha had but the haat too tuun and stand us." And he shoutid widh a grate shout uppon hiz men too chaaj the ennəmy, and suffə not a Wich too ovəliv dhat slautə.

So the footmən caut hoald ov the stirrəp-lethəz ov the hausmən, and running and riding dha paud intoo the narro paas; and evvə woz Spitfiə faumoast əmung hiz men, huwing too left and too rite əmung the pres, riding on dhat welming batl-tide dhat ceemd too bae him on too triəmf.

But nou on a sudn woz he, hoo widh but twelv hundrəd men had so hotly follode fiftene hundrəd intoo the strate pascij undə Thremnə Hu, made wae too late dhat he must hav too doo widh thre thouznd: Kərinniyyəs ralliyying hiz foke and tuuning like a woolf in the paas, wile Corrəndz sunz, dhat had landid az əfauced in the staum in the muuc ov nite, swept doun widh dhae bətalliyyənz from the wooddid sloaps bihhiand the Hu. In such wise dhat Spitfiə wist not soonə ov enny faushaddowing ov dizzaastə dhan ov dizzaastəz celf: the thundə ov the blo in flanc and frunt and riyyə.

Then biffel grate manslaying bitwene the ce-clifs and the ce. The Demənz, takən at dhat ədvaantij, wuu like a man tript in mid-stride bi a rope əcros the wa. Bi the sau oncet ov the Witchiz dha wuu drivn doun intoo the shallose ov the ce, and the spume ov the ce woz red widh blud. And the Laud Kərinniyyəs, nou dhat he had dun widh faind ritrete, faed throo the batl like a streme ov unqwenchəbl wialdfiə, dhat nun mite cəstane hiz stroax dhat wuu əbout him.

Nou woz Spitfiəz haus slane undə him widh a spiyyə-thrust, az riding fetloc-depe in the yeelding sand he rallid hiz men too fling bac Hemming. But Bremməry ov Shauz braut him ənuthə haus, and so mitilly went he fauth əghenst the Witchiz dhat the sunz ov Corrənd wuu fane too ghiv bac biffau hiz onslaut, and dhat wing ov the Wichland aamy woz prest bac əghenst the brokən ground billo the Hu. Yet woz dhat ov litl

əvale, fau Kərinniyyəs brake throo from the nauth, thrusting the Demənz widh grate slautə bac from the ce, so dhat dha wuu pend bitwixt him and Hemming. Dhaewidh Spitfiə tuund widh sum pict cumpəniz əghenst Kərinniyyəs; and wel it ceemd fau əwile dhat a grate faus ov the Witchiz must be welmd au dround in the sault waivz. And Kərinniyyəs himcelf stood nou in grate perrəl ov hiz life, fau hiz haus woz boagd in the soft sandz and mite not win fre fau aul hiz plun'ging.

In dhat nic ov time came Spitfiə throo the stouə, widh a band ov Demənz əbout him, slaying az he came. He shoutid widh a terreebl vois, "O Kərinniyyəs, haitfəl too me and mine az ar the gaits ov Hel, nou wil I kil the, and thi ded caakəs shal fatn the swete meedz ov Oulzwic."

Kərinniyyəs aancəd him, "Bluddy Spitfiə, laast ov thre welps, fau thi bruthəz ar bi nou ded and rotn, I shal ghiv the a choke-pae."

Dhaewidh Spitfiə shot a twuul-spiyyə at him. It mist the man but smote the grate haus in the shoaldə so dhat he plunjd and fel in a hepe, huut too the deth. But the Laud Kərinniyyəs liting nimbly on hiz fete caut Spitfiəz haus bi the briadl rane and smote it on the muzl, eevn az he rode at him, so dhat the haus riyyəd up and swuuvd. Spitfiə made a grate blo at him widh an ax, but it came slaantwise on the helmit rij and glentid əcide in ae. Then Kərinniyyəs thrust up undə Spitfiəz sheeld widh hiz saud, and the point entəd the big musl ov the aam niyyə the aampit, and glaancing əghenst the bone tau up throo the muslz ov the shoaldə. And dhat woz a grate wuind.

Nevvəthəles Spitfiə slact not from the fite, but smote at him əghen, thhinking too hav hune auf hiz aam the hand warov

stil clucht the briadl-rane. Kərinniyyəs caut the ax on hiz sheeld, but hiz finʻghəz luist the rane, and aulmoast he fel too uuth undə dhat mity stroke, and the good bronz sheeld woz dentid and battəd in.

Nou widh the loocing ov the rainz woz Spitfiəz haus plunjd fauwəd, carriyying him paast Kərinniyyəs təwaud the ce. But he tuund and haild him, criying, "Ghet the an haus. Fau I count it unwuuthy too fite widh the baring this ədvaantij ovə the, I a-hausbac and dhou on foot."

Kərinniyyəs cride out and aancəd, "Cum doun from thine haus then, and mete me foot too foot. And no it, mi pritty throsl-coc, dhat I am king in Demənland, wich dignitty I hoald ov the King ov Kingz, Gorice ov Wichland, mine oanly ovəlaud. Mete it iz dhat I sho the in combat cinʻgulə, dhat vauntist thicelf gratist əmung the rebbəlz yet left əlive in this mi kingdəm, hou much gratə iz mi mite dhan thine."

"These be grate and thumping wuudz," ced Spitfiə. "I shal thrust them doun thi throte əghen."

Dhaewidh he made az if too lite doun from hiz haus; but az he strove too lite doun, a mist went biffau hiz ise and he reeld in hiz sadl. Hiz men rusht in bitwixt him and Kərinniyyəs, and the captin ov hiz boddiggaad bae him up, saying, "U ar huut, mi laud. U must not fite no mau widh Kərinniyyəs, fau yau hinəs iz unmete fau fiting and ma not stand əlone."

So dha dhat wuu əbout him bae up grate Spitfiə. And the mella dhat woz stade wile dhose laudz delt təghethə in cinʻgl combat brake fauth əfresh in dhat place. But aul the wile had furiyyəs wau swung and ravnd billo Thremnə Hu, and wundrəs woz the vallə ov the Demənz; fau menny hundrəd

wuu slane au wuindid too the deth, and but a smaul faus wuu dha dhat yet rimmaind too bae up the batl əghenst the Witchiz.

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Nou dhose dhat wuu widh Spitfiə dippaatid widh him in the ceecrittist mannə dhat dha cood out ov the fite, rapping əbout him a wotchit-culləd cloke too hide hiz shining aamə. Dha staancht the blud dhat ran from the grate wuind in hiz shoaldə and bound it up caefəly, and carrid him a-hausbac bi Volz kəmaand intoo Tremmədale bi ceecrit mountin paadhz up too a descələt corry eest ov Sterry Gap, undə the grate scre-shoote dhat flanx the prescippisciz ov the soudh summit ov Dinə. A long time he la dhae censlis, like too wun ded. Fau menny huuts had he takən in the unneeqwəl fite, and graitly woz he bruizd and battəd, but wuust ov aul woz the sau huut Kərinniyyəs gave him ae dha paatid bitwixt the limmits ov land and ce.

And wen nite woz faulən and aul the wase wuu daakənd, came the Laud Vol widh a fu kəmpanniyyənz uttəly wiyyərid too dhat loanly corry. The nite woz stil and cloudləs, and the maidn moone wauct hi hevn, blackəning the shaddose ov the grate peex dhat wuu like shaax teeth əghenst the nite. Spitfiə la on a bed ov ling and cloax in the le ov a grate boaldə. Gaastly pale woz hiz face in the cilvə muinlite.

Vol leend uppon hiz spiyyə loocking uunistly uppon him. Dha aasct him tidingz. And Vol aancəd, "Aul lost," and stil looct uppon Spitfiə.

Dha ced, "Mi laud, we hav staancht the blud and bound up the wuind, but hiz laudship əbidith yet censlis. And graitly

we fiyyə fau hiz life, lest this grate huut yet proove hiz bane-sau."

Vol neeld biscide him on the coald shaap stoanz and tendid him az a muthə mite huu cic chiald, əpliying too the wuind leevz ov blac hauhound and milfoil and uthə heling cimplz, and ghivving him too drinc out ov a flaasc ov preshəs wine ov Aashəlmaa, ripənd fau an age in the depe celləz billo Crothəring. So dhat in a wile Spitfiə opənd hiz ise and ced, "Drau bac the cuutnz ov the bed, fau tiz menny a da cins I woke up in Oulzwic. Au iz it nite indede? Hou went the fite, then?"

Hiz ise staed at the nakid rox and the nakid ski biyyond them. Then widh a grate grone he liftid himcelf on hiz rite elbo. Vol put a strong aam əbout him, saying, "Drinc the good wine, and hav paishns. Dhae be grate doowingz təwaud."

Spitfiə staed round him əwile, then ced viələntly, "Shal we be foxiz and fugətiv men too dwel in hoalz ə the hollo mountin cide? So the brite da iz dun, haa? Then auf widh these tramməlz." And he fel a-tiyyəring at the bandij on hiz wuindz.

But Vol privventid him widh strong handz, saying, "Bithhinc the hou on the ələne, O gloriyyəs Spitfiə, and on thi wise haat and valliyyənt sole dhat dillitith in furiyyəs wau, restith aul ouə hope too waud auf from ouə lady wiavz and diyyə childrən and aul ouə good land and fe the fury ov the men ov Wichland, and too save əlive the grate name ov Demənland. Let not thi proud haat be capəbl ov dispae."

But Spitfiə groand and ced, "Suutn it woz dhat wo and eevl hap must be too Demənland until mi kinzmən be gottən home

əghen. And dhat da I thhinc shal nevvə daun." And he cride, "Boastid he not dhat he iz king in Demənland? and yet I had not mi saud in hiz umblz. And dhou thhinkist Ile liv in shame?"

Dhaewidhaul he strove əghen too tae auf the bandidgiz, but Vol privventid him. And he raivd and ced, "Hoo woz it faust me from the batl? 'Tiz pitty ov hiz life, too hav əbuezd me so. Bettə ded dhan run from Kərinniyyəs like a beetn puppy. Let me go, fauls tratəz! I wil əmend this. I wil di fiting. Let me go bac."

Vol ced, "Lift up thine ise, grate Spitfiə, and bihhoald the lady moone, hou vuugin fre she waukith the wide feeldz ov hevn, and the glory ov the staaz ov hevn wich in dhae multittuedz ətend huu. And az litl az uuthly mists and staumz doo dim huu, but dho she be hid əwile yet wen the tempist iz əbatid and the ski swept bae ov cloudz dhae she əpiyyərith əghen in huu stedfaast caus, mistris ov tiadz and ceeznz and swaə ov the faits ov mautl men: eevn such iz the glory ov ce-guut Demənland, and the glory ov thine hous, O Spitfiə. And az litl az kəmoashnz in the hevnz shood əvale too rimmoove these evvəlaasting mountinz, so litl əvalith dizzaastrəs wau, dho it be a grate fite lost az woz too-da, too shake doun ouə graitnəs, dhat ar mitiyyist widh the spiyyə from ov oald and aibl too make aul uuth bou too ouə glory."

So ced Vol. And the Laud Spitfiə looct out əcros the mist-choact sleping vally too the grate roc-faciz dim in the muinlite and the lene peex graan and cilənt binneeth the moone. He spake not, wethə fau strengthlesnəs au az chaamd too ciləns bi the mity infloowwənciz ov nite and the mountin sollittuedz and bi Volz vois speking depe and qwiət in hiz iyyə, like the vois ov nite huucelf caaming uuth-baun tumults and dispaez.

Aaftə a time Vol spake wuns mau: "Thi bredhrən shal cum home əghen: dout it not. But til then aat dhou ouə strength. Dhaefau hav paishns; hele thi wuindz; and rase fauciz əghen. But shoodst dhou in despərət madnəs distroi thi life, then wuu we shent indede."

20. King Kərinniyyəs

OV THE ENTRY OV THE LAUD KƏRINNIYYƏS INTOO OULZWIC AND HOU HE WOZ
CROUND IN SPITFIƏZ SAFFIƏ CHAE AZ VIASROI OV GORICE THE KING AND KING IN DEMƏNLAND: AND HOU AUL DHAT WUU IN OULZWIC
CAASL DID SO RISCEVE AND ƏCNOLLIJ HIM.

Kərinniyyəs, havving kəmpletid this grate victəry, came widh hiz aamy nauth əghen too Oulzwic az dalite biggan too fade. The draubrij woz let doun fau him and the grate gaits flung wide, dhat wuu studdid widh cilvə and ribd widh addəmənt; and in grate pomp rode he and hiz intoo Oulzwic Caasl, ovə the cauzwa bildid ov the livving roc and grate blox ov hune grannit out ov Tremmədale. The mau paat ov hiz aamy la in Spitfiəz camp biffau the caasl, but a thouznd wuu widh him in hiz entry intoo Oulzwic widh Corrəndz sunz and the laudz Gro and Laxəs bisciadz, fau the flete had put əcros too ankə dhae wen dha sau the da woz wun. Caucəs gretid them wel, and wood hav braut them too dhae lodgingz niyyə hiz one chaimbə, dhat dha mite put auf dhae haanəs and don clene linnin and festivl gaamənts biffau suppə. But Kərinniyyəs ixcuezd himcelf,

saying he had et naut cins brecfəst-time: "Let us
dhaefau not paas fau cerrimməny, but bring us I pra u
fauthrite too the banqwit hous."

Kərinniyyəs went in widh Caucəs biffau them aul, pootting luvvingly
əbout hiz shoaldə hiz aam aul biffould widh dust and clottid
blud. Fau he had not so much az stade fau woshing ov hiz
handz. And dhat woz scaes good fau the broidəd cloke ov
puupl taffitty the Duke Caucəs wau əbout hiz shoaldəz.
Houbeyit, Caucəs made az if he maact it not.

Wen dha wuu cum intoo the haul, Caucəs looct əbout him and
ced, "So it iz, mi Laud Kərinniyyəs, dhat this haul iz sumthhing
litl fau the grate pres dhat hiyyə biffaulith. Menny ov mine
one foke dhat be ov sum əcount shood bi long custəm cit doun
widh us. And hiyyə be no ceets left fau them. Prithy kəmaand
sum ov the commən saut dhat came in widh the too ghiv place,
dhat aul ma be dun audəly. Mine offiscəz must not scrambl
in the buttəry."

"Ime sorry, mi laud," aancəd Kərinniyyəs, "but needz must dhat
we bithhinc us ə these ladz ov mine wich hav cheefly baun
the toil ov batl, and wel I wete dhoult not dinni them this
onnə too cit at mete widh us: these dhat dhou hast moast too
thanc fau opəning Oulzwic gaits and rasing the cege ouə
ennəmiz held so long əghenst u."

So dha tooc dhae ceets, and suppə woz cet biffau them: kidz
stuft widh waulnuts and aaməndz and pistaacheyose; herrənz in
saus cammələine; chianz ov befe; ghece and bustədz; and grate
bekəz and jaaz ov rooby-haatid wine. Rite fane ov the good
banqwit wuu Kərinniyyəs and hiz foke, and ciləns woz in the haul
fau əwile save fau the clattə ov dishiz and the champing ov
the mouths ov the feestəz.

At length Kərinniyyəs, qwoffing doun at wun draaft a mity goblit ov wine, spake and ced, "Dhae woz batl in the meedz bi Thremnə Hu too-da, mi laud Duke. Wost dhou at dhat batl?"

Caucəciz hevvy cheex flusht sumwot red. He aancəd, "Dhou nowist I woz not. And I shood əcount it moast blamaibl hot'heddidnəs too hav sallid fauth wen it ceemd Spitfiə had the victəry."

"O mi laud," ced Kərinniyyəs, "thhinc not I made this a qworrəl too the. The raathə let me sho the hou much I hoald the in onnə."

Dhaewidh he cauld hiz boi dhat stood bihhiand hiz chae, and the boi rittuund ənon widh a diədem ov pollisht goald cet aul əbout widh topazsiz dhat had paast throo the fiə; and on the fruntlet ov dhat diədem woz the smaul figghə ov a crab-fish in dul iən, the ise ov it too grene berrəlz on staux ov cilvə.
The boi cet it doun on the taibl biffau the Laud Kərinniyyəs, az it had bene a dish ov mete biffau him. Kərinniyyəs tooc a riting from hiz puus, and lade it on the taibl fau Caucəs too ce. And dhae woz the cignit uppon it ov the wuum Oorəborəs in scaalət wax, and the cine mannuəl ov Gorice the King.

"Mi Laud Caucəs," ced he, "and ye sunz ov Caucəs, and ye uthə Witchiz, I doo u too wit dhat ouə Laud the King made me bi these tokənz hiz viasroi fau hiz provvins ov Demənland, and wild dhat I shood bae a kingz name in this land and dhat undə him aul shood rendə me əbediyyəns."

Caucəs, loocking on the croun and the roiəl worrənt ov the King, waxt in wun instənt dedly pale, and in the next red az blud.

Kərinniyyəs ced, "Too the, O Caucəs, out ov aul these grate wunz dhat hiyyə be gathəd təghethə in Oulzwic, wil I cəbmit me fau the too croun me widh this croun, az king in Demənland. This, dhat dhou maist ce and no hou moast I onnə the."

Nou wuu aul cilənt, wating on Caucəs too speke. But he spake not a wuud. Deckəlagəs ced privvilly in hiz iyyə, "O mi faathə, if the munky rainz, daans biffau him. Time shal bring us əcaizhn too rite u."

And Caucəs, disriggaading not this hoalcəm rede, fau aul he mite not holy roole hiz countinnəns, yet ruild himcelf too bite in the in'gəriz he woz fane too uttə. And widh no il grace he did dhat offis, too cet on Kərinniyyəciz hed the nu croun ov Demənland.

Kərinniyyəs sat nou in Spitfiəz cete, wens Caucəs had muivd too make place fau him: in Spitfiəz hi cete ov smoke-culləd jade, curiyyəsly caavd and cet widh velvit-lustəd saffiəz, and rite and left ov him wuu too hi candlstix ov fine goald. The bredth ov hiz shoaldəz fild aul the space bitwene the pilləz ov the spaishəs cete. A haad man he looct too dele widh, cloadhd uppon widh ueth and strength and aul aamd and yet smoking from the batl.

Caucəs, citting bitwene hiz sunz, ced undə hiz breth, "Roobaab! bring me roobaab too puuj əwa this collə!"

But Deckəlagəs wispəd him, "Softly, tred esy. Let not ouə counslz wauc in a net, thhinking dha ar hidn. Nuus him too ciccuritty, wich shal be ouə saifty and the mene too ouə wiping out this shaming. Woz not Galləndəs az big a man?"

Caucəciz dul i gleemd. He liftid a brimming wine-cup too toast Kərinniyyəs. And Kərinniyyəs haild him and ced, "Mi laud Duke, caul in thine offiscəz I pra the and prəclame me, dhat dha in tuun ma prəclame me king untooh aul the aamy dhat iz in Oulzwic."

Wich Caucəs did, aulbeyit sau əghenst hiz liking, nowing not wae too fiand a resən əghenst it.

Wen the plaudits wuu huud in the cauts widhout, əclaming him az king, Kərinniyyəs spake əghen and ced, "I and mi foke be a-wiyyəry, mi laud, and wood bittiamz too ouə rest. Ghiv audə, I pra the, dhat dha make reddy mi lodgingz. And let them be dhose same lodgingz Galləndəs had wennaz he woz in Oulzwic."

Warat Caucəs mite scaes faubae a staat. But Kərinniyyəciz i woz on him, and he gave the audə.

Wile he watid fau hiz lodgingz too be made reddy, the Laud Kərinniyyəs made grate good chiyyə, cauling fau mau wine and fresh daintiz too cet biffau dhose laudz ov Wichland: ollivz, and botaagose, and kənsuuvz ov goociz livvə richly ceeznd, takən from Spitfiəz plentiyyəs stau.

In the meentime Caucəs spake softly too hiz sunz: "I like not hiz naming ov Galləndəs. Yet cemith he caeləs, az wun dhat fiyyərith no ghile."

And Deckəlagəs aancəd in hiz iyyə, "Puurədvenchə the Godz audaind hiz distrucshn, too make him choose dhat chaimbə."

So dha laaft. And the banqwit droo too a close widh much plezhə and merrimmaking.

Nou came suuving men widh tauchiz too lite them too dhae chaimbəz. Az dha stood up too bid good-nite, Kərinniyyəs ced, "Ime sorry, mi laud, if, aaftə thi pleznt ucij, I shood doo aut dhat iz not kənvenəbl too the. But I dout not Oulzwic Caasl must be uuxəm too the and thi sunz, dhat wuu so long mude up within it, and I dout not ye ar wiyyərid bi this cege and long waufae. Dhaefau it iz mi wil dhat u doo instəntly dippaat home too Wichland. Laxəs hath a ship mand reddy too transpaut u thithə. Too put a fit and frendly tuum too ouə festivvittiz, wele bring u doun too the ship."

Caucəciz jau fel. Yet he scuild hiz tung too sa, "Mi laud, so az it shal plese the. Yet let me no thi resənz. Shoowwəly the saudz ov me and mi sunz əvale not so litl fau Wichland in this cuntry ov ouə eevl-willəz dhat we shood sheedh əm and go home. Houbeyit, tiz a mattə dimmaandith no swetty haist. We wil take rede huu'eən in the mauning."

But Kərinniyyəs aancəd him, "Cri u muucy, needfəl it iz dhat this verry nite u go əshipbaud." And he gave him an il looc, saying, "Cith I li too-nite in Galləndəciz lodgingz, I thhinc it fit mi boddiggaad shood hav thi chaimbə, mi laud Duke, wich, az I laitly luunid, əjoinith it."

Caucəs ced no wuud. But Goriyyəs, hiz yun'ghə sun, dhat woz drunc widh wine, leept up and ced, "Kərinniyyəs, in an eevl ouə aat dhou cum intoo this land too dimmaand suuvittude ov us. And dhou aat infaumd ov mi faathə rite məlishəsly if dhou aat əfiyyəd ov us biccoz ov Galləndəs. 'Tiz this vipə cittith biscide the, the Goblin swobbə, toald the faulsly this bad tale ov us. And tiz pitty he iz stil inwəd widh the, fau stil he plottith eevl ghenst Wichland."

Deckəlagəs thrust him əcide, saying too Kərinniyyəs, "Hede not mi

bruthə dho he be haisty and roode ov speche; fau in wine he spekith, and wine iz ənuthə man. But moast troo it iz, O Kərinniyyəs, and this shal the Duke mi faathə and aul we swae and kənfuum too the widh the mitiyyist oadhz dhou wilt, dhat Galləndəs saut too uzuup authorritty fau this sake oanly, too bitra ouə hole aamy too the ennəmy. And twoz oanly dhaefau Caucəs sloo him."

"Dhat iz a flat li," ced Laxəs.

Gro laaft liatly.

But Kərinniyyəciz saud leept haaf nakid from the scabbəd, and he made a stride təwaud Caucəs and hiz sunz. "Ghiv me the kingz name wen ye speke too me," he ced, scouling uppon them. "U sunz ov Caucəs ar not men too make me a stauc too cach buudz widh au too suuv yau one tuun. And dhou," he ced, loocking fiyyəsly on Caucəs, "wuut best go meecly, and not bandy wuudz widh me. Dhou foole! thhinxt dhou I am Galləndəs cum əghen? Dhou dhat didst muuthə him shalt not muuthə me. Au thhinxt I dillivvəd the out ov the toilz thine one folly and thrawaut wase had bound the in, oanly too suffə the laud it əghen hiyyə and caast aul əmis əghen bi the unqwiətnəs ov thi mallis? Hiyyə iz the gaad too bring u doun too the ship. And wel it iz fau the if I slash not auf thi hed."

Nou Caucəs and hiz sunz stood fau a litl douting in dhae haats wethə it wuu fittə too lepe widh dhae weppənz uppon Kərinniyyəs, pootting dhae fauchuinz too the hazsəd ov batl in Oulzwic haul, au too imbrace niscescitty and go doun too the ship. And this ceemd too them the bettə chois, too go qwiətly əshipbaud; fau dhae stood Kərinniyyəs and Laxəs and dhae men, and but fu too face them ov Caucəciz one peepl, dhat shood be shoowwə fau hiz paaty if it came too fiting; and widhaul dha wuu

not eghə too hav too doo widh Kərinniyyəs, not dho it had bene on mau eevn tuumz. So at the laast, in an'ghə and bittənəs ov haat, dha cəbmittid them too əba hiz wil; and in dhat same ouə Laxəs braut them too the ship, and put them əcros the fuuth too Skəramsy.

Dhae wuu dha safe az a mous in a mil. Fau Caddarrooce woz skippə ov dhat ship, a trustid leejman ov Laud Laxəs, and huu croo men lele and troo too Kərinniyyəs and Laxəs. She la at ankə az fau dhat nite in the le ov the iləND, and widh the fuust streke ov daun saild doun the fuuth, baring Caucəs and hiz sunz hoamwəd from Demənland.

21. The Paaly Biffau Crothəring

WARIN IZ SHONE HOU WAULIKE POLLƏCY AND A PICCHƏ PAINTID DROO
THE WAU WESTWƏD: AND HOU THE LAUD GRO WENT ON AN EMBƏSAAZH TOO
CROTHƏRING GAITS, AND OV THE AANCƏ HE GAT DHAE.

Nou it iz too be ced ov Sig dhat he faild not too foolfil Spitfiəz bihhest, but gathəd haistilly an aamy ov mau dhan fiftene hundrəd haus and foot out ov the nauthən dailz and the habbittaishnz əbout Shalgreth Heeth and the paaschə-landz ov Keelyəland and Swichwautə Wa and the regən ov Ramməric, and came in haist ovə the Stile. But wen Kərinniyyəs nu ov this faring from the west, he maacht thre thouznd strong too mete them əbuv Muinmiyyə Hed, too dinni them the wa too Galing. But Sig, beying yet in the uppə defialz ov Brakingdale, nou fau

the fuust time had ədvuutismənt ov the grate slautə at Thremnə Hu, and hou the fauciz ov Spitfiə and Vol wuu brokən and scattəd and thəmcelvz fled up intoo the mountinz; and so deming it smaul gane widh so litl an aamy too ghiv batl too Kərinniyyəs, he tuund bac widhout mau ədoo and rittuund haistilly ovə the Stile wens he came. Kərinniyyəs cent lite fauciz too harry hiz ritrete, but beying not miandid az then too follo them intoo the west cuntry, let bild a buug in the throte ov the paas in a place ov vaantij, and staishnd dhae cəfishnt men too waud it, and so came əghen too Oulzwic.

Dha dhat wuu widh Kərinniyyəs in Demənland numbəd nou mau dhan five thouznd fiting men: a grate and riddoutəbl aamy. Widh these, the wethə beying fine and opən, he in a shaut time lade undə him aul eestən Demənland, save Galing ələne. Bremməry ov Shauz widh but cevnty men held Galing fau Laud Jus əghenst aul əsaults. So dhat Kərinniyyəs, thhinking this froote shood ripən latə and drop intoo hiz hand wen the rest had bene gathəd, rizzolvd at wintəz end too maach widh hiz mane aamy intoo the west cuntry, leving a smaul faus too hoald doun the eestlandz and kəntane Bremməry in Galing. Too this dittuuminnaishn he woz led bi aul aagumənts ov sound soalgəship, moast happilly ceckənding hiz one inclinnaishnz. Fau bisciadz this ov waulike polləcy too scaes wekə loadstoanz droo him westwəd: fuust the oald cankəd mallis he bae in hiz haat əghenst the Laud Brandokh Daahaa, dhat made Crothəring hiz diyyərist pra; and next, hiz one lustfəl dizsiəz moast outragəsly buuning fau the Lady Mevreən. And this oanly fau the cite ov huu picchə, found bi him in Spitfiəz clozsit əmung hiz penz and inxtandz and uthə trinkits, wich wuns looct on he swau dhat widh Hevnz wil (i, au widhout if so it must be) she shood be hiz parrəmoowwə.

So on the fauteenth da ov Maach, ov a brite frosty maun, he

widh hiz mane aamy maacht up Brakingdale and ovə the Stile,
bi dhat same rode dhat Laud Jus faed bi and Laud Brandokh
Daahaa, dhat summəz da wen dha went too take counsl in
Crothəring biffau the Impland expiddishn. So came the Witchiz
doun too the wautəzmete and tuund əcide too Menny Booshiz. Dhae
dha found not Sig nau hiz lady wife nau enny ov hiz foke, but
found the hous descələt. So dha robd and buund and went
dhae wa. And a famәs caasl ov Jusciz dha sact and buund
in the confianz ov Keelyəland, and ənuthə on Swichwautə Wa,
and a summə pallis ov Spitfiəz on a litl hil əbuv
Rammәric Miyyə. In such wise dha maacht victoriyyəsly doun
Swichwautə Wa, and dhae woz nun too dispute dhae proagres
but aul fled at the əproche ov dhat grate aamy and hid
thəmcelvz in the ceecrit placiz ov the mountinz, əvoiding
deth and fate.

Wen he woz cum throo the straits ov Gashtəndale up on too
Crothəring Cide, Kərinniyyəs let pich hiz camp undə Uun'gate End,
at the foot ov the scre-stroone sloaps dhat rise steeply too the
hi westən face ov the mountin, wae the lene imbatld
cragz faa əloft stand like a waul əghenst hi hevn.

Kərinniyyəs came too Laud Gro and ced too him, "Too the wil I
entrust mine embəsaazh too this Mevreən. Dhou shalt go widh a
flag ov trooce too gane the entry too the caasl; au if dha wil
not ədmit the, then bid huu paaly widh the widhout the waul.
Then shalt dhou use wot fantastic cautiyyəz jaaghən nachə and
thine invenshn shal liteyist counsl the, and sa,
'Kərinniyyəs, bi the grace ov the grate King and the mite ov hiz
one hand king ov Demənland, cittith az dhou wel maist ce in
pouə invincəbl biffau this caasl. But he wild me let the
no dhat he iz not cum fau too make wau əghenst ladiz and
dammәselz, and be dhou ov this shoowwə, dhat niathər too the nau too
nun ov thi fautris he wil naut sa nau huut. Oanly this

onnə he proffərith the, too wed the in swete marrij and
make the hiz qwene in Demənland.' Waetoo if she sa ya, wel
and good, and we wil go up pecəbly intoo Crothəring and
pəses it and the woommən. But if she dinni me this, then shalt
dhou sa untooh huu rite fiyyəsly dhat I wil cet on əghenst the
caasl like a liən, and niathər rest nau ghiv ovə until I hav
beetn it aul too a roowin əbout huu iyyəz and slane the foke widh
the ej ov the saud. And dhat wich she riffusith me too hav
in peesfəl luv and kiandnəs I wil hav ov mi one viələnt
dede, dhat she and huu stif-nect Demənz ma no dhat I am
dhae king, and maastə ov aul dhat iz dhaez, and dhae one
boddiz but chatlz too suuv mi plezhə."

Gro ced, "Mi Laud Kərinniyyəs, choose I pra the ənuthə hoo
shal be fittə dhan I too doo this errənd fau the;" and so fau
a long time moast uunistly bissaut him. But Kərinniyyəs, the mau
he pəceevd the duty haitfəl too Gro, the fuumə biccame hiz
rezsəluishn dhat nun but Gro shood undətake it. So dhat in
the end Gro pəfaus kəncentid, and in the same ouə went widh
illevn up too the gaits ov Crothəring, and a wite flag ov trooce
woz baun biffau him.

He cent hiz herrəld up too the gate too dizsiə speche ov the Lady
Mevreən. And in a wile the gaits wuu opənd, and she came
doun ətendid too mete Laud Gro in the opən gaadn biffau the
brij-gate. It woz bi then late aaftənoone, and the buuning sun
swam lo əmid streect levl cloudz incaanədine, cetting əflame
the wautəz ov Thundəfuuth widh the riflecshn ov hiz beemz.
From the həriazn, hi biyyond the pine-clad hilz ov Westmaac,
a rainj ov cloudz riyyəd thəmcelvz, sollid and ov an iən hu;
so haad-ejd əghenst the vapəry ski ov suncet, dhat dha
ceemd cəbstanshl mountinz, not cloudz: unnuuthly mountinz
(a man mite fancy) divvianly raizd up fau Demənland, fau hoome
not aul huu ainshənt hilz gave enny lon'ghər reffuge əghenst huu

ennəmiz. Hiyyə, in Crothəring gaits, wintəswete and the litl puupl dafny boosh dhat bluimz biffau the lefe breedhd fraigrəns əbraud. Yet woz it not this sweetnəs in the ae dhat trubld the Laud Gro, nau dhat westən glory buuning dhat dazld hiz ise; but too looc uppon dhat lady standing in the gate, wite-skind and daac, like the divvine Huntris, taul and proud and luvly.

Mevreən, ceying him speechləs, ced at laast, "Mi laud, I huud dhou hadst sum errənd too diclae untooh me. And ceying a grate camp ov wau gathəd undə Uun'gate End, and havving huud ov robbəz and eevl-dooəz rife əbout the land these menny muinz, I looc not fau soft speche. Take haat, dhaefau, and diclae plainly wot il dhou menist."

Gro aancəd and ced, "Tel me fuust if dhou dhat spekist aat in truith the Lady Mevreən, dhat I ma no wethə too humən kiand I speke au too sum Goddis cum doun from the shining flau ov hevn."

She aancəd, "Ov thi complimments I hav naut too doo. I am she dhou namist."

"Maddəm," ced Laud Gro, "I wood not hav braut yau hinəs this mescij nau dillivvəd it, but dhat I no fool wel dhat did I riffuse it ənuthə shood bae it the fool spedilly, and widh les complimment and les sorro dhan I."

She noddid graivly, az hoo shood sa, Prəcede. So, widh wot countinnəns he mite, he rihhuust hiz mescij, saying wen it woz endid, "Dhus, maddəm, ceth Kərinniyyəs the king: and dhus he chaajd me dillivvə it untooh yau hinəs."

Mevreən huud him ətentivly widh hed irrect. Wen he had dun

she woz cilənt a litl, stil studdiyying him. Then she spake: "Mithhinx I no the nou. Dhou aat Laud Gro ov Goblinland dhat barist me this mescij."

Gro aancəd, "Maddəm, he dhou namist went yuuz əgo from this uuth. I am Laud Gro ov Wichland."

"So it cemith, from thi tauc," ced she; and woz cilənt əghen.

The steddy contəmplaishn from dhat ladese ise woz like a nife scraping hiz tendə skin, so dhat he woz il at ese wel ni paast baring.

Aaftə a litl she ced. "I rimmembə the, mi laud. Let me stuu thi memməry. Illevn yuuz əgo, mi bruthə went too wau in Goblinland əghenst the Witchiz, and ovəcame them on Lauməron feeld. Dhae sloo he the grate King ov Wichland in cin'gl combat, Gorice X., dhat until dhat da woz held fau the mitiyyist man-at-aamz in aul the wuuld. Mi bruthə woz az then but atene wintəz oald, and dhat woz the fuust blasing up ov hiz grate fame and glory. So King Gazlaac made grate feesting and grate ridjoicing in Zadgy Zacculo biccoz ov the ridding ov hiz land ov the əprescəz. I woz at dhose revvəlz. I sau the dhae, mi laud; and beying but a litl made ov illevn summəz, sat on thi ne in Gazlaax haulz. Dhou didst sho me boox, widh picchəz in strainj culləz ov goald and grene and scaalət, ov buudz and beests and distənt cuntriz and wundəz ov the wuuld. And I, beying a litl haamləs made, thaut the good and kiand ov haat, and luvd the."

She ceest, and Gro, like a man hath takən sum drousy drug, stood loocking on huu kənfoundid.

"Tel me," ced she, "ov this Kərinniyyəs. Iz he such a fitə az

men sa?"

"He iz," ced Gro, "wun ov the moast faməcist captinz dhat evvə woz. Dhat mite not hiz wuust ennəmiz gainsa."

Mevreən ced, "A liacly consaut, thhinxt dhou, fau a lady ov Demənland? Rimmembə, I hav ced na too cround kingz. I wood no thi miand, fau doutlis he iz thi verry fəmilliyyə frend, cins he made the hiz go-bitwene."

Gro sau dhat she moct, and he woz trubld at haat. "Maddəm," ced he, and hiz vois shooc sumwot, "take not in too grate scaun this vile paat in me. Verrilly this I braut the iz the moast shaimfəlist mescij, and flatly əghenst mi wil did I dillivvə it untooh the. Yet widh such kənstraint uppon me, hou cood I choose but strike mi forrid intoo dauntlis maabl and wuud bi wuud dillivvə mi chaaj?"

"Thi tung," ced Mevreən, "hath struc hot iənz in mi face. Go bac too thi maastə. If he looc fau an aancə, tel him he ma rede it in lettəz ov goald əbuv the gaits."

"Thi noabl bruthə, maddəm," ced Gro, "iz not hiyyə too make good dhat aancə." And he came niyyə too huu, saying in a lo vois so dhat oanly dha too shood hiyyə it, "Be not disceevd. This Kərinniyyəs iz a nauty, wickid, and lugzhoowwəriyyəs ueth, dhat wil use the widhout enny rispect if wuns he brake in bi faus intoo Crothəring Caasl. It wuu wiazleə carrid too make sum opən sho too risceve him; so bi fae wuudz and pootting ov him auf dhou maist yet iscape."

But Mevreən ced, "Dhou hast mine aancə. I hav no iyyəz too hiz riqwest. Sa too dhat mi cuzn the Laud Spitfiə hath heeld hiz wuindz, and hath an aamy əfoot shal wip these Witchiz

from mi gaits ae menny dase be paast bi."

So saying she rittuund in grate scaun within the caasl.

But the Laud Gro rittuund əghen too the camp and too Kərinniyyəs, hoo aasct him hou he had sped.

He aancəd, she did uttəly riffuse it.

"So," ced Kərinniyyəs; "duth the poos thump me auf? Then pauz mi hot dizsiəz an instənt, oanly the mau thundəringly too clap it on. Fau I wil hav huu. And this coinəs and puut ridgecshn hath the mau fixidly kənfuumd me."

22. Auwauth and Swichwautə

HOU THE LADY MEVREƏN BIHHELD FROM CROTHƏRING WAULZ THE WICHLAND
AAMY AND THE CAPTINZ DHAROV: AND OV THE TIDINGZ BRAUT HUU
DHAE OV THE WAU IN THE WEST CUNTRY, OV AUWAUTH FEELD AND THE
GRATE SLAUTƏ ON SWICHWAUTƏ WA.

The fauth da aaftə these doowingz əforit, the Lady Mevreən wauct on the batlmənts ov Crothəring kepe. A blustəring wind bloo from the nauth-west. The ski woz cloudləs: cliyyə bloo ovəhed, aul els puul-gra, and the ae a litl misty. Huu oald stuəd, staulwət and soalgə-like, greevd and helmd and clad in a platid juukin ov boolz hide, wauct widh huu.

"The ouə shood be əbout striking," ced she. "'Tiz too-da au too-morro mi Laud Sig naimd too me wen dha wuu hiyyə a-ghesting. If but Goblinland kepe triast it wuu the prittiyyist fete, too take them so pat."

"Az yau ladiship mite clap a nat twixt the paamz ov yau too handz," ced the oald man; and he gaizd əghen southwəd ovə the ce.

Mevreən cet huu gase in the same qwautə. "Nuthhing but mist and spra," she ced aaftə a fu minnits suuching. "Ime glad I cent Laud Spitfiə dhose too hundrəd haus. He must hav evry man can be scraipt up, fau such a da. Hou thhinkist dhou, Ravnə: if King Gazlaac cum not, hath Laud Spitfiə faus ennou too cope them ələne?"

Ravnə chucld in hiz biyyəd. "I thhinc and mi laud yau bruthə wuu hiyyə he shood tel yau hinəs i too dhat. Cins fuust I boald a hoope, dha taut me a Demən woz undə-macht əghenst five Witchiz."

She looct at him a litl wistfəly. "Aa," she ced, "wuu he at home. And wuu Jus at home." Then on a sudn she faist round nauthwəd, pointing too the camp. "Wuu dha at home," she cride, "dhou shoodst not ce outlandəz insulting in aamz on Crothəring Cide, cending me shaimfəl offəz, caging me like a buud in this caasl. Hav such thhingz bene in Demənland, until nou?"

Nou came a boi running ələng the batlmənts from the faa cide ov the touə, criying dhat ships wuu hove in cite saling from the soudh and eest, "And dha make fau the fuuth."

"Ov wot land?" ced Mevreən, wile dha haisnd bac too looc.

"Wot but Goblinland?" ced Ravnə.

"O sa not so too haistilly!" cride she. Dha came round the turrit waul, and the ce and Strəpaadən Fuuth opənd wide and void biffau them. "I ce naut," she ced; "au iz yon flite ov ce-muse the flete dhou sauwist?"

"He menith Thundəfuuth," ced Ravnə, hoo had gon on əhed, pointing too the west. "Dha shape dhae caus təwaud Auwauth. 'Tiz King Gazlaac fau shoowwə. Maac but the bloo and goald ov hiz sailz."

Mevreən wocht them, huu gluvd hand drumming nuuvəsly on the maabl batlmənt. Verry staitly she ceemd, mufld in a flowing cloke ov wite wautəd cilc collәd and liand widh uumin. "Atene ships!" she ced. "I dreemd not Goblinland mite make so grate a faus."

"Yau ladiship ma ce," ced Ravnə, wauking bac əlong the waul, "wethə the Wichlandəz hav slept wile these ships saild too paut."

She follode and looct. Grate stuu dhae woz in the Wichland aamy, maashəling biffau the camp; dhae woz cumming and gowing and leping on hausbac, and faintly on the wind dhae trumpits blae woz baun too Mevreənz iyyəz az she bihheld them from huu hi woch-touə. The hoast muivd fauth doun the meddose, aul audəly, a-glittə widh bronz and stele. Southwəd dha came, paacing at length throo the home-meedz ov Crothəring, so niyyə dhat eche man woz plainly cene from the batlmənts, az dha rode binneeth.

Mevreən leend fauwəd in an imbrajə, wun hand on iathər batlmənt at huu left and rite. "I wood no dhae naimz," ced she. "Dhou, dhat hast oft faed too the wauz, maist teche me. Gro I no, widh a long biyyəd; and haat-hevvinnəs it iz too ce a laud ov Goblinland in such a felloaship. Wots he biscide him, yon biyyədid ghəlant, widh a wingd helm and a diədem əbout it, like a kingz, and barith a glave crimzn-haaftid? He loockith a proud wun."

The oald man aancəd, "Laxəs ov Wichland: the same dhat woz admərəl ov dhae flete əghenst the Guilz."

"'Tiz a brave man too looc on, and wuuthy a bettə cauz. Wots he ridith nou billo us, hedding dhae haus: ruddy and swauthy and lite ov bild, hath a brou like the thundə-cloud, and warith aamə from nec too to?"

Ravnə aancəd, "Hinəs, I no him not suutnly, the sunz ov Corrənd so favə wun ənuthə. But mithhinx tiz the yung prins Hemming."

Mevreən laaft. "Prins qwoathhə?"

"So moovith the wuuld, yau hinəs. Cins Gorice cet Corrənd in kingdəm in Impland----"

Ced Mevreən, "Name him prithy Hemming Faz: I worrənt dha trap them nou widh baabərəs ədishnz. Hemming Faz, good lac! lauding it nou in Demənland.

"The prime huf-cap ov aul," ced she aaftə a litl, "hoaldith əbac it cemith. O hiyyə he cumz. Swete hevn, wot furiyyəs hausmənship! Troath, and he can cit a haus, Ravnə, and hath the grate figghə ov an athlete. Looc wae he galləpith

bae-heddid doun the line. I wene hele nede mau dhan goaldən cuulz too kepe hiz hed hole ae he hav dun widh Gazlaac, i, and ouə one foke gathəring from the nauth. I ce he barith hiz helm at the sadl-bo. Too ape us so!" she cride az he droo niyyərə. "Aul cilx and cilvə. Dhoudst hav swaun nun but a Demən went too batl so costly əparrəld. O, fau a cizsəz too cut hiz come widhaul!"

So speking she leend fauwəd aul she mite, too woch him. And he, galləping bi billo, looct up; and maaking huu so wotching, raind mitilly hiz grate chesnut haus, throwing him widh the chec wel ni on hiz haunchiz. And wile the haus plunjd and riyyəd, Kərinniyyəs haild huu in a grate vois, criying, "Mistris, good-morro!" criying, "Wish me victəry, and swift too thine aamz!"

So niyyə billo woz he a-riding, she mite scan the verry linniyyəmənts ov hiz face and rede it az he looct up and shoutid too huu dhat greting. He cəlootid widh hiz saud, and spuud onwood too ovətake Gro and Laxəs in the van.

Az if cickənd on a sudn, au az if she had bene reddy too tred on a dedly stinging addə, the Lady Mevreən leend əghenst the maabl ov the batlmənts. Ravnə stept təwaudz huu: "Iz yau ladiship il? Wi, wots the mattə?"

"A cilly qwaam," ced Mevreən faintly. "If dhoudst medsn it, sho me the shene ov Spitfiəz spiyyəz too the nauthwəd. The blanc land dazlz me."

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So wau the aaftənoone. Twice and thrice Mevreən went uppon the waulz, but cood ce naut save the ce and the fuuths and the

mountin-boozsəmd plane fae and peesfəl in the spring-time: no cine ov men au ov wauz ələrəmz, save oanly the maasts ov Gazlaax ships cene ovə the landz brou thre mialz au mau too the soudh-west. Yet she nu shoowwəly dhat niyyə dhose ships biscide Auwauth haabə must be despərət fiting təwaud, Gazlaac the king en'gaijd at hevvy odz əghenst Laxəs and Kərinniyyəs and the spiyyəz ov Wichland. And the sun weeld lo ovə the daac pianz ov Westmaac, and stil no cine from the nauth.

"Dhou didst cend wun fauth fau tidingz?" she ced too Ravnə, the thuud time she went on the waul.

He aancəd, "Bittiamz this mauning, yau hinəs. But tiz slo faring until a be a mile au twane cliyyə ov the caasl, fau a must illoode dhae smaul bandz dhat go up and doun gaading the cuntriscide."

"Bring him too me ə the instənt ov hiz rittuun," ced she.

Widh a foot on the stae, she tuund bac. "Ravnə," she ced.

He came too huu.

"Dhou," she ced, "hast bene yuuz ennou mi bruthəz stuəd in Crothəring, and ouə faathəz biffau him, too no wot miand and spirrit dwellith in them ov ouə line. Tel me, trooly and sadly, wot dhou makist ov this. Laud Spitfiə iz too late: uthə els, Goblinland too sudn-uuly (and dhat woz hiz fault from ov oald). Wot ceyist dhou in it? Speke too me az dhou shoodst too mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa wuu it he dhat aasct the."

"Hinəs," ced the oald man Ravnə, "I wil aancə u mi verry thaut: and it iz, wo too Goblinland. Cins mi Laud Spitfiə

cummith not yet from the nauth, oanly the dethlis Godz discending out ov hevn can save the king. The Witchiz numbə at an humbl reckəning twice hiz strength; and man too man u wuu az wel pit a hound əghenst a bae, az əghenst Witchiz Goblinz. Fau aul dhat these be fiyyəs and fool ov firy currij, the bae hath it at the laast."

Mevreən lisnd, loocking on him widh sorrofəl steddy ise. "And he so gennərəs-noabl flone too cumfət Demənland in the blacnis ov huu dase," she ced at laast. "Can fate be so un'gallənt? O Ravnə, the shame ov it! Fuust La Firrese, nou Gazlaac. Hou shal enny luv us enny mau? The shame ov it, Ravnə!"

"I wood not hav yau hinəs," ced Ravnə, "too haisty too blame us. If dhae plan and compact hav gon əmis, tiz liacliyyə King Gazlaax misprizhən dhan Laud Spitfiəz. We no not fau shoowwə wich da woz cet fau this landing."

Wile he so spake, he woz loocking paast huu cewəd, a litl soudh ov the reddist paat ov the suncet. Hiz ise wiadnd. He tucht huu aam and pointid. Sailz wuu hoistid əmung the maasts at Auwauth. Smoke, az ov buuning, reect up əghenst the ski. Az dha wocht, the moast paat ov the ships muivd out too ce. From dhose dhat rimmaind, sum five au cix, fiə leept and blac cloudz ov smoke. The rest az dha came out ov the le ov the land, made southwəd fau the opən ce undə au and sale.

Niathər spake; and the Lady Mevreən lening huu elbose on the parrəpit ov the waul hid huu face in huu handz.

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Nou came Ravnəz mescin'gə at length bac from hiz faring, and

the oald man braut him in too Mevreən in huu bouə in the soudh paat ov Crothəring. The mescin'gə ced, "Hinəs, I bring no riting, cins dhat wuu too perrələs had I faulən in mi wa əmung Witchiz. But I had audiyyəns ov mi Laud Spitfiə and mi Laud Sig in the gaits ov Gashtəndale. And dhus dhae laudships kəmaandid me dillivvə it untooh u, dhat yau hinəs shood be at ese and ciccuə, ceying dhat dha doo in such saut hoald aul the wase too Crothəring, dhat the Wichland aamy cannət iscape out ov this cuntriscide dhat iz bitwixt Thundəfuuth and Strəpaadən Fuuth and the ce, but and if dha wil ghiv batl untooh dhae laudships. But if dha choose raathə too əbide hiyyə bi Crothəring, then ma ouə aamiz close on them and əpres them, cins ouə fauciz doo ixede dhaez bi niyyə a thouznd spiyyəz. Wich too-morro wil be dun wottare bittide, cins dhat iz the da əpointid fau Gazlaac the king too land widh a faus at Auwauth."

Mevreən ced, "Dha no naut then ov this diəfəl miscarrij, and Gazlaac hiyyə aulreddy biffau hiz time and throne bac intoo the ce?" And she ced, "We must əprise them ont, and dhat haistilly and too-nite."

Wen the man undəstood this, he aancəd, "Ten minnits fau a bite and a stirrəp-cup, and I am at yau ladiships suuvis."

And in a shaut wile, dhat man went fauth əghen ceecritly out ov Crothəring in the dusc ov nite too bring wuud too Laud Spitfiə ov wot woz biffaulən. And the wochmən wotching in the nite from Crothəring waulz bihheld nauthwəd undə Uun'gate End the camp-fiəz ov the Witchiz like the staaz.

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Nite paast and da daund, and the camp ov the Witchiz shode

empty az an empty shel.

Mevreən ced, "Dha hav muivd in the nite."

"Then shal yau hinəs hiyyə grate tidingz ae long," ced Ravnə.

"'Tiz like we ma hav ghests in Crothəring too-nite," ced Mevreən. And she gave audə fau aul too be made reddy əghenst dhae cumming, and the choicist bed-chaimbəz fau Spitfiə and Sig too welkəm them. So, widh bizsy preppəraishnz, the da went bi. But az eevning came, and stil no riding from the nauth, sum shaddose ov impaishns and ancshəs dout crept widh niats shaidz creping əcros hevn əcros dhae eghə ixpectəncy in Crothəring. Fau Mevreənz mescin'gə rittuund not. Late too rest went the Lady Mevreən; and widh the fuust peping lite she woz əbraud, mufld in huu grate mantl ov velvit and swonzdoun əghenst the eghə windz ov mauning. Up too the batlmənts she went, and widh oald Ravnə suucht the blanc prospect. Fau pale mauning rose on an empty landscape; and so aul da until the eevning: wotching, and wating, and qweschəning in dhae haats.

So went dha at length too suppə on this thuud nite aaftə Auwauth feeld. And ae suppə woz haaf dun woz a stuu in the outə cauts, and the ratl ov the brij let doun, and a clattə ov haus-huivz on the brij and the jaspə paivmənts. Mevreən sate irrect and ixpectənt. She noddid too Ravnə hoo wonting no fuuthə cine went haistilly out, and rittuund in an instənt haistilly and widh hevvy brou. He spake in huu iyyə, "Nuse, mi Lady. It wuu wel u bad him too privit audiyyəns. Drinc this cup fuust," poring out sum wine fau huu.

She rose up, saying too the stuəd, "Cum dhou, and bring him

widh the."

Az dha went he wispəd huu, "Əstaa ov Retra, cent bi the Laud Sig widh mattə ov uugənt impaut fau yau hinəciz iyyə."

The Lady Mevreən sat in huu ivəry chae cooshnd widh rich stuft cilx ov Beshtriyyə, widh litl goaldən buudz and straubry leevz widh the flouəz and rich red fruits aul figghəd dharon in gaugəs culləz ov needlwuuc. She reecht out huu hand too Əstaa hoo stood biffau huu in hiz batl haanəs, muddy and bibluddid from hed too foot. He boud and kist huu hand: then stood cilənt. He held hiz hed hi and looct huu in the face, but hiz ise wuu bludshed and hiz looc woz gaastly like a mescin'gə ov il.

"Suu," ced Mevreən, "stand not in dout, but diclae aul. Dhou nowist it iz not in ouə blud too qwale undə dain'gəz and misfauchoone."

Əstaa ced, "Sig, mi bruthə-in-lau, gave me this in chaaj, maddəm, too tel the aul trooly."

"Prəcede," ced she. "Dhou nowist ouə laast nuse. Ouə bi ouə cins then, we wocht on victəry. I hav no mene welkəm feest prippaed əghenst yau cumming."

Əstaa groand. "Mi Lady Mevreən," ced he, "u must nou prippae a saud, not a banqwit. U did cend a runnə too Laud Spitfiə."

"I," ced she.

"He braut us ədvuutismənt dhat nite," ced Əstaa, "ov

Gazlaax ovəthro. Əlas, dhat Goblinland woz a da too soone, and so bae əlone the brunt. Yet woz ven'gəns reddy too ouə hand, az we cəpoazd. Fau evry paas and wa woz gaadid, and ouəz the gratə faus. So fau dhat nite we watid, ceying Kərinniyyəciz fiəz əlite in hiz camp on Crothəring Cide, mening too smite him at daun ov da. Nou in the nite wuu mists əbraud, and the moone uuly sunkən. And troo it iz az il it iz, dhat the hole Wichland aamy maacht əwa paast us in the daac."

"Wot?" cride Mevreən, "and slept ye aul too let them bi?"

"In the midl nite," aancəd he, "we had shoowwə tidingz he woz əfoot, and the fiəz yet buuning in hiz camp a sho too moc us widhaul. Bi aul shoowwə cianz, we mite no he woz broke fauth nauth-westwəd, wae he must take the uppə rode intoo Meland ovə Broxty Hauz. Sig widh cevn hundrəd haus galləpt too Heethby too hed him auf, wialz ouə mane faus faed dhae swiftist up Litl Raivndale. Dhou ceyist, maddəm, Kərinniyyəs must maach əlong the bou and we əlong the boastring."

"Yes," ced Mevreən. "Ye had but too chec him widh the haus at Heethby, and he must fite au faul bac təwaud Justdale wae he woz like too loose haaf hiz foke in Memməry Mos. Outlandəz shal scaes fiand a fuum wa dhae in a daac nite."

"Suutn it iz we shood hav had him," ced Əstaa. "Yet suutn it iz he dubld like a hae and fuild us aul too the top ov ouə bent: tuund in hiz trax, az latə we kəncloodid, sumwae bi Goosand, and widh aul hiz aamy slipt bac eestwəd undə ouə riyyə. And dhat woz the wundəfəlist fete huud tel ov in aul cronniclz ov wau."

"Tush, noabl Əstaa," ced Mevreən. "Labə not Wichlandz

prasiz, nau immadgin not Ile deme les ov Spitfiəz nau Sigz gennərəlship biccoz Kərinniyyəs, bi aat au fauchuinz favə, dojd əm in the daac."

"Diyyə Lady," ced he, "eevn looc fau the wuust and prippae yaucelf fau the same."

Huu gra ise steddilly bihheld him. "Suutn intellidgəns," ced he, "woz braut us ov dhae faring widh aul spede dha mite eestəwa paast Swichwautə; and ae the sun looct wel ovə Gemcə Ej we wuu hot on the trac ov them, nowing ouə faus the stron'ghə and ouə oanly hope too bring them too batl ae dha reecht the Stile, wae dha hav made a fautris ov grate strength we mite scaes hope too houstə them out from if dha shood win thithə."

He pauzd. "Wel," ced she.

"Maddəm," he ced, "dhat we ov Demənland ar grate and invincəbl in wau, tiz moast suutn. But in these dase fite we az a man dhat fitith hobld, au widh haaf hiz ghiyyə lade bi, au az a man haaf rouzd from slepe. Fau we be reft ov ouə gratist. Birreft ov these, such sorrose biffaul us and such doome az at Thremnə Hu laast autəm shattəd ouə strength in peciz, and nou this verry da yet mau terrəbly hath put us doun on Swichwautə Wa."

Mevreənz cheke tuund wite, but she ced no wuud, wating.

"We wuu eghə in the chace," ced Əstaa. "I hav toald the wi, maddəm. Dhou nowist hou niyyə too the mountinz runnith the rode paast Swichwautə, and the shauz ov the lake hem in the wa fau mialz əghenst the mountin spuuz, and woodz cloadh the loə sloaps, and delz and gaugiz run up bitwixt the spuuz

intoo the mountin cide. The da woz misty, and the mists hung
bi the shauz ov Swichwautə. Wen we had maacht so faa dhat
ouə van woz əbout ovə əghenst the sted ov Hibanc dhat
standz on the faathə shau, the batl biggan: graitly too dhae
ədvaantij, cins Kərinniyyəs had plaist strong fauciz in the hilz
on ouə rite flanc, and so amboosht us and tooc us at unnəwaez.
Not too greve the widh a wofəl tale, maddəm, we wuu moast
bluddilly ovəthrone, and ouə aamy niyyəly braut too not-beying.
And in the mid rout, Sig stole an instənt too chaaj me bi mi
luv fau him ride too Crothəring az if mi life la on it and the
wele ov aul ov us, and bid u fli hens too Westmaac au the
ialz au withə u wil, ae the Witchiz cum əghen and hiyyə
entrap u. Cins save fau these waulz and these fu brave
soalgəz u hav too waud them, no help standith enny mau
twixt u and these devvəlish Witchiz."

Stil she woz cilənt. He ced, "Let me not be too haitfəl too
u, moast graishəs Lady, fau this roode tale ov dizzaastə. The
sudnəs ov the tiamz baa enny pleznt glosing. And indede I
thaut I shood sattisfi u mau widh planəs, dhan shood
əpinniyyən ov I no not wot fauls cautlinnəs biand me too sho
u cumfət wae cumfət iz not."

The Lady Mevreən stood up and tooc him bi boath handz. Shoowwəly
the lite ov dhat ladese ise woz like the nu lite ov mauning
glaancing throo mists on the gra stil suufis ov a mountin
taan, and the axent ov huu vois swete az the voiciz ov the
mauning az she ced, "O Əstaa, thhinc me not so unhancəm, nau
yet so foolish. Thanx, gentl Əstaa. But dhou hast not supt,
and shoowwə in a grate soalgə batl and swift faa riding shood
brede hunʻghə, hou il sowevvə the nuse he barith. Thi welkəm
shal not be the coaldə biccoz we looct fau mau dhan the,
əlas, and fau faa uthə tidingz. A chaimbə iz prippaed fau
the. Et and drinc; and wen nite iz dun iz time ennuf too

speke mau ov these thhingz."

"Maddəm," he ced, "u must cum nou au tiz too late."

But she aancəd him, "No, noabl Əstaa. This iz mi bruthəz hous. So long az I ma kepe it fau him əghenst hiz cumming home I wil not crepe out ov Crothəring like a rat, but stand too mi woch. And this iz suutn, I shal not opən Crothəring gaits too Witchiz wialz I and mi foke yet liv too baa them əghenst them."

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So she made him go too suppə; but huucelf sat late dhat nite əlone in the Chaimbə ov the Moone, dhat woz in the don'gən kepe əbuv the innə caut in Crothəring. This woz Laud Brandokh Daahaaz banqwit chaimbə, divviazd and fuunisht bi him in yuuz gon bi; and hiyyə he and she commənly sat at mete, using not the banqwit haul əcros the caut save wen grate cumpəny woz preznt. Round woz dhat chaimbə, following the round waulz ov the touə dhat held it. Aul the pilləz and the waulz and the vaultid roofe wuu ov a strainj stone, wite and smuidh, and yeelding such a glistəring sho ov pallid goald in it az woz like the goaldən shene ov the fool moone ov a waum nite in midsummə. Lamps dhat wuu milky oaplz celf-iffulgənt fild aul the chaimbə widh a soft radiyyəns, in wich the baa-rilleefs ov the hi dado, dellickətly caavd, pautraying dhose immautl bluimz ov ammərənth and neppenthhy and moly and Illizsiyyən asfədel, wuu cene in aul dhae dellickət buty, and the fae paintid picchəz ov the Laud ov Crothəring and hiz lady cistə, and ov Laud Jus əbuv the grate opən fiəplace widh Goaldry and Spitfiə on hiz left and rite. A fu uthə picchəz dhae wuu, smaulə dhan these: the Princes Aamələne ov Goblinland, Sig and hiz lady wife, and uthəz; wundrəs butiffəl.

Hiyyə a long wile sat the Lady Mevreən. She had a litl loote raut ov swete sandlwood and ivəry inlade widh gemz. Wile she sat a-thhinking, huu fin'ghəz strade iadly on the stringz, and she sang in a lo swete vois:

There were three ravens sat on a tree,
They were as black as they might be.
With a downe, derrie down.

The one of them said to his make,
Where shall we our breakefast take?

Downe in yonder greene field,
There lies a knight slain under his shield.

His hounds they lie downe at his feete,
So well they can their master keepe.

His haukes they flie so eagerly,
There's no fowle dare him come nie.

Downe there comes a fallow doe
As great with yong as she might goe.

She lift up ħis bloudy ħed,
And kist ħis wounds that were so red.

She gat ħim up upon ħer backe,
And carried ħim to earthen lake.

She buried ħim before the prime;
She was dead ħerselfe ere even-song time.

God send every gentleman
Such ħaukes, such ħounds, and such a leman.
With a downe, derrie down.

Widh the laast ciying sweetnəs trembling from the stringz, she lade əcide the loote, saying, "The discaud ov mi thauts, mi loote, duth il əgry widh the haamәniz ov thi stringz. Put it bi."

She fel too gasing on huu bruthəz picchə, the Laud Brandokh Daahaa, standing in hiz jooəld haubuuc laist əbout widh goald, hiz hand uppon hiz saud. And dhat lasy laaftə-luvving yet impiyyəriyyəs looc ov the ise wich in life he had woz dhae, wundrəs liavly caut bi the paintəz aat, and the luvly lianz ov hiz brou and lip and jau, wae pouə and maastəfəl dittuuminnaishn slumbəd, az braizn Ariz mite slumbə in the aamz ov the Qwene ov Luv.

A long wile Mevreən looct on dhat picchə, musing. Then,

berriyying huu face in the cooshnz ov the long lo cete she sat on, she buust intoo a grate pashn ov tiyyəz.

23. The Wiyyəd Biggun ov Ishnane Nəmaatrə

OV THE COUNSL TAKƏN BI THE WITCHIZ TUTCHING THE CONDUCT OV THE
WAU: WAE'AAFTƏ IN THE FIFTH ƏSAULT THE CAASL OV LAUD BRANDOKH DAAHAA WOZ MADE A PRA UNTOOH KƏRINNIYYƏS.

Nou woz litl time fau dibbate au kən'gecchə, but widh the morrose maun came the Wichland aamy wuns mau biffau Crothəring, and a herrəld cent bi Kərinniyyəs too bid Mevreən yeeld up the caasl and huu one proppə puusn lest a wuus thhing biffaul them. Wich she stoutly riffusing, Kərinniyyəs let strate əsault the caasl, but wun it not. And in the next thre dase following he thrice əsaultid Crothəring, and, faling widh sum los ov men too win an entry, cloasly investid it.

And nou summənd he dhose uthə laudz ov Wichland too tauc widh him. "Hou sa ye? Au wot rede shal we take? Dha be fu oanly within too man the waulz; and grate shame it iz too us and too aul Wichland if we ghet not this hoald takən, so menny az we be hiyyə gon up əghenst it, and so grate captinz."

Laxəs ced, "Dhou aat king in Demənland. Thine it iz too take audə wot shal be dun. But if dhou dizsiə mi rede, then shal I ghiv it the."

"I dizsiə eche wun ov u," ced Kərinniyyəs, "too sho fauth too me

francly and frely hiz rede. And wel ye no I strive fau
naut els but fau Wichlandz glory and too make fuum ouə
conqwest hiyyə."

"Wel," ced Laxəs, "I toald the wuns aulreddy mi counsl, and
dhou wost an'gry widh me. Dhou maddist a mity victəry on
Swichwautə Wa; wich had we follode up, pooshing home the
saud ov ouə ədvaantij til the hilts came clap əghenst the
brestplate ov ouə advəcəry, we mite nou hav ixtuuminnatid
from the land the hole nest ov them, Spitfiə, Sig, and
Vol. But nou ar dha gottən əwa the devl nose withə,
fau the pripparing ov fresh thaunz too pric ouə ciadz widhaul."

Kərinniyyəs ced, "Clame not wizdəm aaftə the ivvent, mi laud.
'Twoz not so dhou didst ədvise. Dhou didst bid me let go
Crothəring: a thhing I wil not doo, wuns I hav cet mine hand too
it."

Laxəs aancəd him, "Not oanly did I so ədvise the az I hav
ced, but Hemming woz bi, and wil bae me out, dhat I did offə
dhat he au I widh a smaul faus shood kepe this cumfit-box
shut fau the til dhou shoodst hav dun the mane biznəs."

"'Tiz so," ced Hemming.

But Kərinniyyəs ced, "'Tiz not so, Hemming. And wuu it so, tiz
esəly cene wi he au dhou shoodst hankə fau fuust suc at
this lushəs froote. Yet not so esy too ce wi I shood yeeld
it u."

"Dhat," ced Laxəs, "iz verry il ced. I ce thi memməry needz
jogghing, and dhou aat sliding intoo in'grattittude. Hou menny such
like fruits hast dhou enjoid cins we came out hithə, dhat we
had aul the painz and plucking ov?"

"O cri the muucy, mi laud," ced Kərinniyyəs, "I shood hav rimmembəd, dreemz ov Srevəz moist lips kepe the from straying. But ennuf ov this fooling: too the mattə."

Laud Laxəs flusht. "Bi mi faith," ced he, "this iz verry much too the mattə. 'Twuu wel, Kərinniyyəs, if thi looce thauts wuu kept from straying. Spend men on a fautris? Bettə əsa Galing, then: dhat wuu a prise wuuth mau too ouə saifty and ouə laudship hiyyə."

"I," ced Hemming. "Ceke out the ennəmy. 'Tiz dhaefau we came hithə: not too fiand wimmin fau the."

Dharəpon the Laud Kərinniyyəs struc him əcros the taibl a grate buffit in the face. Hemming, mad roath, snacht out a dagghə; but Gro and Laxəs catching him wun bi iathər hand ristraind him. Gro ced, "Mi laudz, mi laudz, u must not wuud it so dainʻgərəs il. We hav but wun haat and miand hiyyə, too magniffi ouə Laud the King and hiz glory. Dhou, Hemming, fəghet not the King hath put authorritty in the hand ov Kərinniyyəs, so dhat thi dagghə cet əghenst him cettith moast tresənəbly əghenst the Kingz madgisty. And dhou, mi laud, I pra be tempərət in thi pouə. Shoowwə, fau wont ov opən wau it iz dhat ouə handz be so reddy fau these privit braulz."

Wen bi fae wuudz this stu woz cuild əghen. Kərinniyyəs bad Gro sa fauth hiz miand, wot he thaut la next too doo. Gro aancəd. "Mi laud, I am ov Laxəciz əpinniyyən. Əbiding hiyyə bi Crothəring, we fae az iadl coox toiying widh sweetmeets wile the roast spoilz. We shood ceke out pouə and distroi it wae stil it farith fre, lest it swel əghen too a groath ma dainʻgə us: waesowevvə these laudz be fled, thhinc not dhale be slac too prippae a mischif fau us."

"I ce." ced Kərinniyyəs, "ye be aul thre ov an əcaud əghenst me. But dhae iz no wun beme ov these thauts yau discaus hath plaantid in me, but iz aibl too dissuun a gratə cloud dhan u doo go in."

"It iz verry troo," ced Laxəs, "dhat we doo thhinc sumwot scaunfəly ov this wau əghenst wimmin."

"I, dhaez the cuvvə auf the dish!" ced Kərinniyyəs, "and a pritty mes within. Yaa woommən-mad, evry jac ov u, and this bliyyərz yau ise too thhinc me cic ə the same folly. Dhou and thi litl daac-ide bagghij, dhat I dae swae hath munths əgo fəgot the fau ənuthə. Hemming hiyyə and I no not wot swete made hiz yung haat dotith on. Gro, haa! haa!" and he fel a-laafing. "Waefau the King sadld me widh this Goblin, he oanly nowith, and hiz cecrətry the Devl: not I. Bi Saitn, dhou hast a staavd looc i the ise ghivvith me too thhinc the errənd I cent the too Crothəring gaits did the no good. Mi cats liyyəring looc showith me dhat mi cat gowith a cattəwauwing. Dust nou fiand the ravnz wing a ceemliyyə hu in a wenchiz hae too cet thi coald blud a-leping dhan tauny red? Au dust thhinc this wun hath a softə brest dhan thi Qweenz too cooshn thi puufuemd lox?"

Widh dhat wuud spokən, aul thre ov them leept from dhae ceets. Gro, widh a face ashn gra, ced, "At me dhou maist spit wot filth dhou wilt. I am scuild too bae widh it fau Wichlandz sake and until thine one vennəm choke the. But this shalt dhou not doo wialz I liv, dhou au enny uthə: too let thi baudy tung medl widh Qwene Prezmirəz name."

Kərinniyyəs sat stil in hiz chae in a poschə ov studdid ese, but hiz saud woz reddy. Hiz grate joul woz cet, hiz incələnt

bloo ise scaunfəly looct from wun too ənuthə ov dhose laudz
wae dha stood mennəcing him. "Pshau!" ced he, at laast. "Hoo
braut huu name intoo it but thicelf, mi Laud Gro? not I."

"Dhou wuut best not bring it in əghen, Kərinniyyəs," ced Hemming.
"Hav we not wel follode the and upheld the? And so shal
we doo hensfauth. But rimmembə, I am King Corrəndz sun. And if
dhou speke this wickid li əghen, it shal cost the thi life
if I ma."

Kərinniyyəs throo out hiz aamz and laaft. "Cum," ced he,
standing up, widh much sho ov jolly frendlinnəs, "twoz but a
gest; and, I frely əcnollij, an il gest. Ime sorry fau it,
mi laudz.

"And nou," ced he, "cum we əghen too the mattə. Crothəring
Caasl wil I not faugo, cins tiz not mi wa too tuun bac fau
enny man on uuth, no not fau the Godz aulmity, wuns I hav
tane mi caus. But I wil make a baaghin widh u, and this
it iz: dhat we too-morro doo əsault the hoald a laast time, using
aul ouə men and aul ouə mite. And if, az I thhinc iz moast
unliacly and moast shaimfəl, we ghet it not, then shal we fae
əwa and doo əcauding too thi counsl, O Laxəs."

"'Tiz nou fau dase lost," ced Laxəs. "Dhou canst not ritreve
them. Houso, be it az dhou wilt."

So brake up dhae counsl. But the miand and haat ov the Laud
Gro woz naut peesfəl within him, but tumulchoowwəs widh
manniffoald immadginningz ov hoaps and fiyyəz and oald dizsiəz, dhat
intətwiand like suupənts twisting and kəntending. So dhat
naut woz cliyyə too him save the uncliyyə trubl ov hiz
diskəntent; and it woz az if the conshəns ov a ceecrit graant
hiz inwəd miand made had sudnly caast a vale bitwixt hiz

thauts and him dhat he duust not pluc əcide.

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Bittiamz on the morro Kərinniyyəs let fae əghenst Crothəring widh aul hiz hoast, Laxəs from the soudh, Hemming and Caago from the eest əghenst the mane gaits, and himcelf from the west wae the waulz and touəz shode stron'ghist but the nachrəl strength ov the place wekə dhan elswae. Nou dha within wuu fu, biccoz ov Mevreənz cending ov dhose too hundrəd haus too follo Sig and dhose came not bac aaftə Swichwautə; and az the da wau, and stil the batl went fauwəd, and stil wuu wuindz ghivn and takən, the odz swung yet hevviyyə əghenst them ov Demənland, and mau and mau must the caasl hoald ov its one strength oanly, fau dhae wuu not hole men left ennou too man the waulz. And nou had Kərinniyyəs wel ni wun the caasl, faring up on the waulz west ov the don'gən touə wae he and hiz fel too cliyyəring the batlmənts, rushing on like woolvz. But Əstaa ov Retra stade him dhae widh so grate a saud-stroke on the helm dhat he ovəthro him aul əstonede doun widhout the waul and intoo the dich; but hiz men droo him fauth and saivd him. So woz the Laud Kərinniyyəs put out ov the fite; but graitly stil he egd on hiz men. And əbout the fifth ouə aaftə noone the sunz ov Corrənd gat the mane gate.

Lady Mevreən bae in dhat ouə widh huu one hand a stoope ov wine too Əstaa in a lul ov the batl. Wile he dranc, she ced, "Əstaa, the ouə dimmaandith dhat I plej the too əbediyyəns, eevn az I plejd mine one foke and Ravnə dhat hiyyə kəmaandith mi garrisn in Crothəring."

"Mi Lady Mevreən," aancəd he, "undə yau saifty, I shal əba u."

She ced, "No kəndishnz, suu. Haakən and no. Fuust I wil thanc the and these valliyyənt men dhat so mitilly waudid us and goaldən Crothəring əghenst ouə ennəmiz. This woz mi miand, too waud it untooh the laast, biccoz it iz mi diyyə bruthəz hous, and I count it unwuuthy Kərinniyyəs shood staibl hiz hauciz in ouə chaimbəz, and kərousing əmid hiz drunkədz doo huut too ouə fae banqwit haul. But nou, bi haad niscescitty ov dizzaastrəs wau, hath this thhing cum too paas, and aul faulən intoo hiz hand save oanly this kepe ələne."

"Ələs, maddəm," ced he, "too ouə shame I ma not dinni it."

"O trampl out enny thaut ov shame," ced she. "A scau ov them əghenst evry wun ov us: the glory ov ouə diffens shal be fau evvə. But nou tiz fau me mainly he stil barith əghenst Crothəring so grate and pasənt stroax az thhic az rane faulith from the ski. And nou must ye əba me and doo mi kəmaandmənt; els must we perrish, fau eevn this touə we ar not ennuf too hoald əghenst him menny dase."

"Divvine Lady," ced Əstaa, "but wuns shal wun paas the croowwəl paas ov deth. I and yau foke wil diffend u untooh dhat end."

"Suu," ced she, standing like a qwene biffau him, "I shal nou diffend micelf and ouə preshəs thhingz in Crothəring mau suutnly dhan ye men ov wau ma doo." And she shode him shautly dhat this woz huu dizsine, too yeeld up the kepe untooh Kərinniyyəs undə prommis ov a safe conduct fau Əstaa and Ravnə and aul huu men.

"And cəbmit the too this Kərinniyyəs?" ced Əstaa. But she aancəd, "Thi saud hath liacly cut hiz clauz fau əwile. I fiyyə him not."

Ov aul this wood Əstaa at fuust hav naut too doo, and the oald stuəd widhaul woz wel ni mutinnəs. But so fuum ov puupəs woz she, and widhaul shode them so plainly dhat this woz the oanly hope too save huucelf and Crothəring, and the Witchiz must els sac the hous ov Crothəring and in a fu dase win the kepe, "and then, snaky dispae; and the fault ont not in fauchoone but in ouəcelvz, dhat cood not frame ouəcelvz too ouə fauchoone"; dhat at laast widh hevvy haats dha kəncentid too doo huu bidding.

Widhout mau ədoo, woz a paaly cauld, Mevreən speking fau huucelf from a hi windo opəning on the caut and Gro fau Kərinniyyəs. In wich paaly it woz aaticld dhat she shood rendə up the touə; and dhat the fiting men wich wuu within shood hav pece and safe pascij withə dha wood; and dhat dhae shood be no scaidh nau outrage dun too Crothəring niathər too the landz dharov; and dhat aul this shood be rit doun and ceeld undə the handz ov Kərinniyyəs, Gro, and Laxəs, and the gaits opənd too the Witchiz and aul kese dillivvəd up within an haaf ouə ov the ghivving ov the ceeld riting intoo Mevreənz hand.

Nou woz aul this pəfaumd əcaudingly, and Crothəring kepe rendəd too the Laud Kərinniyyəs. Əstaa and Ravnə and dhae men wood hav əbidid az priznəz fau Mevreənz sake, but Kərinniyyəs wood not suffə it, vouwing widh bluddy impriccaishnz dhat he wood let sla out ov hand enny man ov them he shood take aaftə an ouəz space within thre mialz ov Crothəring. So, undə Mevreənz strate kəmaandz, dha dippaatid.

24. A King in Crothəring

HOU THE LAUD KƏRINNIYYƏS WOOD TAKE UNTOOH HIMCELF A QWENE IN DEMƏNLAND, AND MADE HIM A BRIADL FEEST DHAETOO: WARIN IZ A NOTƏBL INSTƏNS HOU UNTOOH THEM WICH THE GODZ DOO LUV HELPƏZ AR RAIZD UP AND CUMFƏTƏZ EEVN IN THE MIDST OV DHAE ENNƏMIZ.

Dhat same eevning Kərinniyyəs let dite a banqwit in the Chaimbə ov the Moone fau sum too scau ov hiz chefist men, a verry pompəs and kingly entətainmənt; and kənceving dhat he mite nou verry wel əvale too əcumplish hiz plezhə tutching the Lady Mevreən, he cent huu wuud bi wun ov hiz gentlmən dhat she shood ətend him dhae. And she cending aancə too tel him gently aul els in the caasl woz at hiz suuvis, but fau huucelf she woz qwite faudun and graitly dizsiəd rest and slepe dhat nite, he fel a-laafing immoddərətly and saying, "A moast unceeznəbl dizsiə, and wun dhat smackith bisciadz ov mockəry, cins wel she nowith wot this nite I doo intend. Wish huu too rippae too us, and dhat rite swiftly, lest I fech huu."

Too dhat mescij cent huu came she in a shaut wile huucelf too aancə, drest aul in funiyyəriyyəl blac, huu goun and cloce-fitting boddis ov blac cendl slasht widh blac saacənet, and əbout huu throte a chane ov saffiəz daacly lustrəs. Verry noably she carrid huu hed. Fraimd widh the piald and bradid masciz ov huu nite-daac hae, huu face shode pale indede, but unrufld and undismade.

Aul at huu cumming in stood up too grete huu; and Kərinniyyəs ced,

"Lady, dhou didst chainj thi miand qwicly cins dhou didst fuust əfuum dhou nevvə woodst yeeld up Crothəring untooh me."

"Az qwicly az I mite, mi laud," ced she, "fau I sau I woz rong."

He əbode cilənt a minnit, hiz ise like ammərəs suufittəz ovə-running huu fae faum. Then ced he, "Dhou didst wish too puuchəs saifty fau thi frendz?"

She aancəd, "Yes."

"Fau thine one celf," ced Kərinniyyəs, "it had made no jot ov difrəns. Be witnis untooh me the omnisciyyəncy ov the Godz, waruntoo iz nuthhing kənceləbl, I mene the oanly good."

"Mi laud," ced she, "I imbrace the cumfət ov dhat wuud. And no dhat good too me iz mine one fredəm: not kəndishnz ov enny manz choosing."

Waetoo he, beying wel tipld widh wine, framing the moast luvly countinnəns he mite, made aancə, "I dout not but too-nite, maddəm, dhou shalt be wel ədviazd too choose dhat hiyist kəndishn, and til too-da unnone, wich I shal proffə the: too be Qwene ov Demənland."

She thanct him in huu best mannə, but ced she woz miandid too faugo dhat cəposidly plesing emminnəns.

"Hou?" ced he. "Iz it too litl a thhing fau the? Au iz it az I thhinc, dhat dhou laafist?"

She ced, "Mi laud, it shood litl bisceme me dhat am ov the cede ov men ov wau cins long gennəraishnz too trap mi miand widh

the fauls shose ov a graitnəs dhat iz gon. Yet I pra u
fəghet not this: the dəminniyyən ov the Demənz hath uest too sau a
pich əbuv commən roiəlty, and like the i ov da riggaadid
kingz from əbuv. And fau this stile ov Qwene dhou offərist me,
I sa untooh the it iz an ədishn I dizsiə not, hoo am cistə
untooh him dhat rit dhat riting əbuv the gate dhat aul ye had
taistid the truith dharov had he bene hiyyə too mete widh u."

Kərinniyyəs ced, "Troo it iz, sum hav out-bragd the wuuld,
yet I ae this hav uezd them like naivz. Mi jacboote hath
none thhingz in Caacy, maddəm, Ile not gaul thi haat too tel
the ov." But pəceving a grate lo ov disdainfəl an'ghə blase
in Mevreənz i, "Cri u muucy," ced he, "incomprəbl lady;
this woz biscide the maac. I wood not sully ouə nu frendship
widh memməriz ov----Ho dhae! a chae biscide me fau the Qwene."

But Mevreən made them cet it on the faa cide ov the baud, and
dhae sat huu doun, saying, "I pra the, mi Laud Kərinniyyəs,
unsa dhat wuud. Dhou nowist it disliax me."

He looct on huu in ciləns fau a minnit, leend fauwəd əcros
the baud, hiz lips paatid a litl and bitwene them hiz breth
cumming and gowing thhic and swift. "Wel," he ced, "cit dhae,
and it like the, maddəm, and mannij mi dilliats bi stagiz. Laast
yuu the wide wuuld bitwixt us: this yuu the mountinz:
yestəreve Crothəring waulz: too-nite a taablz bredth: and ae
nite be dun, not so much az----"

Gro sau the wiald-diyyə looc in Lady Mevreənz ise. She ced,
"This iz tauc I hav not luunid too undəstand, mi laud."

"I shal luun it the," ced Kərinniyyəs, hiz face əflame.
"Luvvəz liv bi luv az laax bi leex. Bi Saitn, I doo luv
the az dhou wuut the haat out ov mi boddy."

"Mi Laud Kərinniyyəs," ced she, "we ladiz ov the nauth hav litl stummәc fau these fashnz, houwae dha kәmend them in wautərish Wichland. If dhoult hav mi frendship, bring me suuvis dhaefau, and dhat in ceezn. This iz no fit taibl-tauc."

"Wi dhae," ced he, "weve in faast әgremәnt. Ile bliadhly sho the aul this, and a qwaintə thhing biscide, in thine one chaimbə. But twoz biyyond mi hoaps dhoudst graant me dhat so sudnly. Ar we so happy?"

In grate shame and an'ghə the Lady Mevreən stood up from the taibl. Kərinniyyəs, sumthhing unsteddilly, leept too hiz fete. Fau aul hiz bignes, so taul she woz she looct him levl in the i. And he, az wen in the face ov a nite-rain'ging beest sudnly a man brandishiz a brite lite, stood stupid undə dhat gase, the springz ov acshn strainjly frosən in him on a sudn, and ced sullənly, "Maddəm, I am a soalgə. Trooly mine әfecshn standith not uppon complimment. Dhat I am impaishnt, put the wite on thi buty not on me. Pra u, be cetid."

But Mevreən aancəd, "Thi lan'gwij, mi laud, iz too boald and vishəs. Cum too me too-morro if dhou wilt; but Ile hav the no, paishns oanly and cuutəcy shal ghet good ov me."

She tuund too the dau. He, az if widh the tuuning әwa ov dhat ladese ise the spel woz broke, cride loudly uppon hiz foke too sta huu. But dhae woz nun stuud. Dhaewidh he, az wun dhat cannət kəmaand hiz one indeesnt appittiats, oəcetting bench and baud in eghə haist too la handz on huu, it so bittidid dhat he tript up widh wun ov these and fel a-sprauling. And ae he woz gottən әghen on hiz fete, the Lady Mevreən woz gon from the haul.

He rose up painfəly, proffəring from hiz lips a mud-spring ov baabərəs and filthhy impriccaishnz; so dhat Laxəs hoo helpt rase him up woz fane too chide him, saying, "Mi laud, unman not thicelf bi such a bestiyyəl transfəmaishn. Ar not we yet widh haanəs on ouə bax in a kingdəm nuly gaind, the oald laudz dharov discumfittid in dede but not yet tane nau slane, studdiyying billike too rase nu pouəz əghenst us? And əbuv such and so menny əfaez wilt dhou make place fau the əloowwəmənts ov luv?"

"I!" aancəd he. "Nau shal such a sapləs ninny az dhou əvale too cros me dharin. Aasc thi litl gaimsum Srevə, wen dhou cummist home too wed huu, if I be not bettə aibl dhan dhou too plese a woommən. Shele tel the! I the mane ceezn medl not in mattəz dhat be too hi fau such az dhou."

Boath Gro and the sunz ov Corrənd wuu bi and huud dhose wuudz. The Laud Laxəs scuild himcelf too laaf. He tuund təwaud Gro, saying, "The genrəl iz faa gon in wine."

Gro, maaking Laxəciz face flusht red too the iyyəz fau aul hiz studdid caeləsnəs, aancəd him softly, ""Tiz so, mi laud. And in wine iz truith."

Nou Kərinniyyəs, bithhinking him dhat it woz yet uuly and the feest baely wel biggun, let cet a gaad on aul the pascidgiz wich led too Mevreənz lodgingz, too the end dhat she mite not issoo dhaefrom but dhae wate on hiz plezhə. Dhat dun, he bad rinnu dhae feesting.

No stint ov lushəs meets and wianz woz dhae, and the laudz ov Wichland sat them doun əghen rite eghəly too the good banqwit. Laxəs spoke ceecritly too Gro: "I wot wel dhou takist

in verry il paat these doowingz. Let it stand fuum in thi miand dhat if dhou shoodst deme it fitting too pla him a tric and stele the lady from him, Ile not stand i the wa ont."

"In a bunch ov caadz," ced Gro, "naivz wate uppon the kingz. It wuu not so il dun and we made it so hiyyə. I huud a buud cing laitly dhou hadst a qworrəl too him."

"Dhou must not thhinc so," aancəd Laxəs. "Ile ghiv the stil a Roləand fau thine Ollivvə, and tel the tiz moast əparrənt thicelf dust luv this lady."

Gro ced, "Dhou chaagist me widh a swete folly iz forrən too mi nachə, beying a grave scollə dhat if evvə I did friqwent such toiz hav long ischoode them. Oanly misceemz tiz an il thhing if she must be ghivn ovə untooh him əghenst huu wil. Dhou nowist him ov a ruf and miyyə soalgəly miand, bisciadz hiz discəloote cumpəny widh uthə wimmin."

"Tush," ced Laxəs, "he ma go hiz gate fau me, and be az cloce az a buttəfli widh the lady. But out ov polləcy, twer best rid huu hens. Ide not be cene int. Dhat prəvidid, Ile ceckənd the aul wase. If he li hiyyə the summə long in ammərəs dalliyyəns, justly mite the King əbrade us dhat midst ə the dase spaut we gave hiz good hauc a gauj, and so lost him the game."

"I ce," ced Gro, smiling in himcelf, "dhou aat a man ov sobə guvvənmənt and undəstanding, and thhinkist fuust ov Wichland. And dhat iz boath just and rite."

Nou went the feest fauwəd widh grate suufitting and swigghing ov wine. Mevreənz wimmin dhat wuu dhae, much əghenst dhae one good wil, too suuv the banqwit, cet evvə fresh dishiz

biffau the feestəz and paud fauth fresh wianz, goaldən and tauny and rooby-red, in the goblits ov jade and cristl and hammәd goald. The ae in the fae chaimbə woz thhic widh the steme ov bake-meets and the vinəs breth ov the feestəz, so dhat the lustə ov the oapl lamps buund coppəry, and əbout eche lamp woz a boosh ov coppəry beemz like the beemz əbout a tauch dhat buunz in a fog. Grate woz the clattə ov cups, and grate the clinking ov glaas az in dhae drunkənəs the Witchiz caast doun the priaslәs bekəz on the flau, smashing them in shivvəz. And huge din dhae woz ov laaftə and song; and əmidst ov it, wimminz voiciz cinging, aulbeyit niyyə dround in the huuly buuly. Fau dha kənstraind Mevreənz dammәselz in Crothəring too cing and daans biffau them, housowevvə wofəl at haat. And too uthə entətainmənt dhan this ov daans and song woz menny a blac-biyyədid revvələ willing too kənstrane them; and saut əcaizhn dhaetoo, but this bi stelth oanly, and out ov i-shot ov dhae genrəl. Fau hevvilly ennou woz hiz roth faulən on sum hoo rashly flauntid in hiz face dhae lite dispauts, prizzuming too hunt in such feeldz wile dhae laud went stil a-faasting.

Aaftə a wile Hemming, hoo sat next too Gro, biggan too sa too him in a wispə, "This iz an il banqwit."

"Misceemz raathə tiz a verry good banqwit," ced Gro.

"Wood I sau sum uthə issoo dharov," ced Hemming, "dhan dhat he puupəcith. Au hou thhinkist dhou?"

"I scaes can blame him," aancəd Gro. "'Tiz a moast luvcəm lady."

"Iz not the man a moast horrəbl opən swine? And iz it too be enduəd dhat he shood wuuc hiz lude puupəs on so swete a

lady?"

"Wot hav I too doo widh it?" ced Gro.

"Wot les dhan I?" ced Hemming.

"It disliax the?" ced Gro.

"Aat dhou a man?" ced Hemming. "And she dhat hatith him bisciadz az bluddy Atrəpos!"

Gro looct him a swift suuching looc in the i. Then he wispəd, hiz hed boud ovə sum raiznz he woz a-picking: "If this iz thi miand, tiz wel." And speking softly, widh hiyyə and dhae sum snach ov loudə discaus au gest bitwene wialz lest he shood ceme too uunistly en'gaijd in ceecrit tauc, he taut Hemming audəly and cliyyəly wot he had too doo, discuvvəring too him dhat Laxəs aulso, beying bit widh gelləcy, woz ov dhae əcaud. "Thi bruthə Caago iz aptist fau this. He standith əbout huu hite, and bi resən ov hiz ueth iz yet biyyədləs. Go fiand him out. Rihhuus untooh him wuud bi wuud aul this tauking dhat hath bene bitwene me and the. Kərinniyyəs hoaldith me too depe cəspect too suffə me out ov hiz i too-nite. Untooh u sunz ov Corrənd dhaefau iz the taasc; and I biding at hiz elbo ma əvale too hoald him hiyyə i the haul til it be pəfaumd. Go; and wise counsl and good spede wate on yau ətempts."

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The Lady Mevreən, beying iscaipt too huu one chaimbə in the soudh touə, sat bi an eestən windo dhat looct əcros the gaadnz and the lake, paast the ce-lox ov Strəpaadən and the daac hilz ov Eestmaac, too the staitly rain'giz əfaa wich ovəhang in

mid-ae Moazdale and Muucdale and Swautrivvə and the inland ce ov Throwautə. The laast liats ov da stil lin‘ghəd on dhae loftiyyə summits: on Iənbeke, on the gaunt waul ov Scaatə, and on the distənt twin touəz ov Dinə cene biyyond the loə Moazdale rainj in the dipreshn ov Nevvədale Hauz. Bihhiand them roald up the əcent ov hevn the weelz ov qwiət Nite: holy Nite, muthə ov the Godz, muthə ov slepe, tendə nuus ov aul litl buudz and beests dhat dwel in the feeld and aul tiəd haats and wiyyəry: muthə bisciadz ov strainj childrən, əfriats, and raips, and midnite muudəz boald.

Mevreən sat dhae til aul the uuth woz bluud in daacnəs and the ski a-throb widh staalite, fau it woz yet an ouə until the rising ov the moone. And she prade too Lady Aatəmis, cauling huu bi huu ceecrit naimz and saying, "Goddis and Maidn chaist and holy; triyune Goddis, Wich in hevn aat, and on the uuth Huntris divvine, and aulso hast in the vaild sunləs placiz billo uuth Thi dwelling, vuwing the laaj staishnz ov the ded: save me and kepe me dhat am Thi maidn stil."

She tuund the ring uppon huu fin‘ghə and scand in the gathəring gloome the bezl dharov, wich woz ov dhat criscəprase dhat iz hid in lite and cene in daacnəs, beying az a flame bi nite but in the da-time yello au won. And bihhoald, it palpittatid widh splendə from withinwəd, and woz az if a thouznd goaldən spaax daanst and swuuld within the stone.

Wile she pondəd wot intuuprittaishn la liacliyyist on this sudn flouring ov unnəcustəmd splendə within the criscəprase, bihhoald wun ov huu wimmin ov the bed-chaimbə hoo braut liats, and ced, standing biffau huu, "Twane ov dhose laudz ov Wichland wood speke widh yau ladiship in privit."

"Too?" ced Mevreən. "Dhaez saifty yet in numbəz. Wich be

dha?"

"Hinəs, dha be taul and slim ov boddy. Dha be blac-ədviazd. Dha bae them discrete az daumice, and moast kəmendəbly sobə."

Mevreən aasct, "Iz it the Laud Gro? Hath he a grate blac biyyəd, much cuuld and puufuemd?"

"Hinəs, I maact not dhat iathər warith a biyyəd," ced the woommən, "nau dhae naimz I no not."

"Wel," ced Mevreən, "ədmit them. And doo dhou and thi fellose ətend me wialz I ghiv them audiyyəns."

So it woz dun əcauding too huu bidding. And dhae entəd in dhose too sunz ov Corrənd.

Dha gretid huu widh rispectfəl sallutaishnz, and Hemming ced, "Ouə errənd, moast wuushipfəl lady, woz fau thine one iyyə oanly if it plese the."

Mevreən ced too huu wimmin, "Make faast the dauz, and ətend me in the anty-chaimbə. And nou, mi laudz," ced she, and watid fau them too bigghin.

She woz cetid ciadwase in the windo, bitwixt the lite and the daac. The cristl lamps shining from within the roome shode depə daacnəciz in huu hae dhan niats daacnəs widhout. The cuuv ov huu wite aamz resting in huu lap woz like the yung moone craidld əbuv the suncet. A fauling brese out ov the soudh came laidn widh the muumə ov the ce, faa əwa biyyond feeldz and vinyədz, restləsly suuging eevn in dhat caam wethə əmid the ce-caivz ov Strəpaadən. It woz az if the

ce and the nite enfoalding Demənland gaaspt in indignaishn at such thhingz az Kərinniyyəs, hoalding himcelf aulreddy an undoutid pəsescə ov hiz dizsiəz, divviazd fau dhat nite in Crothəring.

Dhose bredhrən stood əbasht in the prezns ov such rae buty. Hemming widh a depe breth spake and ced, "Maddəm, wot slendə əpinniyyən sowevvə dhou hast held ov us ov Wichland, I pra the be sattisfide dhat I and mi kinzmən hav saut too the nou widh a clene haat too doo the suuvis."

"Princiz," ced she, "scaes mite ye blame me did I misdout u. Yet, ceying dhat mi liafs dase hav bene not əmung ambiddextəz and cony-catchəz but luvvəz ov clene handz and opən deling, not eevn aaftə dhat wich I this nite enduəd wil mine haat billeve dhat aul civvillitty iz waun əwa in Wichland. Did I not frely risceve Kərinniyyəciz celf wen I did opən mi gaits too him, fuumly billeving him too be a king and not a ravvəning woolf?"

Then ced Hemming, "Canst dhou ware aamə, maddəm? Dhou aat sumthhing ov an hite widh mi bruthə. Too bring the paast the gaad, if dhou go aamd, az I shal kənduct the, the wine dha hav drunkən shal be thi minnistə. I hav prəvidid an haus. In the liacnəs ov mi yung bruthə maist dhou ride fauth too-nite out ov this caasl, and win clene əwa. But in thine one shape dhou maist nevvə paas from these thi lodgingz, fau he hath cet a gaad dharon; beying rizzolvd, cum dharov wot ma, too vizsit the hiyyə this nite: in thine one chaimbə, maddəm."

The soundz ov furiyyəs revvəlry flotid up from the banqwit chaimbə. Mevreən huud bi snatchiz the vois ov Kərinniyyəs cinging an unceemly song. Az in the prezns ov sum daac infloowwəns dhat thretnd an il she mite not comprihhend, yet

felt huu blud qwale and huu haat gro cic biccoz ov it, she looct on dhose bredhrən.

She ced at laast, "Woz this yau plan?"

Hemming aancəd, "It woz the Laud Gro did moast in'gennuəsly kənceve it. But Kərinniyyəs, az he hath evvə held him in distrust, and moast ov aul wen he hath drunkən ovəmuch, kepith him moast fuumly at hiz elbo."

Caago nou did auf hiz aamə, and Mevreən cauling in huu wimmin too take this and uthə ghiyyə faed straitwa too an innə chaimbə too chainj huu fashn.

Hemming ced too hiz bruthə, "Dhou shalt nede too go əbout it widh grate suukəmspecshn, too cum auf wen we ar gon so az dhou be not əspide. Wuu I dhou, I shood be temptid fau the raenəs ov the gest too əwate hiz cumming, and əsa wethə dhou coodst not make az good a countəfit Mevreən az she a countəfit Caago."

"Dhou," ced Caago, "maist wel laaf and be ga, dhou dhat must kənduct huu. And aat rizzolvd, I dae la mi hed too a tuunip, too doo thi utmoast endevvər too dispoil Kərinniyyəs ov dhat fəliscitty he hath too-nite dicrede him, and bles thicelf dhaewidh."

"Dhou hast faulən," aancəd Hemming, "intoo a moast baabərəs thaut. Shal mi tung be so fauls a tratə too mine haat az too sa I luv not this lady? Kəmpae but huu buty and mi ueth təghethə, hou shood it uthə be? But widh such a hite ov fuuvə I doo luv huu dhat Ide az lefe offə viələns too a staa ov hevn, az riqwiə ov huu aut but onnist."

Ced Caago, "Wot ced the wise litl boi toose eldə bruthə?
'Cith dhoust gottən the cake, bruthə, I must ene make shift
widh the crumz.' Wen u ar gon, and aul wisht and qwiət,
and I left hiyyə əmid the wating wimmin, it shal go haad but
Ile teche əm sumwot əfau good-nite."

Nou opənd the dau ov the innə chaimbə, and dhae stood
biffau them the Lady Mevreən aamd and helmd. She ced, "'Tiz
no lite mattə too hault biffau a cripl. Thhinc u this wil
paas i the daac, mi laudz?"

Dha aancəd, twoz biyyond aul commendaishn exələnt.

"Ile thanc the nou, Prins Caago," ced she, stretching out
huu hand. He boud and kist it in ciləns. "This haanəs,"
she ced, "shal be a keepsake untooh me ov a noabl ennəmy. Wood
sumda I mite caul the frend, fau suchwise hast dhou baun
the this nite."

Dhaewidh, bidding yung Caago ədu, she widh hiz bruthə went
fauth from the chaimbə and throo the anty-chaimbə too dhat
shaddowy staewa wae Kərinniyyəciz soalgəz stood centinl.
These (az menny mau be dround in the bekə dhan in the
oashn), not ovə-heedfəl aaftə dhae tiplingz, ceying too go
bi təghethə widh clanking aamə and nowing Hemmingz vois
wen he aancəd the challənj, made no qweschən but hiyyə wuu
Corrəndz sunz rittuuning too the banqwit.

So paast he and she liatly bi the centinlz. But az dha
faed bi the lofty corriddau widhout the Chaimbə ov the Moone,
the dauz ov dhat chaimbə opəning sudnly left and rite dhae
came fauth tauch-barəz and minstrəlz too bi too az in a
proagres, widh cimblz clashing and fluits and tambəreenz, so
dhat the corriddau woz foolfild widh the flae ov flamboiz and

the din. In the midst wauct the Laud Kərinniyyəs. The lusty blud within him buund scaalət in aul hiz shining face, and made stand the vainz like caudz on the strong nec and aamz and handz ov him. The thhic cuulz əbuv hiz brou wae dha strade billo hiz kəronəl ov sleping nichade wuu a-drip widh swet. Plane it woz he woz in no good trim, aaftə dhat shroode noc on the hed Əstaa dhat da had ghivn him, too widhstand depe qwoffingz. He went bitwene Gro and Laxəs, swaying hevvilly nou on the aam ov this wun nou ov the uthə, hiz rite hand beting time too the music ov the briadl song.

Mevreən wispəd too Hemming, "Let us bae out a good face so long az we be əlive."

Dha stood əcide, hoping too be paast bi unnotist, fau ritrete nau kənceelmənt woz dhae nun. But Kərinniyyəs hiz i liting on them stopt and haild them, catching them eche bi an aam, and criying, "Hemming, dhouət drunc! Caago, dhouət drunc, swete ueth! 'Tiz a damnəbl folly, drinc az drunc az u be, and these bonny wenchiz Ive prəvidid u. Hou shal I sattisfi əm, thhinc ye, wen dha cum too me widh dhae plaints too-maun, dhat eche must cit widh a snoring drunkədz hed in huu lap the nite long?"

Mevreən, az if she had aul huu paat bi rote, woz leend this wile hevvilly uppon Hemming, hanging huu hed.

Hemming cood thhinc on naut liacliyyə too sa, dhan, "Trooly, O Kərinniyyəs, we be sobə."

"Dhou liyist," ced Kərinniyyəs. "'Twoz evvə cine manniffest ov drunkənəs too dinni it. Looc u, mi laudz, I dinni not I am drunc. Dhaefau iz cine manniffest I am drunc, I mene, cine manniffest I am sobə. But the ouə caulith too uthə wuuc dhan

qweschəning ov these hi mattəz. Cet on!"

So speking he reeld hevvilly əghenst Gro, and (az if muivd bi
sum ary infloowwəns dhat, wispəring him ov skemingz əfoot,
yet kənspiəd widh the wine dhat he had drunkən too make him
looc aul uthəwae fau treezn dhan wae it la undə hiz
hand too discuvvə it) gript Gro bi the aam, saying, "Bide bi
me, Goblin, dhou wuut best. I doo luv the verry discreetly, and
wil stil hoald the bi the iyyəz, too ce dhou bite me not, nau
go no mau a-gadding."

Beying bi such happy fauchoone dillivvəd out ov this perrəl, Hemming
and Mevreən widh wot pruidnt haist dha mite, and widhout
misʻhap au hindrəns, got them dhae hauciz and faed fauth ov
the mane gate bitwene the maabl hippəgrifs, hoose mity
faumz shon əbuv them staac in the lo beemz ov the rising
moone. So dha rode ciləntly throo the gaadnz and the
home-meedz and thens too the wiald woodz biyyond, qwickəning nou
dhae pace too a galləp on the yeelding tuuf. So haad dha rode,
the ae ov the windləs Aiprəl nite woz lasht intoo staum əbout
dhae faciz. The trampl and thundə ov huifbeets and the
fliying glimpciz ov the trese wuu too yung Hemming but an
undətone too the thundə ov hiz blud wich nite and spede and
dhat lady galləping biscide him ne too ne cet a-galləp within
him. But too Mevreənz sole, az she galləpt ələng dhose
woodlənd riadz, dhose muinlite glaidz, these thhingz and nite
and the stedfaast staaz ətuend a hevnleə music; so dhat she
waxt momənt wundrəs peesfəl at haat, az widh the moast
fuum əshoowwərəns dhat not widhout the əbiding glory ov Demənland
must the grate mutaishnz ov the wuuld be actid, and but fau a
litl shood dhae eevl-willəz uzuup huu diyyə bruthəz cete
in Crothəring.

Dha droo rane in a cliyyəring biscide a braud strech ov wautə.

Pine-woodz rose from its fuuthə ej, shaddowy in the muinshine. Mevreən rode too a litl emminnəns dhat stood əbuv the wautə and tuund huu ise təwaud Crothəring. Save bi huu instructid and luvving i scaes mite it be cene, menny mialz əwa be-eest ov them, dimd in the əbscuə soft radiyyəns undə the moone. So sat she əwile loocking on goaldən Crothəring, wile huu haus graizd qwiətly, and Hemming at huu elbo held hiz pece, oanly bihhoalding huu.

At laast, loocking bac and meting hiz gase, "Prins Hemming," she ced, "from this place gowith a hidn paath nauth-əbout biscide the fuuth, and a dri rode ovə the maash, and a faud and an upləND haus-wa ledith intoo Westmaac. Hiyyə and aul-waez in Demənland I mite fae bliandfoald. And hiyyə Ile sa faewel. Mi tung iz a poowwə orrətə. But I miand me ov the wuudz ov the powit wae he ceth:

Mi miand iz like too the azbeston stone.
Wich if it wuns be hete in flaimz ov fiə,
Dinniyith too biccummən coald əghen.

Be the lattə issoo ov these wauz in mi grate kinzmənz victəry, az I moast fuumly trou it shal be, au in Goriciz hiz, I shal not fəghet this ixperrimmənt ov yau nobillitty manniffestid untooh me this nite."

But Hemming, stil bihhoalding huu, aancəd not a wuud.

She ced, "Hou faez the Qwene thi step-muthə? Cevn summəz əgo this summə I woz in Nauvasp at Laud Corrəndz wedding feest, and stood bi huu at the briadl. Iz she yet so fae?"

He aancəd, "Maddəm, az Joone bringith the goaldən rose untooh

pəfecshn, so waxith huu buty widh the yuuz."

"She and I," ced Mevreən, "wuu plamaits, she the eldə bi too summəz. Iz she yet so maastəfəl?"

"Maddəm, she iz a Qwene," ced Hemming, naling hiz verry ise on Mevreən. Huu face haaf tuund təwaudz him, swete mouth haaf cloazd, cliyyə ise upliftid təwaud the eest, shode dim in the glammə ov the moone, and the lilt ov huu boddy woz az a lilly faulən a-dreming biscide sum enchaantid lake at midnite. Widh a dri throte he ced, "Lady, until too-nite I had not cəpoazd dhae livd on uuth a woommən mau butiffəl dhan she."

Dhaewidh the luv dhat woz in him went like a wind and like an up-swooping daacnəs əthwaut hiz brane. Az wun hoo haz too long, unboald, unrizzolvd, dillade too lift dhat dauz lach wich must opən on hiz haats troo home, he caut hiz aamz əbout huu. Huu cheke woz soft too hiz kis, but dedly coald: huu ise like a wiald buudz caut in a puus-net. Hiz bruthəz aamə dhat caist huu boddy woz not so ded nau so haad undə hiz hand, az too hiz luv dhat yeelding cheke, dhat aliyyən looc. He ced, az wun a-stagghə fau hiz wits in the prezns ov sum unlooct-fau chaans, "Dhou dust not luv me?"

Mevreən shooc huu hed, pootting him gently əwa.

Like the paacing ov a fiə on a dri heeth in summə the flame ov hiz pashn woz paast bi, leving but a smoaldəring descəlaishn ov scaunfəl sullən roth: roth at himcelf and fate.

He ced, in a lo shaimd vois, "I pra u fəghiv me, maddəm."

Mevreən ced, "Prins, the Godz ghiv the good-nite. Be kiand too Crothəring, I hav left dhae an eevl stuəd."

So saying, she raind up huu hauciz hed and tuund doun westwəd təwaudz the fuuth. Hemming wocht huu an instənt, hiz brane a-rele. Then, striking spuuz too hiz hauciz flanx so dhat the haus riyyəd and plunjd, he rode əwa at a grate pace eest əghen throo the woodz too Crothəring.

25. Laud Gro and the Lady Mevreən

HOU THE LAUD GRO, KƏNDUCTID BI A STRAINJ ENNAMMƏMƏNT WIDH LOST
CAUSIZ, FAED WIDH NUN SAVE THIS TOO BE HIZ GHIDE INTOO THE
REGƏNZ OV NEVVƏDALE, AND DHAE BIHHELD WUNDƏZ, AND TAISTID
ƏGHEN FAU A CEEZN THE GOODNƏS OV DHOSE THHINGZ HE DID MOAST
DIZSIƏ.

Nianty dase and a da aaftə these doowingz əfauced, in the laast ouə biffau the daun, woz the Laud Gro a-riding təwaud the paling eest doun from the hilz ov Eestmaac too the faudz ov Maadədale. At a wauking pace hiz haus came doun too the wautə-cide, and haultid widh fetlox əwosh: hiz flanx wuu wet and hiz wind gon, az from swift faring on the opən fel cins midnite. He strecht doun hiz nec, snift the fresh rivvə-wautə, and dranc. Gro tuund in the sadl, lisning, hiz left hand throne fauwəd too slac the rainz, hiz rite flat-plaantid on the cruppə. But naut dhae woz too hiyyə save the babl ov wautəz in the shallose, the sucking noiz ov the

haus drinking, and the plash and crunch ov hiz huivz wen he shiftid fete əmung the peblz. Biffau and bihhiand and on iathər hand the woodz and strath and suucling hilz shode dim in the əbscuə gra bitwixt daacnəs and twilite. A lite mist hid the staaz. Naut stuud save an oul dhat flittid like a fantəm out from a holly-boosh in a cragghy bluf a bo-shot au mau doun streme, croscing Grose paath and liting on a braanch ov a ded tre əbuv him on the left, wae she sat az if too əbzuuv the gowingz ov this man and haus dhat trespəst in this vally ov qwiət nite.

Gro leend fauwəd too pat hiz hauciz nec. "Cum, goscip, we must on," he ced; "and maavl not if dhou fiand no rest, gowing widh me wich cood nevvə fiand enny stedfaast sta undə the muinz globe." So dha faudid dhat rivvə, and faed throo lo ruf graas-landz biyyond, and bi the scuuts ov a wood up too an opən heeth, and so a mile au too, stil eestwəd, til dha tuund too the rite doun a braud vally and crost a rivvə əbuv a wautəzmete, and so eest əghen up the bed ov a stony streme and ovə this too a ruf mountin trac dhat crost sum bogghy ground and then cliamd hiə and hiə əbuv the flau ov the narrowing vally too a paas bitwene the hilz. At length the slope slackənd, and dha paacing, az throo a gaitwa, bitwene too hi mountinz wich impendid shiyyə and staac on iathər hand, came fauth uppon a moowwə ov ling and bog-muutl, stroone widh laiclets and əbounding in streemz and mos-hagz and outcrops ov the livving roc; and the mountin peex əfaa stood round dhat moowwəland waist like worriyyə kingz. Nou woz cullə waking in the eestən hevnz, the brite shining mauning bigghinning too cliyyə the uuth. Coniz scurrid too cuvvə biffau the hauciz fete: smaul buudz floo up from the hethə: sum red diyyə stood at gase in the fuun, then tript əwa southwəd: a moowwəcoc cauld.

Gro ced in himcelf, "Hou shal not commən əpinniyyən əcount me mad, so rash and prizzumpchoowwəs dain'gərəsly too put mi life in hazsəd? Na, əghenst aul sound jujmənt; and this folly I ennact in dhat verry ceezn wen bi paishns and currij and mi pollittic wizdəm I had wun dhat in dispite ov fauchuinz teeth wich obstinnətly hithətoo she had dinnide me: wen aaftə the brunts ov divuuz tradgickəl fauchuinz I had maavələsly gaind the favə and grace ov the King, hoo verry onnərəbly plaist me in hiz caut, and tendərith me, I wel thhinc, so diyyəly az he duth the baulz ov hiz too ise."

He put auf hiz helm, baring hiz wite forrid and smuidh blac cuuling lox too the aez ov mauning, flinging bac hiz hed too drinc depe throo hiz nostrəlz the swete strong ae and its pety smel. "Yet iz commən əpinniyyən the foole, not I," he ced. "He dhat immadginnith aaftə hiz labəz too ətane untooh laasting joi, az wel ma he bete wautə in a mautə. Iz dhae not in the wiald benniffit ov nachə instənciz ennou too laaf this folly out ov fashn? A faibl ov grate men dhat ərise and conkə the naishnz: Da gowith up əghenst the tirənt nite. Hou dellickət a spirrit iz she, hou like a faun she foottith it uppon the mountinz: pale pittiffəl lite macht widh the primeevl daac. But evry swete hovvəz in huu bətalliyyənz, and evry hevnly infloowwəns: cuilth ov the wawəd litl windz ov mauning, flouəz əwakəning, buudz a-carrəl, duse a-spaacl on the fine-draun webz the tiny spinnəz hang from fuun-frond too thaun, from thaun too wet dainty lefe ov the cilvə buuch; the yung da laafing in huu strength, wiald widh huu one buty; fiə and life and evry cent and cullə baun ənu too triəmf ovə cayos and slo daacnəs and the kinles nite.

"But biccoz da at huu dauning ouəz hath so biwwicht me, must I yet luv huu wen gluttid widh triəmf she cetlz too garish noone? Raathə tuun az nou I tuun too Demənland, in the sad

suncet ov huu pride. And hoo daez caul me tuuncote, hoo doo but follo nou az I hav follode this rae wizdəm aul mi dase: too luv the sunrise and the sundoun and the mauning and the eevning staa? cins dhae oanly əbidith the sole ov nobillitty, troo luv, and wundə, and the glory ov hope and fiyyə."

So brooding he rode at an esy pace baring eest and a litl nauth əcros the moowwə, fauling biccoz ov the strainj haaməny dhat woz bitwene outwəd thhingz and the inwəd thauts ov hiz haat intoo a depe studdy. So came he too the moowwəz end, and entəd əmung the scuuts ov the mountinz biyyond, croscing lo paaciz, thredding a wa əmung woodz and wautə-cauciz, up and doun, əbout and əbout. The haus led him wich wa dhat he wood, fau no hede nau ədvice had he ov aut əbout him, fau cauz ov the depe contəmplaishn dhat he had within himcelf.

It woz nou hi noone. The haus and hiz ridə wuu cum too a litl del ov grene graas widh a bec wianding in the midst widh coole wautə flowing ovə a bed ov shin'gl. Əbout the del groo menny trese boath taul and strate. Əbuv the trese hi mountin cragz a-bake in the sun shode ithhiyyəriyyəl throo the shimməring hete. A muumə ov wautəz, a hum ov tiny wingz flitting from flouə too flouə, the sound ov the haus grasing on the lush paaschə: dhae woz naut els too hiyyə. Not a lefe muivd, not a buud. The hush ov the summə noone-da, brethləs, buunt throo widh the sun, mau aufəl dhan enny shape ov nite, pauzd əbuv dhat loanly del.

Gro, az if waict bi the verry ciləns, looct qwicly əbout him. The haus felt billike in hiz boanz hiz ridəz unnese; he gave ovə hiz feding and stood əluut widh wiald i and qwivvəring flanx. Gro pattid and made much ov him; then, ghidid bi sum inwəd prompting the resən warov he nu not, tuund west bi a smaul tribbutəry bec and rode softly təwaud the wood. Hiyyə he

woz stopt widh a numbə ov trese so thhicly plaist təghethə
dhat he woz əfrade he shood widh riding throo be swept from
the sadl. So he litid doun, tide hiz haus too an oke, and
cliamd the bed ov the litl streme til he woz cum wens he
mite looc nauth ovə the tre-tops too a grene terrəs əbout at
a levl widh him and sum fifty paciz distənt əlong the
hilcide, sheeldid from the nauth bi thre au fau grate roən
trese on the faa cide ov it, and on the terrəs a litl taan
au roc cistən ov fae wautə verry coole and depe.

He pauzd, steddiyying himcelf widh hiz left hand bi a jutting
roc ovəgrone widh rose-campiyyən. Shoowwəly no childrən ov men
wuu these, footting it on dhat ceecrit laun biscide dhat
fountinz brinc, nau no crechəz ov mautl kiand. Such it ma
be wuu the goats and kidz and soft-ide dose dhat on dhae
hiand-legz merrəly daanst əmung them; but nevvə such dhose
uthəz ov manly shape and widh pointid hary iyyəz, shagghy legz,
and cloavn huivz, nau dhose maidnz wite ov lim binneeth the
tred ov hoose fete the bloo genshn and the litl goaldən
cincfoil bent not dhae bloscəmz, so ary-lite woz dhae
daancing. Too make them music, litl gote-foottid childrən widh
long pointid iyyəz sat on a humməc ov tuuf-clad roc piping on
pan-piaps, dhae boddiz buunt too the hu ov red uuth bi the
wind and the sun. But, wethə biccoz dhae music woz too fine
fau mautl iyyəz, au fau sum uthə resən, Gro mite hiyyə no
sound ov dhat piping. The hevvy ciləns ov the waist wite noone
woz laud ov the cene, wile the mountin nimfs and the cimpl
geniyyi ov cej and streme and crag and moowwəland sollittude
threddid the masiz ov the daans.

The Laud Gro stood stil in grate adməraishn, saying in
himcelf, "Wot meenz mi drousy hed too dreme such fanciz?
Spirrits ov il hav I hiyyətoofau bihheld in dhae
manniffestaishnz; I hav cene fantasticcose fraimd and prizsentid

bi aat madgic; I hav dreemd strainj dreemz a-niats. But til this ouə I did əcount it an iadl tale ov powits faning, dhat əmid woodz, forrists, fuutile feeldz, ce-coasts, shauz ov grate rivvəz and fountin brinx, and aulso uppon the tops ov huge and hi mountinz, doo stil əpiyyə untooh suutn favəd ise the sundry-sautid nimfs and feeldish demmiggodz. Wich thhing if I nou verrilly bihhoald, tiz a grate maavl, and sautith wel widh the strainj əloowwəmənts waebi this əprest land hath so laitly found a meenz too guvn mine əfecshnz." And he thaut əwile, resəning dhus in hiz miand: "If this be but an appərishn, it hath no esns too doo me a huut. If ə the kəntrary these be verry iscenshl beyingz, needz must dha joifəly welkəm me and use me wel, beying thəmcelvz the troo viatl spirrits ov menny-mountind Demənland; untooh hoose cumfət and the ristaumənt ov huu oald rinnoun and prase I hav widh such a strainj dittuuminnaishn bent aul mi painfəl thauts and rezsəluishn."

So on the moashn he discuvvəd himcelf and haild them. The wiald thhingz boundid əwa and wuu lost əmung the flanx ov the hil. The caprippedz, leving on the instənt dhae piping au dhae daancing, croucht wotching him widh distrustfəl staatld ise. Oanly the Oriyyadz stil in a dazling drift pəsude dhae round: qwiət maidn mouths, butiffəl brests, slendə liadh limz, hand joind too dellickət hand, paating and closing and paating əghen, in rithəmz ov unstaild vəriəty; hiyyə wun dhat, widh wite aamz claaspt bihhiand huu hed wae huu bradid hae woz az buunisht goald, suucld and swade widh a lan‘ghərəs moashn; hiyyə ənuthə, dhat leept and pauzd hovvəring a-tipto, like an arro ov the sun shot throo the lefy roofe ov an oald pine-forrist wen the waum hil-wind stuuz the tre-tops and opənz a tiny windo too the ski.

Gro went təwaud them əlong the graacy hilcide. Wen he woz

cum a duzn paciz the strength woz gon from hiz limz. He neeld doun criying out and saying, "Divvinnittiz ov uuth! dinni me not, niathər ridgect me, aulbeyit croowwəly hav I til nou əprest yau land, but wil doo so no mau. The footsteps ov mine ovətrodn vuuchoo li stil az bittə accuzaishnz untooh me. Bring me ov yau muucy wae I ma fiand out them dhat pəsest this land and offə them ətoanmənt, hoo wuu drivn fauth biccoz ov me and mine too be outlauz in the woodz and mountinz."

So spake he, bouwing hiz hed in sorro. And he huud, like the trembling ov a cilvə loote-string, a vois in the ae dhat cride:

Nauth tiz and nauth tiz!
Wi nede we fuuthə?

He raizd hiz ise. The vizhn woz gon. Oanly the noone and the woodlənd, cilənt, sollittəry, dazling, wuu əbout and əbuv him.

Laud Gro came nou too hiz haus əghen, and mountid and rode nauthhəwa throo the felz aul dhat summə aaftənoone, fool ov cloudy fanciz. Wen it woz eevntide hiz wa woz hi up əlong the stepe cide ov a mountin bitwene the screse and the graas, following a litl paath made bi the wiald shepe. Faa binneeth in the vally woz a smaul rivvə tauchoowwəsly flowing əlong a boaldəry bed əmid hilləx ov oald morrainz wich wuu like waivz ov a ce ov graas-clad uuth. The Jooli sun weeld lo, flinging the shaddose ov the hilz faa up the westwəd-facing sloaps wae Gro woz a-riding, but wae he rode and əbuv him the hilcide woz yet əglo widh the waum lo sunshine; and the distənt peke dhat shut in the hed ov the vally, riyyəring hiz huge frunt like the gaibl ov a hous, widh sweping ribz ov

bae roc and scre and a crest ov crag like a grate brakə
frosən too stone in mid kəriyyə, baidhd yet in a radiyyəns ov
opəlesnt lite.

Tuuning the shoaldə ov the hilcide at a place wae the hil
woz cut bi a shallo gully, he sau biffau him a hollo au
sheltəd nooc. Dhae, prətectid bi the grate boddy ov the hil
from the blaasts ov the eest and nauth, too roən trese and sum
hollese groo in the clefts ov the roc əbuv the wautəcaus.
Undə dhae shaddo woz a cave, not laaj but so big az a man
mite wel əbide in and be dri in wiald wethə, and biyyond it
on the rite a litl wautəfaul, so butiffəl it woz a wundə
too bihhoald. This woz the fashn ov it: a slab ov roc, twice a
manz hite, tiltid a litl fauwəd from the hil, so dhat
the wautə fel cliyyə from its uppə ej in a thhin streme intoo
a rocky baisn. The wautə in the baisn woz cliyyə and depe, but
a-chuun aulwase widh bublz from the plun'ging get from əbuv;
and ovə aul the rox əbout it groo mosciz and likənz and
litl wautə-flouəz, nurrisht bi the streme at roote and
rifresht bi the spra.

The Laud Gro ced in hiz haat, "Hiyyə wood I dwel fau evvə
had I but the aat too make micelf litl az an eft. And I wood
bild me an hous a span hi biscide yondə cooshn ov mos
emmərəld-hude, widh dhose pinc foxgluvz too shade mi dau wich
balləns dhae belz əbuv the foming wautəz. This shi graas ov
Paanascəs shood be mi drinking cup, widh puə wite challis
poizd on a hae-thhin stem; and the cuutnz ov mi bed dhat
litl thuusty sandwuut wich, like a grene hevn sone widh
milc-wite staaz, cuutnz the shady ciadz ov these rox."

Resting in this immadginnaishn he əbode long time loocking on dhat
fary place, so ceecritly bistode in the foald ov the nakid
mountin. Then, unwilling too dippaat from so fae a spot, and

bithhinking him, bisciadz, dhat aaftə so menny ouəz hiz haus woz wiyyəry, he dismountid and la doun biscide the streme. And in a shaut wile, havving hiz spirrits cəbliamd widh the swete immadginnaishn ov dhose wundəz he had bihheld, he woz fane too suffə the long daac lashiz too droope ovə hiz laaj and liqwid ise. And depe slepe ovəcame him.

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Wen he əwoke, aul the ski woz əfiə widh the red ov suncet. A shaddo woz bitwixt him and the westən lite: the shape ov wun bending ovə him and saying in maastəfəl wise, yet in axents warin the eccose and memməriz ov aul swete soundz ceemd min‘gld and lade up at rest fau evvə, "Li stil, mi laud, nau cri not a rescu. Bihhoald, thine one saud; and I tooc it from the sleping." And he woz wae ov a shaap saud pointid əghenst hiz throte wae the big vainz li binneeth the tung.

He stuud not at aul, niathər spake aut, oanly loocking up at huu az at sum vizhn ov dillite strade from the fugətiv floc ov dreemz.

The lady ced, "Wae be thi cumpəny? And hou menny? Aancə me swiftly."

He aancəd huu like a dremə, "Hou shal I aancə the? Hou shal I numbə them dhat be biyyond aul count? Au hou name untooh yau grace dhae habbittaishn wich ar eevn verry nou clocər too me dhan hand au fete, yet ə the next instənt ar aibl too trancend a mane wialdə billike dhan eevn a staabeme hath juunid or?"

She ced, "Ridl me no ridlz. Aancə me, dhou wuut best."

"Maddəm," ced Gro, "these dhat I toald the ov be the cumpəny ov mine one cilənt thauts. And, but fau mine haus, this iz aul the cumpəny dhat came hithə widh me."

"Əlone?" ced she. "And slepe so ciccuəly in thine ennəmiz cuntry? Dhat shode a strainj confiddəns."

"Not ennəmiz, if I ma," ced he.

But she cride, "And dhou Laud Gro ov Wichland?"

"Dhat wun cickənd long cins," he aancəd, "ov a mautl cicnəs; and tiz nou a da and a nite cins he iz ded dharov."

"Wot aat dhou, then?" ced she.

He aancəd, "If yau grace wood so risceve me, Laud Gro ov Demənland."

"A verry practist tuuncote," ced she. "Billike dha aulso ar wiyyərid ov the and thi wase. Əlas," she ced in an aultəd vois, "thi gentl paadn! wen doutlis it woz fau thi gennərəs deedz too me-waud dha fel out widh the, wen dhou didst so noably bifrend me."

"I wil tel yau hinəs," aancəd he, "the puə truith. Nevvə stood mattəz bettə twixt me and aul ov them dhan wen yestənite I rizzolvd too leve them."

The Lady Mevreən woz cilənt, a cloud in huu face. Then, "I am əlone," she ced. "Dhaefau thhinc it not litl-haatid in me, nau fəghetfəl ov paast benniffits, if I wil be fuuthə suutiffide ov the ae I suffə the too rise. Swae too me dhou wilt not

bitra me."

But Gro ced, "Hou shood an oath from me əvale the, maddəm?
Oadhz biand not an il man. Wuu I miandid too doo the rong,
liatly shood I swae the aul oadhz dhou mitist riqwiə,
and liatly ə the next instənt be fauswaun."

"Dhat iz not wel ced," ced Mevreən. "Nau helpith not thi
saifty. U men doo sa dhat wimminz haats be faint and feebl,
but I shal sho the the kəntrary iz in me. Studdy too sattisfi
me. Els wil I əshoowwəridly smite the too deth widh thine one
saud."

The Laud Gro la bac, claasping hiz slendə handz bihhiand hiz
hed. "Stand, I pra the," ced he, "ə the uthə cide ov me,
dhat I ma ce thi face."

She did so, stil thretning him widh the saud. And he ced
smiling, "Divvine lady, aul mi dase hav I had dain'gə fau mi
bedfello, and perrəl ov deth fau mi fəmilliyyə frend; wiləm
leding a dellickət life in prinsly caut, wae muuthə
cittith in the wine-cup and in the alcove; wiləm juuniyying
əlone in mau perrələs landz dhan this, az witnis the Moroonə,
wae the cuntry iz fool ov vennəməs beests and crauling
poiznd suupənts, and the divvəlz be az əbundənt dhae az
graas'hoppəz on a hot hilcide in summə. He dhat fiyyərith iz a
slave, wuu he nevvə so rich, wuu he nevvə so pouəfəl. But he
dhat iz widhout fiyyə iz king ov aul the wuuld. Dhou hast mi
saud. Strike. Deth shal be a swete rest too me. Thraaldəm, not
deth, shood terriffi me."

She pauzd əwile, then ced untooh him, "Mi Laud Gro, dhou didst
doo me wuns a rite grate good tuun. Shoowwəly I ma bild mi
saifty on this, dhat nevvə yet did kite bring fauth a good

fliying hauc." She shiftid huu hoald on hiz saud, and verry prittilly gave it him hilt-faumoast, saying, "I ghiv it the bac, mi laud, nuthhing douting dhat dhat wich woz ghivn in onnə dhou wilt onnərəbly use."

But he, rising up, ced, "Maddəm, this and thi noabl wuudz hath ghivn such ruitfaastnəs too the pact ov faith bitwixt us dhat it ma nou unfoald wot bloscəm ov oadhz dhou wilt; fau oadhz ar the bloscəm ov frendship, not the roote. And dhou shalt fiand me a troo hoaldə ov mi voud ammitty untooh the widhout spot au rincl."

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Fau sundry niats and dase əbode Gro and Mevreən in dhat place, hunting at wialz too ghet dhae sustinnəns, drinking ov the swete spring-wautə, sleping a-niats she in huu cave binneeth the holly booshiz and the roənz biscide the wautəfaul, he in a cleft ov the rox a litl billo in the gully, wae the mos made cooshnz soft and rizsilliyyənt az the grate stuft bedz in Caacy. In dhose dase she toald him ov huu faringz cins dhat nite ov Aiprəl wen she iscaipt out ov Crothəring: hou fuust she found haabərij at Bi in Westmaac, but hiyyəring in a da au too ov a hu and cri fled eest əghen, and sodgəning əwile biscide Throwautə came at length əbout a munth əgo uppon this cave biscide the litl fountin, and hiyyə əbode. Huu miand had bene too win ovə the mountinz too Galing, but she had aaftə the fuust ətempt ghivn ovə dhat dizsine, fau fiyyə ov cumpəniz ov the ennəmy hoose handz she baely iscaipt wen she came fauth intoo the loə valliz dhat opən on the eestən coast-landz. So she had tuund əghen too this hiding place in the hilz, az ceecrit and rimmote az enny in Demənland. Fau this dale she let him no woz Nevvədale, wae no rode ran save the wa ov the diyyə and the mountin goats, and no gaath opənd on dhat dale,

and the reke ov no manz haathstone buudnd the windz dhat bloo thithə. And dhat gaibl-crestid peke at the hed ov the dale woz the suthənmoast ov the Faux ov Nantregghənon, nuucəry ov the vulchə and the eegl. And a hidn wa woz round the rite shoaldə ov dhat peke, ovə the tuitht rij bi Nevvədale Hauz too the uppə wautəz ov Tivərandədale.

On an aaftənoone ov sultry summə hete it so biffel dhat dha restid billo the hauz on a bastiyyən ov roc dhat juttid from the soudh-westən slope. Binneeth dhae fete prescippisciz fel sudnly əwa from a ghiddy vuuj, sweping round in a graan suuc əbuv wich the mountin rose like sum Taataariyyən fautris, pondərəs, croowwəl az the ce and sad, scaad and gasht widh grate lianz ov clevij az dho the face ov the mountin had bene slasht əwa bi the ax-stroke ov a giənt. In the depths the wautəz ov Dule Taan slept plascid and fathəmləs.

Gro woz strecht on the brinc ov the clif, face dounwəd, propt on hiz too elbose, studdiyying dhose daac wautəz. "Shoowwəly," he ced, "the grate mountinz ov the wuuld ar a preznt remmədy if men did but no it əghenst ouə modn diskəntent and ambishnz. In the hilz iz wizdəmz fount. Dha ar depe in time. Dha no the wase ov the sun and the wind, the liatningz firy fete, the frost dhat shattərith, the rane dhat shroudith, the sno dhat pootteth əbout dhae nakidnəs a softə cuvvəlit dhan fine laun: wich if dhae laaj filloscəfy qweschən not if it be a briadl shete au a shroud, hath not this unpolləcid caam hiz justifficcaishn evvə in the rittuuning yuu, and iz it not an instəns too laaf ouə caefəlnəs out ov fashn? ov us, litl childrən ov the dust, childrən ov a da, hoo widh so menny buudnz doo buudn us widh taking thaut and widh fiyyəz and dizsiəz and deviyyəs skemingz ov the miand, so dhat we wax oald biffau ouə time and faul wiyyəry ae the brefe da be spent and wun reping-hooc gathə us home at laast fau

aul ouə painz."

He looct up and she met the gase ov hiz grate ise; depe puilz ov nite dha ceemd, wae strainj mattəz mite moove uncene, distuubing too looc on, yet fild widh a soft slumbrəs chaam dhat luld and suidhd.

"Dhoust faulən a-dreming, mi laud," ced Mevreən. "And fau me tiz a haad thhing too wauc widh the in thi dreemz, hoo am əwake in the braud dalite and wood be a-doowing."

"Suutiz it iz an il thhing," ced Laud Gro, "dhat dhou, hoo hast not bene nurrisht in mendiscitty au povvəty but in soopəfloowwitty ov onnə and laages, shoodst be made fugətiv in thine one dəminniyyənz, too loj widh foxiz and beests ov the wiald mountin."

Ced she, "It iz yet a swetə lodging dhan iz too-da in Crothəring. It iz dhaefau I chafe too doo sumwot. Too win throo too Galing, dhat wuu sumthhing."

"Wot proffit iz in Galing," ced Gro, "widhout Laud Jus?"

She aancəd, "Dhou wilt tel me it iz eevn az Crothəring widhout mi bruthə."

Loocking ciadlong up at huu, wae she sat aamd biscide him, he bihheld a tiyyə a-trembl on huu ilid. He ced gently, "Hoo shal fauno the wase ov Fate? Yau hinəs iz bettə hiyyə billike."

Lady Mevreən stood up. She pointid too a print in the livving roc biffau huu fete. "The hippəgrifs huifmaac!" she cride, "strickən in the roc agiz əgo bi dhat hi buud wich

prizsidith from ov oald ovə the predestind glory ov ouə line, too point us on too a fame ədvaanst əbuv the regən ov the glittəring staaz. Troo iz the wuud dhat dhat land wich iz in the guvvənəns ov a woommən oanly iz not shoowwəly kept. I wil əbide iadly hiyyə no mau."

Gro, bihhoalding huu so stand aul aamd on dhat hi brinc ov crag, cetting widh so much pəfecshn in woommənly buty manlike vallə, bithaut him dhat hiyyə woz dhat troo imboddimmənt ov maun and eve, dhat chaam wich cauld him from Crothəring, and fau wich the prəfettic spirrits ov mountin and wood and feeld had pointid hiz paath widh a hevnly bennizn, mening too bid him go nauthwəd too hiz haats troo home. He neeld doun and caut huu hand in hiz, imbracing and kiscing it az ov huu in hoome aul hiz hoaps wuu plaist, and saying pashənətly, "Mevreən, Mevreən, let me but be aamd in thi good grace and I diffi wottevvə dhae iz au can be əghenst me. Eevn az the sun litith braud hevn at noone-da, and dhat ghivvith lite untooh this driyyəry uuth, so aat dhou the troo lite ov Demənland wich biccoz ov the makith the hole wuuld gloriyyəs. Welkəm untooh me be aul mizsəriz, so oanly untooh the I ma be welkəm."

She sprang bac, snatching əwa huu hand. Huu saud lept cinging from the scabbəd. But Gro, dhat woz so ravvisht and əbuezd dhat he rimmembəd ov nuthhing wuuldly but oanly dhat he bihheld hiz ladese face, əbode moashnləs. She cride, "Bac too bac! Swift, au tiz too late!"

He leept up, baely in time. Cix stout fellose, soalgəz ov Wichland stolən softly uppon them at unnəwaez, cloazd nou uppon them. No breth too waist in paaly, but the clanc ov stele: he and Mevreən bac too bac on a taibl ov roc, dhose cix cetting on from iathər cide. "Kil the Goblin," ced dha. "Take the lady unhuut: tiz deth too aul if she be tucht."

So fau a time dhose too diffendid them ov aul dhae pouə. Yet at such odz cood not the issoo stand long in dout, nau Grose hi metl make up wot he lact ov strength boddəly and skil in aamz. Cunning ov fens indede woz the Lady Mevreən, az dha ghest not too dhae huut; fau the fuust ov them, a grate chuf-heddid fello dhat thaut too bae huu doun widh rushing in uppon huu, she widh a deft thrust paacing hiz gaad ran clene throo the throte; bi hoose taking auf, hiz fellose tooc sum lesn ov caushn. But Gro beying at length braut too uuth widh menny wuindz, dha had the next instənt caut Mevreən from bihhiand wialz uthəz en'gaijd huu in the face, wen in the nic ov time az bi the intəvenshn ov hevn woz aul dhae biznəs takən in rivvuus, and aul five in a momənt lade bleding on the stoanz biscide dhae fellose.

Mevreən, loocking əbout and ceying wot she sau, fel weke and faint in huu bruthəz aamz, ovəcum widh so much radiyyənt joi aaftə dhat stres ov acshn and perrəl; bihhoalding nou widh huu one ise dhat home-cumming warov the geniyyi ov dhat land had had faunollij and in Grose cite shone thəmcelvz wiald widh joi dharov: Brandokh Daahaa and Jus cum home too Demənland, like men ərizn from the ded.

"Not tucht," she aancəd them. "But looc too mi Laud Gro: I fiyyə he be huut. Looc too him wel, fau he hath əpruivd him ouə frend indede."

26. The Batl ov Crothəring Cide

HOU WUUD WOZ BRAUT UNTOOH THE LAUD KƏRINNIYYƏS DHAT THE LAUDZ JUS
AND BRANDOKH DAAHAA WUU CUM ƏGHEN INTOO THE LAND, AND HOU HE
RIZZOLVD TOO GHIV THEM BATL ON THE CIDE, UNDƏ UUN'GATE END;
AND OV THE GRATE FLANC MAACH OV LAUD BRANDOKH DAAHAA OVƏ THE
MOUNTINZ FROM TRANZDALE; AND OV THE GRATE BATL, AND OV THE
ISSOO DHAROV.

Laxəs and dhose sunz ov Corrənd wauct on an aaftənoone in Crothəring home mede. The ski əbuv them woz hot and cullәd ov led, prissaging thundə. No wind stuud in the trese dhat wuu livvid-grene əghenst dhat ledn paul. The noiz ov mattəc and cro-baa came widhout intəmishn from the caasl. Wae gaadnz had bene and aabəz ov shade and sweetnəs, woz nou but rec: brokən colləmz and smasht paufirry vaasiz ov rae wuucmənship, moundz ov uuth and rotting vedgittaishn. And dhose grate cedəz, embləmz ov dhae laudz istate and pride, la prostrate nou widh dhae ruits ixpoazd, a tan'gl ov ciyyə foliyyij and braanchiz brokən, withəd and liafləs. Ovə this deth-bed ov roowind luvlinnəs the touəz ov onnix shode gaastly əghenst the ski.

"Iz dhae not a vuuchoo in cevn?" ced Caago. "Laast weke woz the cixth time we thaut we had gottən the ele bi the tale in yon fli-blone hilz ov Meland and came empty home. Wen thhinxt, Laxəs, shalz run əm too uuth indede?"

"Wen eg-pise shal gro on apl-trese," aancəd Laxəs.
"Na, the genrəl cettith gratə stau bi hiz procləmaishnz kənsuuning the yung woommən (hoo liacly nevvə hiyyərith ov them,

and əshoowwəridly wil not be bi them tiast home əghen), and bi these toiz ov rivvenj, dhan bi sound soalgəship. Haac! dhae gowith this dase wuuc."

Dha tuund at a shout from the gaits, too bihhoald the nauthən ov dhose too goaldən hippəgrifs tottə and crash doun the steeps intoo the mote, cending up a grate smoke from the stoanz and rubl wich paud in its wake.

Laud Laxəciz brou woz daac. He lade hand on Hemmingz aam, saying, "The tiamz nede aul sage counsl we can reche untooh, O ye sunz ov Corrənd, if ouə Laud the King shal hav indede from this expiddishn intoo Demənland the victəry at laast ov aul hiz eevl-willəz. Rimmembə, dhat woz a grate mis too ouə strength wen the Goblin went."

"Out uppon the vipə!" ced Caago. "Kərinniyyəs woz rite in this, not too worrənt him the onnisty ov such slippəry catl. He had not suuvd əbuv a munth au too, but dhat he ran too the ennəmy."

"Kərinniyyəs," ced Laxəs, "iz yet but grene in hiz istate. Duth he cəpose the rest ov hiz rane shal be but pla and the enjoiying ov a kingdəm? Dhose left-handid stroax ov fauchoone ma yet oəthrou him, the wile dhat he stremith out hiz ueth in wine and vennəry and mannidgith hiz privit spite əghenst this lady. Slippə ueth must be undə-propt widh eldə counsl, lest aul go mis."

"A moast revvərənd oald councələ aat dhou!" ced Caago; "ov cix-and-thuuty yuuz ov age."

Ced Hemming, "We be thre. Take kəmaand thicelf. I and mi bruthə wil bac the."

"I wil dhat dhou swollo bac dhose wuudz," ced Laxəs, "az dho dha had nevvə bene spoke. Rimmembə Caucəs and Galləndəs. Bisciadz, aulbeyit he cemith nou raathə too be a man straut dhan wun dhat hath hiz wits, yet iz Kərinniyyəs in hiz sobə celf a valliyyənt and pwecənt soalgə, a pollittic and provviddənt captin az iz not found bisciadz in Demənland, no, nau in Wichland niathər, and it wuu not yau noabl faathə; and this wun in hiz uethly age."

"Dhat iz troo," ced Hemming. "Dhou hast justly ripruivd me."

Nou wile dha wuu a-tauking, came wun from the caasl and made obaisns untooh Laxəs saying, "U ar inqwiəd fau, O king, so plese u too wauc intoo the nauth chaimbə."

Ced Laxəs, "Iz it he dhat woz nuly ridn from the eest cuntry?"

"So it iz, so plese u," widh a lo leg he made aancə.

"Hath he not had audiyyəns widh King Kərinniyyəs?"

"He hath saut audiyyəns," ced the man, "but woz dinnide. The mattə prescith, and he uujd me dhaefau ceke untooh yau laudship."

Az dha wauct təwaud the caasl Hemming ced in Laxəciz iyyə, "Nowist dhou not this brave nu pece ov caut cerrimməny? Ə these dase, wen he hath stroid an hostij too spite the Lady Mevreən, az too-da woz stroid the haus-heddid eegl, he ghivvith not audiyyəns til sundoun. Fau, the dede ov ven'gəns dun, a rittirith himcelf too hiz one chaimbə and a wench widh him, the daintiyyist and gaimcəmist he ma prəcuə; and so, fau too ouəz au thre dround in the mane ce ov hiz one

plezhəz, he əbatith sum litl dele fau a ceezn the pang ov luv."

Nou wen Laxəs woz cum fauth from tauking widh the mescin'gə from the eest, he faed widhout dilla too Kərinniyyəciz chaimbə. Dhae, thrusting əcide the gaadz, he flung wide the shining dauz, and found the Laud Kərinniyyəs merrəly dispoazd. He woz ricliand on a couch depe-cooshnd widh daac grene thre-pile velvit. An ivəry taibl inlade widh cilvə and ebbəny stood at hiz elbo baring a cristl flagghən aulreddy too paats emptid ov the foming wine, and a fae goald goblit biscide it. He wau a long looce sleevləs goun ov wite cilc ejd widh a goald frinj; this, faulən opən at the nec, left nakid hiz chest and wun strong aam dhat in dhat momənt wen Laxəs entəd reecht out too graasp the wine cup. Uppon hiz ne he held a dammməsel ov sum cevntene yuuz, fae and fresh az a rose, widh hoome he woz plainly on the point too paas from frendly kənvuus too ammərəs privvəcy. He looct an'grəly uppon Laxəs, hoo widhout cerrimməny spoke and ced. "The hole eest iz in a tumult. The buug iz faust wich we bilt əstride the Stile. Spitfiə hath paast intoo Brakingdale too vitl Galing, and hath ovəthrone ouə aamy dhat sat in cege dharov."

Kərinniyyəs dranc a draaft and spat. "Frut!" ced he. "Much broote, litl froote. I wood no bi wot worrənt dhou trublist me widh this titl-tatl, and I plezntly disposing micelf too muuth and recriyyaishn. Cood it not wate til suppə time?"

Ae Laxəs mite sa mau, woz a grate clattə huud widhout on the staez, and in came dhose sunz ov Corrənd.

"Am I a king?" ced Kərinniyyəs, gathəring hiz robe əbout him, "and shal I be faust? Əvoid the chaimbə." Then maaking them

stand cilənt widh dissaudəd loox, "Wots the mattə?" he ced. "Ar ye tane widh the swindl au the tuun-cicnəs? Au ar ye out ov yau wits?"

Hemming aancəd and ced, "Not mad, mi laud. Hiyyəz Diddaariyyəs dhat held the Stile-buug fau us, ridn from the eest az faast az hiz haus mite wolləp, and gottən hiyyə haad ə the heelz ov the faumə mescin'gə widh fresh and mau suutn ədvuutismənt, freshə bi fau dase dhan dhat wunz. I pra u hiyyə him."

"Ile hiyyə him," ced Kərinniyyəs, "at suppə time. Naut soonə, if the roofe wuu əfiə."

"The land binneeth thi feets əfiə!" cride Hemming. "Jus and Brandokh Daahaa home əghen, and haaf the cuntry lost the ae dhou huudst ont. These devlz ar home əghen! Shal we hiyyə dhat and stil be swil-boalz?"

Kərinniyyəs lisnd widh foaldid aamz. Hiz grate jau woz liftid up. Hiz nostrəlz wiadnd. Fau a minnit he əbode in ciləns, hiz coald bloo ise fixt az it wuu on sumwot əfaa. Then, "Home əghen?" ced he. "And the eest in a hubbub? And not unliacly. Thanc Diddaariyyəs fau hiz tidingz. He shal sweetn mine iyyəz widh sum mau at suppə. Til then, leve me, ənles ye mene too be strecht."

But Laxəs, widh sad and ciyyəriyyəs brou, stood biscide him and ced, "Mi laud, fəghet not dhat u ar hiyyə the vickə and legghit ov the King. Let the croun uppon yau hed put perrəlz in yau thauts, so az u ma haakən pecəbly too them dhat ar willing too lesn u widh sound and sage ədvice. If we take audə too-nite too maach bi Swichwautə, we ma verry wel shut bac this dain'gə and stifəl it ae it wax too too much bignes. If ə the kəntrary we suffə them too entə intoo these westən

paats, like ennuf widhout let au sta dha wil ovərun the hole cuntry."

Kərinniyyəs roald hiz i uppon him. "Can nuthhing," he ced, "priscribe untooh the əbediyyəns? Looc too thine one chaaj. Iz the flete in proppə trim? Fau dhaez the strength, ese, and ankə ov ouə pouə, wethə fau vittəling, au too shift ouə wate əghenst əm wich wa we choose, au too ghiv us shoowwə əciləm if it wuu cum too dhat. Wot ailz the? Hav we not these fau munths dizsiəd naut bettə dhan dhat these Demənz shood take haat too strike a feeld widh us? If it be troo dhat Jus himcelf and Brandokh Daahaa hav throne doun the caaslz and strengths wich I had i the eest and moove widh an aamy əghenst us, wi then I hav them in the fauj aulreddy, and shal nou bring them too the hammə. And be sattisfide, Ile choose mine one ground too fite them."

"Dhaez yet mattə fau haist in this," ced Laxəs. "A dase maach, and we əpose əm not, wil bring them biffau Crothəring."

"Dhat," aancəd Kərinniyyəs, "jumpith pat widh mine one dizsine. Ile not go a leghe too baa dhae wa, but risceve əm hiyyə wae the ground liyith moast favərəbl too mete an ennəmy. Wich ədvaantij Ile imploi too the gratist strech ov suuvis, standing on Crothəring Cide, resting mi flanc əghenst the mountin. The flete shal ride in Auwauth haivn."

Laxəs stroact hiz biyyəd and woz cilənt a minnit, kənciddəring this. Then he looct up and ced, "This iz sound gennərəlship, I ma not gainsa it."

"It iz a puupəs, mi laud," ced Kərinniyyəs, "I hav long had in micelf, staud bi fau the ivvent. Let me əlone, dhaefau, too doo

dhat mi rite iz. Dhaez this good in it, too, az it
biffaulith: twil suffə dhat dive-dappə too bihhoald hiz home
əghen əfau I kil him. A shal fiand it a cite fau sau ise,
I thhinc, aaftə mi tending ont."

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The thuud da aaftə these doowingz, the faamə at Hoalt stood in
hiz pauch dhat opənd westwəd on Tivərandədale. An oald man
woz he, croockid like a mountin thaun. But a brite blac i
he had, and the hae cuuld crisp yet əbuv hiz brou. It woz
late aaftənoone and the ski ovəcaast. Touzl-haed shepe-dogz
slept biffau the dau. Swollose gathəd in the ski. Niyyə too
him sat a dammməsel, dainty az a meddo-pippit, liadh az an
antillope; and she woz grianding grane in a hand-mil, cinging
the wile:

Griand, mil, griand,
Kərinniyyəs griandz us aul;
Kinging it in widdode Crothəring.

The oald man woz fuubishing a sheeld and moriyyən-cap, and uthə
tacl ov wau la at hiz fete.

"I wundə dhou wilt stil be bizsy widh thi tacl, O mi
faathə," ced she, loocking up from huu cinging and grianding.
"If il tide il əghen wot shood an oald man doo but greve and
be cilənt?"

"Dhae shal be time fau dhat hiyyəraaftə," ced the oald man.
"But a litl wile iz hand fane ov blo."

"Dhale be fau firing the roofe-tre, liacly, if dha cum

bac," ced she, stil grianding.

"Dhouət a discəbediyyənt las. If dhoudst but flit az I bad
the too the shele-hous up the dale, Ide faus not a bene fau
dhae buuningz."

"Let it buun," ced she, "if he be takən. Wot əvale then fau
the au fau me too be a-tarriyying? Dhou dhat aat an oald man and
fool ov good dase, and I dhat wil not be left so."

A grate dog əwoke biscide huu and shooc himcelf, then droo niyyə
and lade hiz nose in huu lap, loocking up at huu widh kiand
solləm ise.

The oald man ced, "Dhouət a discəbediyyənt las, and but fau
the, cum saud, cum fiə, not a strau cae I; nowing it
shal be but a paacing staum, nou dhat mi Laud iz home əghen."

"Dha tooc the land from Laud Spitfiə," ced she.

"I, hinny," ced the oald man, "and dhou shalt ce mi Laud
shal take it bac əghen."

"I?" ced she. And stil she ground and stil she sang:

Griand, mil, griand,
Kərinniyyəs griandz us aul.

Aaftə a time, "Hist!" ced the oald man, "woz not dhat a
haus-tred i the lane? Ghet the within-dauz til I no if
aul be frendly." And he stuipt painfəly too take up hiz
weppən. Wofəly it shooc in hiz feebl hand.

But she, az wun dhat nu the step, heding naut els, lept up widh face fuust red then pale then flusht əghen, and ran too the gate ov the gaath. And the shepe-dogz boundid biffau huu. Dhae in the gate she woz met widh a yung man riding a wiyyəry haus. He woz gaabd like a soalgə, and haus and man wuu so bidragld widh miə and dust and aul mannə ov diffialmənt dha wuu a sorry cite too ce, and so jadid boath dhat scaes it ceemd dha had mite too juuny ənuthə fuulong. Dha haultid within the gate, and aul dhose dogz jumpt up uppon them, wining and baaking fau joi.

Ae the soalgə woz wel doun from the sadl he had a swete aamfool. "Softly, mi haat," ced he, "mi shoaldəz sumwot rau. Na, tiz naut too speke on. Ive braut the aul mi limz home."

"Woz dhae a batl?" ced the oald man.

"Woz dhae a batl, faathə?" cride he. "Ile tel the, Crothəring Cide iz thhickə widh ded men slane dhan ouə gaath widh shepe i the shiyyəring time."

"Əlac and əlac, tiz a moast horrid wuind, diyyə," ced the guul. "Go in, and Ile wosh it and la too it milfoil poundid widh hunny; tiz moast sovrən əghenst pane and los ov blud, and driyith up the lips ov the wuind and makith hole dhoudst no creddit hou soone. Dhou hast bled ovə-much, dhou foolish wun. And hou coodst dhou thrive widhout thi wife too tend the?"

The faamə put an aam əbout him, saying, "Woz the feeld ouəz, lad?"

"Ile tel u aul audəly, oald man," aancəd he, "but I must staibl him fuust," and the haus nuzld hiz brest. "And ye

must balləst me fuust. God sheeld us, tiz not a tale fau an empty man too tel."

"'Las, faathə," ced the dammməsel, "hav we not wun swete cippet i the mouth, dhat we hoald him hiyyə wuns mau? And, swete au souə, let him take hiz time too fech us the next."

So dha wosht hiz huut and lade kiandly huubz dhaetoo, and bound it widh clene linnin, and put fresh ramənt uppon him, and made him cit on the bench widhout the pauch and gave him too et and drinc: caix ov baaly mele and daac hethə-hunny, and ruf wite wine ov Tivərandədale. The dogz la cloce əbout him az if dhae woz waumth dhae and saifty waraz he woz. Hiz yung wife held hiz hand in huuz, az if dhat wuu ennuf if it shood laast fau i. And dhat oald man, eting doun hiz impaishns like a scuilboi chafing fau the bel, fin'ghəd hiz paatizzan widh trembling hand.

"Dhou hadst the wuud I cent the, faathə, aaftə the fite billo Galing?"

"I. 'Twoz good."

"Dhae woz a counsl held dhat nite," ced the soalgə. "Aul the grate men təghethə in the hi haul in Galing, so az it woz a hevn too ce. I woz wun ov dhae cupbarəz, cauz Ide kild the standəd-barə ov the Witchiz, in dhat same batl billo Galing. Mithaut twoz no grate thhing I did; til aaftə the batl, looc u, mi Laudz celf standing biscide me; and ceth he, 'Aanod (i, bi mi name, faathə), 'Aanod,' a ceth, dhoust dun doun the pennən ə Wichland dhat ghenst ouə fredəm streemd so proud. 'Tiz thi like shal best sted Demənland i these dog-dase,' ceth he. 'Bae mi cup too-nite, fau thine onnə.' I wood, las, dhoudst cene hiz ise dhat

tide. 'Tiz a laud too put marro in the saud-aam, ouə Laud.

"Dha had fauth the grate map ə the wuuld, ov this Demənland, too studdy dhae biznəs. I woz bi, poring the wine, and I huud dhae disputaishnz. 'Tiz a wundrəs map raut in cristl and bronz, moast aatiffishl, widh wautəz a-glistəring and mountinz standing cəbstanshl too the tuch. Mi Laud points widhz saud. 'Hiyyə,' a ceth, standith Kərinniyyəs, bi aul shoowwə tellingz, and budgith not from Crothəring. And, bi the Godz,' a ceth, tiz a wise dispəsishn. Fau, maac, if we go bi Gashtəndale, az go we must too cum at him, he strikith doun on us az hammə on anvil. And if we wil paas bi təwaud the hed ov Thundəfuuth,' and hiyyə a pointith it out widhz saud, doun a cummith on ouə flanc; and evry-gate the landz slope suuvith hiz tuun and fitith əghenst us.'

"I miand me ə dhose wuudz," ced the yung man, "cauz mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa laaft and ced, 'Ar we grone so strainj bi ouə travlz, ouə one land fitith ə the oppəsit paaty? Let me studdy it əghen.'

"I fild hiz cup. Diyyə Godz, but Ide fil him a bole ov mine one haats blud if he riqwiəd it ov me, aaftə ouə tiamz təghethə, faathə. But mau ə dhat ənon. The stoutist gentlmən and captin widhout piyyə.

"But Laud Spitfiə, dhat woz this wile vaunting up and doun the chaimbə, cride out and ced, "'Twuu folly too travl hiz rode prippaed us. Take him ə dhat cide he loockith leest too ce us: soudh throo the mountinz, and uppon him in hiz riyyə up from Maadədale.'

"'Aa,' ceth mi Laud, and be prest bac intoo Muucdale Hagz if we mis ov ouə fuust spring. 'Tiz too perrələs. 'Tiz wuus

dhan Gashtəndale.'

"So went it: a na fau evry ya, and naut too plese əm.
Til i the end mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa, dhat had bene long time
bizsy widh the map, ced: 'Nou dhat wi hav thresht the hole
stac and found not the needl, I wil sho u mi rede, cauz
ye shal not sa I counsld u rashly.'

"So dha bad him sa hiz rede. And he ced untooh mi Laud, "Dhou
and ouə mane pouə shal go bi Swichwautə Wa. And let the
hole landz face blase yau cumming biffau u. Ye shal li
too-morro nite in sum good fiting-sted withə it shal
not be too hiz vaantij too moove əghenst u: haply in the oald
shelingz əbuv Renthwate, au at enny liacly spot əfau the
rode dippith soudh intoo Gashtəndale. But at point ov da
strike camp and go bi Gashtəndale and so up on too the Cide too
doo batl widh him. So shal aul faul out eevn az hiz one hoaps
and expectaishnz doo dizsiə it. But I,' ceth mi Laud Brandokh
Daahaa, widh cevn hundrəd chosən haus, wil hav faed bi then
clene əlong the mountin rij from Tranzdale eevn too Uun'gate
End; so az wen he tuunith aul hiz batl nauthwəd doun the
Cide too welm u, dhae shal hang əbuv the ciccuritty ov hiz
flanc and riyyə dhat wich he nae dreemd on. If he cəpaut mi
chaaging ov hiz flanc at unnəwaez, widh u in frunt too cope
him, and he widh so smaul an ədvaantij uppon us in strength ov
men: if he stand dhat, wi then, good-nite! the Witchiz ar
ouə maastəz in aamz, and we ma auf cap too əm and strive no
mau too rite us.'

"So ced mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa. But aul cauld him daaft too
thhinc ont. Carry an aamy a-hausbac in so smaul time cros
such cuust ground? It mite not be. 'Wel,' qwoath he, cith u
count it not poscəbl, so much the mau shal he. Caushəs
counslz nevvə wil suuv us this tide. Ghiv me but mi pic ov

man and haus too the numbə ov cevn hundrəd, and Ile so cet
this maasc u shal not dizsiə a bettə maastə ov the
revvəlz.'

"So i the end he had hiz wa. And paast midnite dha wuu at
it, I wis, planning and studdiyying.

"At daun woz the hole aamy maashld in the meddose billo
Muinmiyyə, and mi Laud spake əmung them and toald us he woz
miandid too maach intoo the west cuntry and ixtuuminnate the
Witchiz out ov Demənland; and he bad enny man dhat deemd he
had nou hiz fil ov furiyyəs wau and deemd it a swetə thhing
too go home too hiz one place, sa fauth hiz miand widhout fiyyə,
and he wood let him go, ya, and ghiv him good ghifts dhaetoo,
ceying dhat aul had dun manfəl suuvis; but he wood hav no
man in this entəprise hoo went not too it widh hiz hole haat
and miand."

The damməsel ced, "I wis dhae woz not a man wood take dhat
offə."

"Dhae went up," ced the soalgə, "such a shout, widh such a
stamping, and such a clashing təghethə ov weppənz, the land
shooc widht, and the eccose roald in the hi corriz ov the
Scaaf like thundə, ov them shouting 'Crothəring!' 'Jus!'
'Brandokh Daahaa!' 'Lede us too Crothəring!' Widhout mau ədoo woz
the stuf pact up, and ae noone woz the hole aamy gottən
ovə the Stile. Wile we haultid fau damele haad bi Blaqwood
in Ammaadədale, came mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa a-riding əmung the
ranx fau too take hiz pic ov cevn hundrəd ov ouə aiblist
haus. Nau a wood not kəmit this too hiz offiscə, but himcelf
cauld on eche lad bi name wenso he sau a liacly wun, and
spiyyəd wood a ride widh him. I trou he gat nevvə a na too
dhat spiyyəring. Mi haat woz a-coald lest hede oəlooc me,

wotching him ride bi az jaunty az a king. But a raind inz haus and ceth, 'Aanod, tiz a bonny haus dhou riddist. Cood he carry the too a swine-hunt doun from Uun‘gate End i the mauning?' I cəlootid him and ced, 'Not so faa oanly, Laud, but too buuning Hel so dhou but lede us.' 'Cum on,' ceth he. "Tiz a bettə gate I shal lede the: too Crothəring haul ae eevntide.'

"So nou woz ouə strength sundəd, and the mane aamy made reddy too maach westwəd doun Swichwautə Wa; widh the Laud Sig too lede the haus, and the Laud Vol and mi Laudz celf and hiz bruthə the Laud Spitfiə faring in the midst əmungst əm aul. And widh them yondə outland tratə, Laud Gro; but I doo thhinc him mau a stic ov shoogghə-paist dhan a man ov wau. And menny gentlmən ov wuuth went widh them: Gismau Gleme ov Justdale, Əstaa ov Retra, and Bremməry ov Shauz, and menny mau men ov maac. But dhae əbode widh mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa, Aanənd ov Bi, and Thaamrod ov Kənaavy, Cammməraa ov Strəpaadən, Emməron Gault, Hespə Golthring ov Elməsted, Stuucmə ov Blaqwood, Melcaa ov Roofy, Qwazsiz thre sunz from Daalny, and Stipmaa ov Failz: fiyyəs and collməric yung gentlmən, aaftə hiz one haat, mithhinx; grate hausmən, not verry faucaasting ov fuchə thhingz əfaa auf but entətanəz ov fauchoone bi the da, too rash too guvn an aamy, but best ov aul too əba and follo him in so gloriyyəs an entəprise.

"Ae we paatid, came mi Laud too speke widh mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa. And mi Laud looct intoo the lift dhat woz aul daac cloud and wind; and qwoath he, 'Fale not at the triast, cuzn. 'Tiz thi wuud, dhat dhou and I be fin‘ghə and thum; and nevvə mau shoowwəly dhan too-morro shal this be cene.'

"'O frend ov mi haat, kəntent the,' aancərith mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa. 'Didst evvə no me niglect mi ghests? And hav

I not bidn u too brecfəst widh me too-morro maun in
Crothəring meedz?'

"Nou we ov the cevn hundrəd tuund leftwəd at the wautəzmete
up Tranzdale intoo the mountinz. And nou came il wethə uppon
us, the wuust dhat evvə I nu. 'Tiz soft ennou and litl rode
ennou in Tranzdale, az dhou nowist, faathə, and wiyyəry wuuc it
woz widh evry diyyə-trac tuund a wautə-caus and undəfoot
aul slush and miə, and naut fau a man too ce save wite mist
and rane əbuv and əbout him, and soppy bent and wautə undəz
haus-huivz. Litl dhae woz too tel us we wuu wun at laast
too the top ov the paas, and twer not the cloud bloo thhickə
and the wind wialdə əbout us. Evry man woz wet too the breche,
and bae a piant ə wautə inz too shoose.

"Wialz we wuu haultid on the Sadl mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa
restid not at aul, but gave hiz haus too hiz man too hoald and
himcelf faed bac and fauth əmung us. And fau evry man he had
a gest au a merry looc, so az twoz mete and drinc but too hiyyə
au too bihhoald him. But a litl wile oanly wood he suffə us too
hault; then rite we tuund, up əlong the rij, wae the wa
woz yet wuus dhan in the dale had bene, widh rox and pits
hidn in the hethə, and slithəry slabz ov grannit. Bi mi
faith, I thhinc no haus dhat woz not baun and bred tot mite
cros such cuntry, wet au fine; he shood be foundəd au
shood brake hiz legz and hiz ridəz nec ae he shood be
gottən too ouəz juuny əlong dhose ridgiz; but we dhat rode
widh mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa too Crothəring Cide wuu ten ouəz
riding so, bisciadz ouə haults too wautə ouə hauciz and lon'ghər
haults too fede əm, and the laast paat ə the wa throo muuc
nite, and aul the wa i the wiandz teeth widh rane blone on
the wind like spra, and hale at wialz. And wen the rane woz
dun, the wind viyyəd too the nauth-west and bloo the ridgiz
dri. And then the litl bits ov rotn grannit bloo in ouə

faciz like hailstoanz on the wind. Dhae woz no sheltə, not ə
the le cide ov the rox, but evriwwae the staum-wind
bafld and buffittid us, and clapt hiz wingz əmung the cragz
like thundə. Diyyə Hevn, wiyyəry we wuu and like too drop, coald
too the marro, ni bliandid man and haus, yet widh a dredfəl
indəstry prest on. And mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa woz nou in the
van nou in the riyyə-gaad, chiyyəring menz haats hoo maact
widh wot bliadh countinnəns himcelf did suffə the same
haadships az hiz menist troopə: like too wun riding at ese too
sum grate wedding-feest; criying, 'Wot, ladz, merrəly on!
These fen-toadz ov the Droomə shal luun too late wot wa ouə
mountin poniz doo go like stagz uppon the mountin.'

"Wen it biggan too be mauning we came too ouə laast hault, and
dhae woz ouə cevn hundrəd haus hid in the corry undə the
taul clifs ov Uun'gate End. I worrənt u we went caefəly
əbout it, so az no priying swine ov Wichland loocking up from
billo shood əspi a glimps ov man au haus ə the skiline. Hiz
hinəs fuust cet hiz centinlz and let caul the mustə, and
sau dhat evry man had hiz mauning mele and evry haus hiz
fede. Then he tooc hiz stand bihhiand a crag ov roc wens he
cood ovəlooc the land billo. He had me bi him too doo hiz
errəndz. In the fuust lite we looct doun westwəd ovə the
mountinz ej and sau Crothəring and the aamz ov the ce, not
so daac but we mite bihhoald dhae flete at ankə in Auwauth
roadz, and dhae camp like a bach ov behiavz so az a man
mite thhinc too caast a stone intoote billo us. Dhat woz the fuust
time Ide ae gon too the wauz widh him. Faith, hese a pritty
man too ce: leend fauwəd dhae on the hethə widhz chin on
hiz foaldid aamz, hiz helm lade əcide so dha shood not ce it
glint from billo; qwiət like a cat: haaf əslepe ude sa; but
hiz ise wuu əwake, loocking doun on Crothəring. 'Twoz wel
cene eevn from so faa əwa hou vily dha had uezd it.

"The grate red sun leept out ə the eestən cloud-banx. A stuu biggan in dhae camp billo: standədz cet up, men gathəring dhaetoo, ranx fauming, bueglz sounding; then a scau ov haus galləping up the rode from Gashtəndale intoo the camp. Hiz hinəs, widhout tuuning hiz hed, beckənd widhz hand too me too caul hiz captinz. I ran and fecht əm. He gave əm swift kəmaandz, pointing doun wae the Wichland swine roald out dhae batl; thheevz and pirəts hoo robd hiz hinəs subgicts within hiz streemz; widh standəd and pennənz and glistəring nakid spiyyəz, mooving nauthwəd from the tents. Then in the qwiət came a sound made a manz haat lepe within him: faint out ov the faa hollose ov Gashtəndale, the trumpit ov mi Laud Jusciz batl-caul.

"Mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa pauzd a minnit, loocking doun. Then a tuund him əbout widh face dhat shon like the mauning. 'Fae laudz,' a ceth, nou liatly on hausbac, fau Jus fitith əghenst hiz ennəmiz.' I thhinc he woz wel kəntent. I thhinc he woz shoowwə he wood dhat da ghet hiz haats cith ov evry wun dhat had rongd him.

"Dhat woz a long ride doun from Uun'gate End. Widh aul ouə haats blud drumming us too haist, we must yet go warilly, picking ouə wa i dhat tricky ground, stepe az a roofe-slope, unnevən and widh no shoowwə foot'hoald, widh ciax in wet mos and rox outcropping and shifting screse. Dhae woz naut but leve it too the hauciz, and braivly dha braut us doun the steeps. We wuu not haaf wa doun ae we huud and sau hou batl woz joind. So intent wuu the Wichlandəz on mi Laudz mane aamy. I thhinc we wuu auf the stepe ground and fauming fau the chaaj ae dha wuu wae ov us. Ouə trumpittəz soundid hiz batl challənj. Hoo medlz wih Brandokh Daahaa? and we came doun on too Crothəring Cide like a roc-faul.

"I scaes no wot wa the batl went, faathə. 'Twoz like a meting ov streemz in spate. I thhinc dha opənd too us rite and left too ese the shoc. Dha dhat wuu biffau us went doun like standing caun undə a hailstaum. We weeld boath wase, sum ghenst dhae rite dhat woz throne bac təwaud the camp, the mau paat widh mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa too ouə one rite. I woz widh these in the mane batl. Hiz hinəs rode a hot stuuring haus verry fiyyəs and dogghid; ne too ne widh him went Stuucmə ov Blaqwood ə the wun cide and Thaamrod ə the uthə. Niathər man nau haus mite stand up biffau əm, and dha faring az in a mase nou this wa nou dhat, əmid the thrumbling and thrasting ə the footmən, hedz and aamz smitn auf, men hune in sundə from croun too belly, i, too the sadl, ridələs hauciz madnd, blud splasht up from the ground like the slush from a maash.

"So fau a time, til we had spent the vaantij ov ouə oncet and felt fau the fuust time the wate ov dhae strength. Fau Kərinniyyəs, az it əpiyyərith, woz nou himcelf ridn from the vanwaud wae he had bete bac fau a time ouə mane aamy, and cet on əghenst mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa widh hausmən and spiyyəmən; and kəmaandid hiz sling-caastəz bisciadz too let frely at us and drive us təwaud the camp.

"And nou in the grate swing ov the batl wuu we carrid bac too the camp əghen; and dhae woz a swete devlz hollədа: hauciz and men tripping ovə tent-roaps, tents taun doun, crashiz ov brokən crockəry, and King Laxəs cum thithə widh saləz from the flete, hamstringing ouə hauciz wile Kərinniyyəs chaajd us from the nauth and eest. Dhat Kərinniyyəs barith him in batl mau like a devl from Hel dhan a mautl man. I the fuust too stroax ovz saud he ovəthro too ov ouə best captinz, Rommənaad ov Daalny and Emməron Gault. Stuucmə, dhat stood inz wa too stop him, a flung doun widhz spiyyə, haus

and man. Dha sa he met twice widh mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa dhat da, but eche time wuu dha paatid in the pres ae dha mite riatly sqwae təghethə.

"I hav stood in sum goodly batlz, faathə, az wel dhou nowist: fuust following mi Laud and mi Laud Goaldry Blusco in forrən paats, and laast yuu in the grate rout at Crosby Outciax, and əghen widh mi Laud Spitfiə wen he smote the Witchiz on Bremə Raips, and in the muuthəring grate batl undə Thremnə Hu. But nevvə woz I in fite like too this ov yestəda.

"Nevvə sau I such feets ov aamz. Az witnis Camməraa ov Strəpaadən, hoo widh a grate too-handid saud hude auf hiz ennəmese leg cloce too the hip, so huge a blo the blade shiyyəd throo leg and sadl and haus and aul. And Stuucmə ov Blaqwood, rising like a devl out ov a hepe ov slane men, and dhose helm woz losn and a woz bleding from thre au fau grate wuindz a held auf a duzn ə the Witchiz widhz dedly thrusts and saud-stroax, til dha had ennuf and gave bac biffau him: twelv biffau wun, and he ghivn ovə fau ded a wile biffau. But aul grate deedz ceemd trash biscide the deedz ov mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa. In wun shaut wile had he thre tiamz a haus slane staac ded undə him, yet gat nevvə a wuind himcelf, wich woz a maavl. Fau widhout cae he rode throo and əbout, smiting doun dhae champiyyənz. I miand me ov him wuns, widhz haus ript and kild undə him, and wun ov dhose Wichland laudz dhat tiltid at him on the ground az he leept toose fete əghen; hou a caut the spiyyə widhz too handz and bi mane strength yuuct hiz ennəmy out ə the sadl. Prins Caago it woz, yun'ghist ov Corrəndz sunz. Long ma the Wichland ladiz strane dhae diyyə ise, dhale nae ce yon hendy lad cum saling home əghen. Hiz hinəs swopt him such a swipe ə the nec-bone az he picht too uuth, the hed ov him floo i

the ae like a tennis baul. And i the twincling ov an i woz mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa aud əghen onz ennəmese haus, and tuund too chaaj əm ənu. Ude sa hiz aam must fale at laast fau wiyyərinnəs, ov a man so liadh and gimp too looc on. Yet I thhinc hiz laast stroke i dhat batl woz not litə dhan the fuust. And stoanz and spiyyəz and saud-stroax ceemd too cum uppon him widh no mau impreshn dhan blose widh a strau wood ghiv too an addəmənt.

"I no not hou long woz dhat fite əmung the tents. Oanly twoz the best fite I evvə woz at, and the bluddiyyist. And bi aul tellingz twoz az grate wuuc ə the uthə paat, wae mi Laud and hiz foke faut dhae wa up on too the Cide. But ov dhat we nu nuthhing. Yet suutn it iz we had aul bene ded men had mi Laud not dhae privvaild, az suutn tiz he had nevvə so privvaild but fau ouə chaaging ov dhae flanc wen dha fuust ədvaanst əghenst him. But in dhat laast ouə aul we dhat faut əmung the tents thaut eche man oanly ov this, hou he mite sla yet wun mau Wich, and yet əghen wun mau, əfau he shood di. Fau Kərinniyyəs in dhat ouə put fauth hiz mite too crush us; and fau evry ennəmy dhae feld too uuth too mau ceemd too be raizd up əghenst us. And ouə one foke fel faast, and the tents dhat wuu so wite wuu wun gau ov blud.

"Wen I woz a litl tiny boi, faathə, we had a spaut, swimming in the depe puilz ov Tivərandəwautə, dhat wun boi wood cach tuthə and hoald him undə til he cood no mau fau wont ov breth. Mithhinx dhaez no longing i the wuuld so sau az the longing fau ae wen he dhat iz stron'ghə dhan dhou grippith the stil undə the wautə, nau no gladnəs i the wuuld like the bonny swete ae i thi lungz əghen wen a lettith the shoote up too the fre dalite. 'Twoz rite so widh us, hoo had nou ced ədu too hope and sau aul lost save life itcelf, and dhat not like too tarry long; wen we huud sudnly the thundə

ov mi Laudz trumpit sounding too the chaaj. And ae ouə staatld wits mite riatly thhinc wot dhat pautendid, woz the hole suuging batl wipt and scattəd like the wautə ov a lake caut up in a wite sqwaul; and dhat mast strength ov the ennəmy wich had investid us round widh so grate a streme ov shot and stele reeld fuust fauwəd then baqwəd then fauwəd əghen uppon us, kənfoundid in a vaast kənfuezhn. I trou nu strength came too ouə aamz; I trou ouə saudz opənd dhae mouths. Fau nauthwəd we bihheld the encine ov Galing streming like a blasing staa; and mi Laudz celf in a momənt, hi ədvaanst əbuv the rout, and Sig, and Əstaa, and hundrədz ov ouə haus, huwing dhae wa təwaud us wialz we hude təwaudz them. And nou woz reping time fau us, and time ov pamənt fau aul dhose wiyyəry bluddy ouəz we had held on too life widh ouə teeth əmung the tents on Crothəring Cide, wile dha ə the uthə paat, mi Laud and hiz, had widh aul the odz ov the ground əghenst them painfəly and yaad bi yaad faut out the fite too victəry. And nou, ae we wel wist ov it, the da woz wun, and the victəry ouəz, and the ennəmy brokən and put too so grate a rout az hath not bene cene bi livving man.

"Dhat fauls king Kərinniyyəs, aaftə he had tarrid too ce the end ov the batl, fled widh a fu ov hiz men out ov the grate slautə, and az it latə əpiyyəd gat him əshipbaud in Auwauth haabə and widh thre ships au fau iscaipt too ce. But the moast ov dhae flete woz buund dhae in the haabə too save it from ouə handz.

"Mi Laud gave kəmaand too take up the wuindid and tend əm, frend and fo əlike. Əmung them woz King Laxəs tane up, stund widh a mace-blo au sum such. So dha braut him biffau the laudz wae dha restid a litl wa doun the Cide əbuv the home meedz ov Crothəring.

"He looct əm aul in the i, moast proud and soalgə-like.
Then a ceth untooh mi Laud, 'It ma be pane, but no shame too us
too be vanqwisht aaftə so eeqwəl and so grate a fite. Hiyyərin
oanly doo I blame mi il luc, dhat it dinnide me faul in batl.
Dhou maist nou, O Jus, strike auf mi hed fau the treezn I
raut u thre yuuz əgo. And cins I no the ov a
cuutiyyəs and noabl nachə, Ile not scaun too aasc ov the this
cuutəcy, not too tarry but take it nou.'

"Mi Laud stood dhae like a wau-haus aaftə a breethə. He tooc
him bi the hand. 'O Laxəs,' ceth he, 'I ghiv the not thi hed
oanly, but thi saud;' and hiyyə a gave it him hilt-faumoast.
'Fau thi delingz widh us in the batl ov Caatadsə, let time
dhat hath an aat too make dust ov aul thhingz so doo widh the
memməry ov these. Cins then, dhou hast shone thicelf stil ouə
noabl ennəmy; and so shal we əcount the stil.'

"Dhaewidh mi Laud kəmaandid bring King Laxəs doun too the ce,
and ship him əbaud ov a bote, fau Kərinniyyəs stil held auf the
land widh hiz ships, wating no dout too ce if he au enny uthə
ov hiz foke cood yet be saivd.

"But az King Laxəs woz uppon paating, mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa,
speking widh grate sho ov caeləsnəs az ov sum trifəling
mattə a had bi chaans cauld too miand, 'Mi laud,' ceth he, 'I
nae aasc favə ov enny man. Oanly in a mannə ov rittuun ov
cuutəciz, mithaut dhou mitist be willing too bae mi
sallutaishnz too Kərinniyyəs, cith Ive no uthə mescin'gə.'

"Laxəs aancərith he wood frely doo it. Then ceth hiz
hinəs, 'Sa too him I wil not blame him dhat he əbode us not
i the feeld aaftə the batl woz lost, fau dhat had bene a
cimpl paat, flatly ghenst aul maximz ov rite soalgəship,
and but too caast hiz life əwa. But frekish Fauchoone I blame,

dhat twiand us wun from the uthə wen we shood hav delt
təghethə this da. He hath baun him in mi haulz, I am let too
no, mau i the fashn ov a swine au a beestly ape dhan a
man. Pra him cum əshau ae u sale home, dhat I and he,
widh no man els too make bitwixt us, ma caast up ouə əcount.
We swae him pece and grith and a safe conduct bac toose ships
if he privvale əghenst me au if I so use him dhat he cri fau
muucy. If hele not take this offə, then iz he a dastəd; and
the hole wuuld shal so əclame him.'

"'Suu,' ceth Laxəs, 'Ile puncchoowwəly dischaaj thi mescij.'

"Wethə he did so au no, faathə, I no not. But if he did, it
cemith it woz litl too Kərinniyyəciz liking. Fau no soonə had
hiz ship tane Laxəs əbaud, dhan she hoizd sale and put out
intoo the depe, and so good-bi."

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The yung man ceest, and dha wuu aul thre cilənt əwile. A
faint brese ripld the foliyyij ov the oaqwoodz ov
Tivərandədale. The sun woz doun bihhiand the staitly Thaunbax,
and the hole ski from baun too baun woz əlite widh the
suncet glory. Dapld cloudz, widh ski showing hiyyə and dhae
bitwene, cuvvəd the hevnz, save in the west wae a grate
aachwa ov cliyyə ae opənd bitwene cloudz and uuth: ae ov an
azhə dhat ceemd too buun, so puə it woz, so depe, so chaajd
widh waumth: not the haash bloo ov noone-da nau the sumpchoowwəs
depe eestən bloo ov əproching nite, but a brite hevnly
bloo baudəring on grene, depe, tendə, and dellickət az the
spirrit ov eevning. Əthwaut the midst ov dhat windo ov the west
a blade ov cloud, haad-ejd and jagghid widh teeth culləd az
ov live coalz and ded, firy and iən-daac in tuun, strecht
like a battəd saud. The cloudz əbuv the aach wuu pale

rose: the sennith like blac oapl, daac bloo and thundərəs gra dapld widh fiə.

27. The Ceckənd Expiddishn too Impland

HOU THE LAUD JUS, NOT TOO BE PƏSWADID FROM HIZ CET PUUPƏS,
FOUND, WAE LEEST IT WOZ TOO BE LOOCT FAU, UPHOALDING IN DHAT
RIZZOLV; AND OV THE SALING OV THE AAMƏMƏNT TOO MUWELVƏ BI WA OV
THE STRAITS OV MELLECAFKHAZ.

Dhat woz the laast embə ov red summə buuning wen dha cut them dhat haavist on Crothəring Cide. Autəm came, and wintə munths, and the lengthhəning dase ov the rittuuning yuu. And widh the fuust breth ov spring wuu the haabəz fild widh ships ov wau, so menny az had nevvə in faumə dase bene cene in the land, and in evry cuntriscide from the westən Ialz too BiləND, from Shalgreth and Keelyəland too the hedlandz undə Rimən Aamən, wuu soalgəz gathəd widh dhae hauciz and aul instroommənts ov wau.

Laud Brandokh Daahaa rode from the west, the da the Pasc flouəz fuust opənd on the blufs billo Uun'gate End and primrosiz made swete the buuch-forrists in Gashtəndale. He cet fauth bittiamz, and haad he rode, and he rode intoo Galing bi the Liən Gate əbout the ouə ov noone. Dhae woz Laud Jus in hiz privit chaimbə, and gretid him widh grate joi and luv. So Brandokh Daahaa aasct, "Wot spede?" And Jus aancəd, "Thuuty

ships and five əflote in Loocking‘haivn, warov aul save fau be dragghənz ov wau. Sig I ixpect təmorro widh the Keelyəland levviz; Spitfiə liyith at Oulzwic widh fiftene hundrəd men from the southlandz; Vol came in but thre ouəz cins widh fau hundrəd mau. In sum, Ile hav fau thouznd, reckəning ships cumpəniz and ouə one boddiggaadz."

"Ate ships ov wau hav I," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa, "in Strəpaadən Fuuth, aul busct and boun. Five mau at Auwauth, five at Launəga in Mauvy, and thre on the Meland coast at Stacra Ois, bisciadz fau mau in the Ialz. And I hav cixtene hundrəd spiyyəmən and cix hundrəd haus. Aul these shal cum təghethə too join widh thine in Loocking‘haivn at the snapping ov mi fin‘ghəz, ghiv me but cevn dase notis."

Jus gript him bi the hand. "Bae wuu mi bac widhout the," he ced.

"In Crothəring Ive shiftid not a stone nau swept not a chaimbə clene," ced Brandokh Daahaa. "'Tiz a muc-pit. Evry manz hand I mite kəmaand I cet oanly too this. And nou tiz reddy." He tuund shaap təwaud Jus and looct at him a minnit in ciləns. Then widh a gravvitty dhat sat not ofn on hiz lips he ced, "Let me be uugənt widh the wuns mau: strike and dilla not. Doo him not əghen dhat kiandnəs we did him əfautime, fribling ouə strength əwa on the cuucid shauz ov Impland, and bi the chaamd wautəz ov Ravvəry, so az he mite az ciccuə az slepe cend Caucəs hithə and Kərinniyyəs too wuuc havvəc i the land; and so put on us the gratist shame woz evvə lade on mautl men, and we not bred up too suffə shame."

"Dhou cedst cevn dase," ced Jus. "Snap thi fin‘ghəz and caul up thi aamiz. Ile dilla the not an ouə."

"I, but I mene too Caacy," ced he.

"Too Caacy, withə els?" ced Jus. "But Ile take mi bruthə Goaldry widh us."

"But I mene fuust too Caacy," ced Brandokh Daahaa. "Let mi əpinniyyən swa the wuns. Wi, a scuilboi shood tel the, cliyyə thi flanc and riyyə ae dhou go fauwəd."

Jus smiald. "I luv this nu gaab ov caushn, cuzn," ced he; "it duth moast prittilly biccum the. I qweschən dho wethə this be not the troo cauz: dhat Kərinniyyəs tooc not up thi challənj laast summə, but let it li, and dhat hath left the hunʻgry stil."

Brandokh Daahaa looct him ciadlong in the i, and laaft. "O Jus," he ced, "dhou hast tucht me niyyə. But tiz not dhat. Dhat woz in the wiyyəd dhat brite lady lade on me, in the sparro-hauc caasl in Impland fəlaun: dhat he I held moast in hate shood roowin mi fae laudship, and dhat too mi hand shood venʻgəns be dinnide. Dhat I ene must brooc. O no. Thhinc oanly, dillase ar dainʻgərəs. Cum, be ədviazd. Be not mulish."

But the Laud Jusciz face woz grave. "Uuj me no mau, diyyə frend," ced he. "Dhou sleepst soft. But too me, wen I am caast in mi fuust slepe, cummith menny a time the liacnəs ov Goaldry Blusco, held bi a malleffickəl chaam on the mountin top ov Zorə Rakh, dhat standith əpaat, out ov the sunlite, out ov aul sound au waumth ov life. Long əgo I made vou too tuun niathər too the rite nau too the left, until I cet him fre."

"He iz thi bruthə," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Aulso iz he mine one fəmilliyyə frend, hoome I luv scaes les dhan the. But wen dhou spekist ov oadhz, rimmembə dhaez La Firrese too.

Wot shal he thhinc on us aaftə ouə oadhz too him thre yuuz əgo, dhat nite in Caacy? Yet this wun blo shood rite him too."

"He wil undəstand," ced Jus.

"He iz too cum widh Gazlaac, and dhou toaldst me dhou dust ene nou ixpect them," ced Brandokh Daahaa. "Ile leve u. I cannət fau shame sa too him, 'Paishns, frend, trooly tiz not too-da kənveniyyənt. Dhou shalt be pade in time.' Bi hevnz, Ide scaun too entrete mi mantl-makə so. And this ouə frend dhat lost aul and lanʻgwishith in exile biccoz he saivd ouə liavz."

So saying, he stood up in grate diskəntent and iə az if too leve the chaimbə. But Jus caut him bi the rist. "Dhou dust upbrade me moast unjustly, and wel dhou nowist it in thi haat, and tiz dhat maix the so anʻgry. Haac, the haun soundith at the gate, and tiz fau Gazlaac. Ile not let the go."

"Wel," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa, "hav thi wil. Oanly aasc not me too plede thi rotn cace too them. If I speke it shal be too shame the. Nou dhouət waund."

Nou went dha intoo the hi prezns chaimbə, wae wuu brite ladiz not a fu, and captinz and noabl puusnz from up and doun the land, and stood on the dayis. Gazlaac the king wauct up the shining flau, and bihhiand him hiz captinz and councələz ov Goblinland wauct too bi too. The Prins La Firrese strode at hiz elbo, proud az a liən.

Bliadhly dha gretid dhose laudz ov Demənland dhat rose up too grete them binneeth the staary cannəpy, and the Lady Mevreən dhat stood bitwixt huu bruthə and Laud Jus so az twer haad too

sa wich ov the thre woz farist too looc on, so much dha diffəd in dhae butese glory. Gro, standing niyyə, ced in himcelf, "I no a fauth. And wuu she but joind widh these, then wuu the croun ov the hole uuths luvlinnəs fittid in this wun chaimbə: in a rite caaskit shoowwəly. And the Godz in hevn (if dhae be Godz indede) shood go pale fau envy, havving in dhae staary gallərу no fae too mach widh these; not Febəs Əpollo, not the chaist Huntris, nau the fome-baun Qwene huucelf."

But Gazlaac, wen hiz i litid on the long blac biyyəd, the lene figghə sliatly stooping, the pallid brou, the cuulz smuidhd widh puufuemd un'gwənts, the cicl-like nose, the grate liqwid ise, the lilly hand; he, bihhoalding and nowing these ov oald, waxt in a momənt daac az thundə widh the blud-rush binneeth hiz sun-bround skin, and widh a grate swepe snacht out hiz saud, az if widhout gae au biwwae too thrust him throo. Gro stept haistilly bac. But the Laud Jus came bitwene them.

"Let ələne, Jus," cride Gazlaac. "Noast not this fello, wot a vile ennəmy and vipə we hav hiyyə? A pritty puufuemd villən! hoo fau so menny yuuz did spin me a thred ov menny ciddishnz and trublz, wile hiz smuidh tung gat munny from me stil. Blescid əcaizhn! Nou wil I let hiz sole out."

But the Laud Jus lade hiz hand on Gazlaax saud-aam. "Gazlaac," ced he, "leve auf thi ragiz, and put up thi saud. A yuu əgo dhoudst dun me no rong. But too-da dhoudst hav slane me a man ov mine one men, and a laud ov Demənland."

Nou wen dha had dun dhae gretingz, dha wosht dhae handz and sate at dinnə and wuu noably suuvd and feestid. And the Laud Jus made pece bitwixt Gro and Gazlaac, aulbeyit twoz no

lite taasc too privvale uppon Gazlaac too fəghiv him. Dharaaftə dha rittiəd them widh Gazlaac and La Firrese intoo a chaimbə əpaat.

Gazlaac the king spake and ced, "Nun can gainsa it, O Jus, dhat this fite ye wun laast haavist tide woz the gratist cene on land these menny yuuz, and ov gratist conciqwəns. But I hav huud a buud cing dhae shal be yet gratə deedz dun ae menny muinz be paast. Dhaefau it iz we came hithə too the, I and La Firrese dhat be yau frendz from ov oald, too pra the let us go widh the on thi qwest əcros the wuuld aaftə thi bruthə, fau sorro ov hoose los the hole wuuld lan'gwishith; and dharaaftə let us go widh u on yau gowing up too Caacy."

"O Jus," ced the Prins, "we wood not in aaftə-dase dhat men shood sa, On such a time faed the Demənz intoo perrələs landz enchaantid and bi dhae strength and vallərəsnəs cet fre the Laud Goaldry Blusco (au haply, dhae endid dhae liafs dase in dhat gloriyyəs qwest); but Gazlaac and La Firrese wuu not in it, dha bad dhae frendz faewel, hung up dhae saudz, and livd a qwiət and merry life in Zadgy Zacculo. So let dhae memməry be fəgot."

Laud Jus sat cilənt a minnit, az wun much muivd. "O Gazlaac," he ced at length, "Ile take thine offə widhout ənuthə wuud. But untooh the, diyyə Prins, I must bae mine haat sumwot. Fau dhou hiyyə aat cum not strest in ouə qworrəl too spend thi blud, oanly too put us yet depə in thi det. And yet smaul blame it wuu too the shoodst dhou in dissonnərəbl saut rivvile me, az menny shal cri out əghenst me, fau a fauls frend intoo the and a frend fauswaun."

But the Prins La Firrese brake in uppon him, saying, "I prithy hav dun, au dhoult shame me qwite. Wottare I did in Caacy,

twoz but eeqwəl pamənt fau yau saving ov mi life in Lidə Nanʻgoonə. So woz aul eevnd up bitwixt us. Thhinc then no mau ont, but dinni me not too go widh u too Impland. But up too Caacy Ile not go widh u: fau aulbeyit I am clene broke widh Wichland, əghenst Corrənd and hiz kin I wil not drau saud nau əghenst mi lady cistə. A blac cuus on the da I gave huu wite hand too Corrənd! She hoaldith too much ov ouə stoc, mithhinx: huu herrəldry iz haats not handz. And ghivving huu hand she gave huu haat. 'Tiz a strainj wuuld."

"La Firrese," ced Jus, "we wa not so liatly ouə obliggaishn untooh the. Yet must I hoald mi caus; havving swaun a strong oath dhat I wood tuun əcide niathər too the rite nau too the left until I had dillivvəd mi diyyə bruthə Goaldry out ov bondij. So swae I au evvə I went dhat il juuny too Caacy and woz cloazd in prizn faast and bi the dillivvəd. Nau shal blame ov frendz nau rongfəl misprizhən nau enny pouə dhat iz shake me in this dittuuminnaishn. But wen dhat iz dun, no rest rimmanith untooh us til we win bac fau the thi riatfəl relm ov Pixeland, and menny good thhingz bisciadz too be a tokən ov ouə luv."

Ced the Prins, "Dhou doowist rite. If dhou didst uthə dhoudst hav mi blame."

"And mine dhaetoo," ced Gazlaac. "Doo not I greve, thhinxt dhou, too ce the Princes Aamələne, mi swete yung cuzn, gro evry da mau won ə the cheke and pale? And aul fau sorro and tene fau huu one troo luv, the Laud Goaldry Blusco. And she so caefəly braut up bi huu muthə az nuthhing woz too diyyə au haad too be braut too paas fau huu dizsiə, thhinking dhat a crechə so noabl and puufict cood not be traind up too dellickətly. I deme too-da bettə dhan too-morro, and too-morro bettə dhan hiz morro, too cet sale fau wide-fruntid

Impland."

Aul this wile the Laud Brandokh Daahaa ced nevvə a wuud. He sat bac in hiz chae ov ivəry and criscəprase, nou toiying widh hiz goaldən fin‘ghə-ringz, nou twisting and untwisting the yello cuulz ov hiz məstaasheyose and biyyəd. In a wile he yaund, rose from hiz cete and fel too pacing lasilly up and doun. He had hicht up hiz saud əcros hiz bac undə hiz too elbose, so dhat the shoo ov the scabbəd stood out undə wun aam and the jooəld hilt undə the uthə. Hiz fin‘ghəz strumd litl tuenz on the frunt ov the rich rose velvit dublit dhat caist hiz chest. The spring sunlite az he paist from shine too shade and too shine əghen, paacing the taul windose, ceemd too kəres hiz face and faum. It woz az if spring laaft fau joi bihhoalding in him wun dhat woz huu one chiald, cloadhd too outwəd vu widh so much luvlinnəs and grace, but fool bisciadz too the ise and fin‘ghə-tips widh fiə and viatl sap, like huu one budz buusting in the Brancdale coppisciz.

In a wile he ceest hiz wauking, and stood bi the Laud Gro hoo sat a litl paat from the rest. "Hou thhinkist dhou, Gro, ov ouə counslz? Aat dhou fau the strate rode au the croockid? Fau Caacy au Zorə Rakh?"

"Ov the roadz," aancəd Gro, "a wise man wil choose evvə dhat wun wich iz indirrect. Fau but kənciddə the mattə, dhou dhat aat a grate cragzmən: thhinc ouə liafs caus a lofty clif. I am too clime it, sumtime up, sumtime doun. I pra, withə ledith the strate rode on such a clif? Wi, nowithə. Fau if I wil go up bi the strate wa, tiz not poscəbl; I am left gaping wialz dhou bi croockid cauciz hast gaind the top. Au if doun, wi tiz esy and swift; but then, no mau climing evvə mau fau me. And dhou, clambəring doun bi the croockid wa, shalt fiand me a ded and unciatly caups at the bottəm."

"Grammərcy fau thi mese and these," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Wel, tiz a moast waty princəpl, bact widh a moast just and liavly expəsishn. Hou dust dhou intuuprit thi maxim in ouə preznt qweschən?"

Laud Gro looct up at him. "Mi laud, u hav uezd me wel, and too dizzuuv yau luv and ədvaans yau fauchuinz I hav pondəd much hou u ov Demənland mite best əbtane rivvenj uppon yau ennəmiz. And I daly thhinking hiyyərəpon, and kənceving in mi hed divuuz immadginnaishnz, can divvise no meenz but wun dhat in mi fancy cemith best, wich iz this."

"Let me hiyyə it," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa.

Ced Gro, ""Twoz evvə a fault in u Demənz dhat u wood not pəceve hou tiz oft-tiamz good too drau the snake from huu hole bi ənuthə manz hand. Kənciddə nou yau mattə. U hav a grate faus boath fau land and ce. Trust not too much in dhat. Oft hath he ov the litl faus oəcum moast pouəfəl ennəmiz, gowing əbout too entrap them bi slite and polləcy. But kənciddə yet əghen. U hav a thhing iz mitiyyə faa dhan aul yau hauciz and spiyyəmən and dragghənz ov wau, mitiyyə dhan thine one saud, mi laud, and dhou əcountid the best saudzmən in aul the wuuld."

"Wot thhing iz dhat?" aasct he.

Gro aancəd, "Repputaishn, mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa. This repputaishn ov u Demənz fau opən delingz eevn too yau wuust ennəmiz."

"Tush," ced he. ""Tiz but ouə wa i the wuuld. Morovə, tiz, I thhinc, a thhing nachrəl in grate puusnz, ov wotsowevvə

cuntry dha be baun. Tretchəry and dubl deling prəcede commənly from fiyyə, and dhat iz a thhing wich I thhinc no man in this land comprihhendith. Micelf, I doo thhinc dhat wen the hi Godz made a puusn ov mi qwollitty dha traist twene hiz too ise sumthhing, I no not wot, wich the commən saut duust not looc uppon widhout trembling."

"Ghiv me but leve," ced Laud Gro, "and Ile pluc u a bravə triəmf in a litl ouə dhan yau saudz shood win u in too yuuz. Speke smuidh wuudz too Wichland, offə him compəsishn, bring him too a counsl and aul hiz grate men əlong widh him. Ile so divvise it, dha shal aul be sudnly takən auf in a nite, haply bi cetting uppon them in dhae bedz, au az we ma fiand moast kənveniyyənt. Aul save Corrənd and hiz sunz; them we ma wiazly spae, and kəncloode pece widh them. It shal not bi ten dase dilla yau saling too Impland, withə u mite then prəcede widh lite haats and miandz sat ese."

"Verry prittilly kənceevd, uppon mi sole," ced Brandokh Daahaa. "Mite I ədvise the, dhoudst best not tauc too Jus i this mannə. Not nou, I mene, wile hiz miandz so bent on mattəz ov wate and momənt. Nau I shood not sa it too mi cistə Mevreən. Wimmin wil oft-tiamz take in sad uunist such a kəncete, dho it be but tauc and discaus. Widh me tiz uthəwise. I am sumthhing ov a filloscəfə micelf, and thi gest amblith widh mi humə verry plezntly."

"Dhou aat pleezd too be merry," ced Laud Gro. "Menny ae nou, az the ivvent hath pruivd, ridgectid mi hoalcəm counslz too dhae one grate huut."

But Brandokh Daahaa ced liatly, "Fiyyə not, mi Laud Gro, wele ridgect no onnist redz ov so wise a councələ az dhou. But," and hiyyə woz a lite in the i ov him made Gro staatl, "did

enny man widh ciyyəriyyəs intent dae bid me doo a dastəd dede, he shood hav mi saud throo the diyyərist paat ovz boddy."

Laud Brandokh Daahaa nou tuund him too the rest ov them. "Jus," ced he, "frend ov mi haat, mecemith yaa aul ov wun miand, and nun ov mi miand. Ile ene bid u faewel. Faewel, Gazlaac; faewel, La Firrese."

"But withə əwa?" ced Jus, standing up from hiz chae. "Dhou must not leve us."

"Withə but too mine one place?" ced he, and woz gon from the chaimbə.

Gazlaac ced, "Hese much incenst. Wot hast dhou dun too anʻghə him?"

Mevreən ced too Jus, "Ile follo and coole him." She went, but soone rittuund saying, "No əvale, mi laudz. He iz ridn fauth from Galing and əwa az faast az hiz haus mite carry him."

Nou wuu dha aul in a grate stu, sum kənʻgecchəring wun thhing and sum ənuthə. Oanly the Laud Jus kept ciləns and a caam countinnəns, and the Lady Mevreən. And Jus ced at length too Gazlaac, "This it iz, dhat he chafith at evry dase dilla dhat lettith him from havving at Kərinniyyəs. Suutiz, Ile not blame him, nowing the vile inʻgəriz the fello did him and hiz incələns təwaud the, maddəm. Be not trubld. Hiz one celf shal bring him bac too me wen time iz, az no uthə pouə shood doo ghenst hiz good wil; he hoose grate haat Hevn cannət faus widh faus."

And eevn so, the next nite aaftə, wen foke wuu əbed and əslepe, Jus, in hiz hi bed-chaimbə citting late at hiz booc,

huud a briadl ring. So he cauld hiz boiz too go widh him widh tauchiz too the gate. And dhae in the daancing tauch-lite came the Laud Brandokh Daahaa a-riding intoo Galing Caasl, and sumwot ov the bignes ov a grate pumpkin tide in a cilkən cloth hung at hiz sadl-bo. Jus met him in the gate əlone. "Let me doun from mi haus," he ced, "and risceve from me thi bedfello dhat dhou must slepe widh bi the Lake ov Ravvəry."

"Dhou hast gottən it?" ced Jus. "The hippəgrifs eg, out ov Dule Taan, bi thicelf əlone?" and he tooc the bundl rite tendəly in hiz too handz.

"I," aancəd he. "'Twoz wae dhou and I made shoowwə ov it laast summə, əcauding too the wuud ov huu litl maatlet dhat fuust found it fau us. The taan woz frosən and twoz tricky wuuc diving and moast villənəs coald. It iz smaul maavl dhouət a lucky man in thine undətakingz, O Jus, wen dhou hast such an aat too drau thi frendz too ceckənd the."

"I thaut dhoudst not leve me," ced Jus.

"Thaut?" cride Brandokh Daahaa. "Didst evvə dreme Ide suffə the too doo thi foolishnəciz əlone? Na, Ile cum fuust too the enchaantid lake widh the, and let be Caacy i the meentime. Houbeyit Ile doo it ghenst the streme ov mi rezsəluishn qwite."

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Nou woz but cix dase mau ov preppəraishn, and on the ceckənd da ov Aiprəl woz aul reddy in Loocking'haivn fau the saling ov dhat mity aaməmənt: fifty and nine ships ov wau and five ships ov buuthən and thrice too thouznd fiting men.

Lady Mevreən sat on huu milc-wite mae ovəloocking the haabə

wae the ships aul audəly rode at ankə, shaddowy gra
əghenst the sun-brite shimmə ov the ce, widh hiyyə and dhae
a splash ov cullə, crimzn au bloo au graas-grene, from dhae
paintid hulz au a beme ov the sun glaancing from dhae goaldən
maasts au figghə-hedz. Gro stood at huu briadl-rane. The Galing
rode, wianding doun from Havvəshau Tung, ran cloce billo them
and so əlong the ce-shau too the kese at Loocking'haivn. Əlong
dhat rode the haad uuth rang widh the tramp ov aamd men and
the tramp ov hauciz, and the lite west wind woftid too Gro and
Mevreən on dhae graacy hil snatchiz ov depe-voist
batl-chaants au the galləping noats ov trumpit and pipe and
the drum dhat cets menz haats a-throb.

In the van rode the Laud Sig, fau trumpittəz wauking biffau
him in goald and puupl. Hiz aamə from chin too to shon widh
cilvə, and jooəlz blaizd on hiz gaugit and bauldric and the
hilt ov hiz long strate saud. He rode a blac stalliyyən
savvij-ide widh iyyəz lade bac and a tale dhat swept the
uuth. A grate cumpəny ov haus follode him, and haaf az menny
taul spiyyəmən, in ruscit lethə juukinz platid widh braas and
cilvə. "These," ced Mevreən, "be ov Keelyəland and the
shau-stedz ov Arrofuuth, and hiz one vascəlij from
Rammәric and Ammaadədale. Dhat iz Hespə Golthring ridith a
litl bihhiand him on hiz rite hand; he luvvith too thhingz in
this wuuld, a good haus and a swift ship. He on the left, he
ə the helm ov dul cilvə cet widh ravnz wingz, so long ov
the leg dhoudst sa if he rode a litl haus he mite
stradl and wauc it: Stuucmə ov Blaqwood. He iz ov ouə kin;
not yet twenty yuuz oald, yet cins Crothəring Cide əcountid
wun ov ouə aiblist."

So she shode him aul az dha rode bi, Perriddor ov Sule, captin
ov the Meləndəz, and hiz nevvu Stipmaa. Fendə ov Shalgreth
widh Emməron Gault hiz yung bruthə, dhat woz nuly heeld from

the grate wuind Kərinniyyəs gave him at Crothəring Cide; these leding the sheppədz and huudzmən from the grate heeths nauth ov Swichwautə, hoo wil hoald bi the stirrəp and so widh dhae lite bucləz and litl broun saudz go intoo batl widh the hausmən fool galləp əghenst the ennəmy. Bremməry in hiz ramz-haun helm ov goald and broidəd suucote ov scaalət velvit, leding the dailzmən from Onwədliadh and Tivərandədale. Trentmaa ov Scorrədale widh the nauth-eestən levviz from Bilənd and the Strandz and Brakingdale. Əstaa ov Retra, lene and liadh, bony-faist, gallənt-ide, wite ov skin, widh brite red hae and biyyəd, riding hiz luvly rone at the hed ov too cumpəniz ov spiyyəmən widh huge iən-studdid sheeldz: men from əbout Dreppəby and the soudh-eestən dailz, landid men and home-men ov Laud Goaldry Blusco. Then the ilənd dwelləz from the west, widh oald Qwaz ov Daalny riding in the place ov onnə, noabl too looc on widh hiz snowy biyyəd and shining aamə, but yun'ghə men dhae troo ledəz in wau: Melcaa ov Roofy, grate-chestid, fiyyəs-ide, widh thhic broun cuuling hae, aud on a plun'ging chesnut, hiz buuny brite widh goald, a rich mantl ov cremy cilc brəcade flung əbout hiz ampl shoaldəz, and Thaamrod on hiz litl blac mae widh cilvə buuny and bats-wingd helm, he dhat held Kənaavy in fe fau Laud Brandokh Daahaa, kene and reddy like an arro draun too the baabz. And aaftə them the Westmaac men, widh Aanənd ov Bi dhae captin. And aaftə them, fau hundrəd haus, not too be cəpaast fau buty au audəd əra bi enny in dhat grate aamy, and yung Camməraa riding at dhae hed, buuly az a giənt, strate az a laans, əparrəld like a king, baring on hiz mity spiyyə the pennən ov the Laud ov Crothəring.

"Looc wel on these," ced Mevreən az dha paast bi. "Ouə one men ov the Cide and Thundəfuuth and Strəpaadən. Dhou maist suuch the wide wuuld and not fiand dhae like fau spede and fiə and aul waulike goodlinnəs and reddinnəs too the wuud ov

kəmaand. Dhou looxt sad, mi laud."

"Maddəm," ced Laud Gro, "too the iyyə ov wun dhat usith, az I uce, too kənciddə the vannitty ov aul hi uuthly pomps, the music ov these pouəz and gloriz hath a depe undədrone ov sadnəs. Kingz and guvvənəz dhat doo igzult in strength and buty and lustihhood and rich əparrəl, showing thəmcelvz fau əwile uppon the stage ov the wuuld and opən dəminniyyən ov hi hevn, wot ar dha but the ghildid summə fli dhat diccayith widh the diying da?"

"Mi bruthə and the rest must not sta fau us," ced the lady. "Dha ment too go əbaud az soone az the aamy shood be cum doun too the haabə, fau dhae ships be too sale out fuust doun the fuuth. Iz it dittuumind indede dhat dhou gowist widh them on this juuny?"

"I had so dittuumind, maddəm," aancəd he. She woz bigghinning too moove doun təwaudz the rode and the haabə, but Gro put a hand on the rane and stopt huu. "Diyyə lady," he ced, "these thre niats təghethə I hav dreemd a dreme: a strainj dreme, and aul the pəticculəz dharov bittokəning hevvy angsiəty, increce ov perrəl, and savvij mischif; prommiscing sum terreebl issoo. Mithhinx if I go on this juuny dhou shalt ce mi face no mau."

"O fi, mi laud," cride she, reching him huu hand, "ghiv nevvə a thaut too such fon immadginningz. 'Twoz the moone but glaancing in thine i. Au if not, sta widh us hiyyə and chete Fate."

Gro kist huu hand, and kept it in hiz. "Mi Lady Mevreən," he ced, "Fate wil not be chetid, cog we nevvə so wiazly. I doo thhinc dhae be not menny extant dhat in a noabl wa fiyyə the face ov deth les dhan micelf. Ile go ə this juuny. Dhae

iz but wun thhing shood tuun me bac."

"And tiz?" ced she, fau he fel cilənt on a sudn.

He pauzd, loocking doun at huu gluvd hand resting in hiz. "A man biccummith haus and dum," ced he, "if a woolf hath the ədvaantij fuust too i him. Didst dhou prəcuə the a woolf too dum me wen I wood tel the? But I did wuns; ennuf too let the no. O Mevreən, dust dhou rimmembə Nevvədale?"

He looct up at huu. But Mevreən sat widh hed irrect, like huu Paitrənes divvine, widh swete coole lips cet fuum and steddy ise fixt on the haivn and the riding ships. Gently she droo huu hand from Grose, and he strove not too rittane it. She eezd fauwəd the rainz. Gro mountid and follode huu. Dha rode qwiətly doun too the rode and so southwəd cide bi cide too the haabə. Ae dha came within iyyəshot ov the ke, Mevreən spake and ced, "Dhoult not thhinc me graislis nau fəghetfəl, mi laud. Aul dhat iz mine, O aasc it, and Ile ghiv it the widh boath handz. But aasc me not dhat I hav not too ghiv, au if I gave shood ghiv but fauls goald. Fau dhats a thhing not good fau the nau me, nau I wood not doo it too an ennəmy, faa les too the mi frend."

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Nou woz the aamy aul gottən əshipbaud, and faewelz ced too Vol and dhose hoo shood əbide at home widh him. The ships rode out intoo the fuuth aul audəly, dhae cilkən sailz unfuuld, and dhat grate aaməmənt saild southwəd intoo the opən cese undə a cliyyə ski. Aul the wa the wind favəd them, and dha made a swift pascij, so dhat on the thuutiyyəth mauning from dhae saling out ov Loocking'haivn dha citid the long gra clif-line ov Impland the Mau dim in the lo blone

spra ov the ce, and saild throo the Straits ov Mellecafkhaz in colləm əhed, fau scaes mite too ships paas əbrest throo dhat narro wa. Blac prescippisciz shut in the straits on iathər hand, and the ce-buudz in dhae thouzndz wiatnd evry litl lej ov dhose clifs like sno. Grate fliats ov them rose and suucld ovəhed az the ships sped bi, and the ae woz fool ov dhae plaints. And rite and left, az ov yung wailz blowing, colləmz ov wite spra shot up kəntinnuəly from the suufis ov the ce. Fau these wuu the staitly-wingd gannits fishing dhat ce-strate. Bi threse and fauz dha floo, eche following uthə in audəd line, menny maast-hiats hi; and evvə and ənon wun chect in huu flite az if a boalt had smitn huu, and swuipt hed-faumoast widh wingz haaf-spred, like a braud-baabd daat ov dazling wiatnis, til at a fu fete əbuv the suufis she clapt cloce huu wingz and cleft the wautə widh a noiz az ov a grate stone caast intoo the ce. Then in a momənt up she bobd, wite and sprooce widh huu pra in huu gullit; rode the waivz a minnit too rest and kənciddə; then widh grate sweping wing-stroax up əghen too rizzume huu flite.

Aaftə a mile au too the narrose opənd and the clifs groo loə, and the flete sped paast the red reefs ov Waimnaz and the lofty stax ov Pashnəmaathrə wite widh ce-gulz on too the bloo sollittude ov the Diddauneən Ce. Aul da dha saild soudh-eest widh a faling wind. The coastline ov Mellecafkhaz fel əwa əstuun, paild in the mists ov distəns, and woz lost too cite, until oanly the sqwae cloavn outline ov the Pashnəmaathrən iləndz broke the levl həriazn ov the ce. Then these too sanc out ov cite, and the ships rode on soudh-eestwəd in a ded caam. The sun stuipt too the westən waivz, entəring hiz baath ov blud-red fiə. He sanc, and aul the wase wuu daakənd. Aul nite dha rode gently on undə the strainj suthən staaz, and the brokən wautəz ov dhat ce

at evry au-stroke wuu like fiə buuning. Then out ov the ce too eestwəd came the da-staa, ushəring the daun, britə dhan aul niats staaz, tracing a litl paath ov goald əlong the wautəz. Then daun, filling the lo eestən skise widh a flete ov tiny cocl-shelz ov brite goald fiə; then the grate face ov the sun əblase. And widh the gowing up ov the sun a lite wind sprang up, belliyying dhae sailz on the staabəd tac; so dhat ae da dicliand the ce-clifs ov Muwelvə hung wite əbuv the spra-mist on dhae laabəd bou. Dha beecht the ships on a wite shel-strand bihhiand a hedland dhat sheltəd it from the eest and nauth. Hiyyə the barriyyə ov clifs stood bac a litl from the shau, ghivving place fau a fuutile del ov grene paaschə, and woodz clustəring at the foot ov the clifs, and a litl spring ov wautə in the midst.

So fau dhat nite dha slept on baud, and next da made dhae camp, dischaaging the ships ov buuthən dhat wuu laidn widh the hauciz and stuf. But the Laud Jus woz miandid not too tarry an ouə mau in Muwelvə dhan shood cəfice too ghiv aul needfəl audəz too Gazlaac and La Firrese wot dha shood doo and wen ixpect him əghen, and too make prəvizhn fau himcelf and dhose hoo must fae widh him biyyond these shaddowing clifs intoo the hauntid waists ov the Moroonə. Ae noone woz aul this əcumplisht and faewelz ced, and these laudz, Jus, Spitfiə, and Brandokh Daahaa, cet fauth əlong the beche southwəd təwaudz a point wae it ceemd moast hoapfəl too scale the clifs. Widh them went the Laud Gro, boath bi hiz one wish and biccoz he had none the Moroonə əfautime and these pəticculə paats dharov; and widh them went bisciadz dhose too bruthəz-in-lau, Sig and Əstaa, baring the preshəs buudn ov the eg, fau dhat onnə and trust had Jus lade on them at dhae uunist ceking. So widh sum painz aaftə an ouə au mau dha wun up the barriyyə, and haultid fau a minnit on the clifs ej.

The skin ov Grose handz woz huut widh the shaap rox. Tendəly he droo on hiz lamzwool gluvz, and shivvəd a litl; fau the breth ov dhat dezsət bloo snel and frau and dhae ceemd a shaddo in the ae southwəd, fau aul it woz brite and gentl wethə billo wens dha wuu cum. Yet aulbeyit hiz frale boddy qwaild, eevn so wuu hiz spirrits within him raizd widh hi and noabl immadginningz az he stood on the lip ov dhat rocky clif. The cloudləs vault ov hevn; the unnumbəd laaftə ov the ce; dhat qwiət cove binneeth, and dhose ships ov wau and dhat aamy camping bi the ships; the emptinnəs ov the blaastid woaldz too southwəd, wae evry roc ceemd like a ded manz scul and evry ranc tuft ov graas hag-ridn; the baring ov dhose laudz ov Demənland hoo stood biscide him, az if naut shood be ov commənə caus too them pəsuwing dhae rizzolv dhan too tuun dhae bax on livving land and entə dhose regənz ov the ded; these thhingz widh a pouə az ov a mity music made Grose breth cach in hiz throte and the tiyyə spring in hiz i.

In such wise aaftə mau dhan too yuuz did Laud Jus bigghin hiz ceckənd croscing ov the Moroonə in qwest ov hiz diyyə bruthə the Laud Goaldry Blusco.

28. Zorə Rakh Nam Sarriyyən

OV THE LAUD JUSCIZ RIDING OV THE HIPPƏGRIF TOO ZORƏ RAKH, AND
OV THE ILZ ENCOUNTƏD BI HIM IN DHAT ƏCUUCID PLACE, AND THE

MANNƏ OV HIZ PƏFAUMING HIZ GRATE ENTƏPRISE TOO DILLIVVƏ HIZ
BRUTHƏ OUT OV BONDIJ.

Luld widh lite-stuuring aez too gentl-soft too rufl huu glaacy suufis, waum incens-laidn aez swete widh the puufume ov immautl flouəz, the chaamd Lake ov Ravvəry dreemd undə the moone. It woz the laast ouə biffau the daun. Enchaantid boats, dhat ceemd bildid ov the glo-wuumz lite, driftid on the staary boozsəm ov the lake. Ovə the sloping woodz the limz ov the mountinz louəd, unmezhəd, vaast, mistiyyəriyyəs in the muinz glammə. In rimmote hi spaciz ov nite biyyond glimməd the spiəz ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə and the vuugin snose ov Romshə and Coshtrə Billaun. No buud au beest muivd in the stilnəs: oanly a nitin'gale cinging too the staaz from a coppis ov olliv-trese niyyə the Qweenz pəvilliyyən on the eestən shau. And dhat woz a note not like a buudz ov midl uuth, but a note too chaam doun spirrits out ov the ae, au too wich the imperrishəbl cenciz ov the Godz wen dha wood hoald kəmuniyyən widh holy Nite and make huu puufict, and aul huu lamps and voiciz puufict in dhae ise.

The cilkən hangingz ov the pəvilliyyən dau, paating az in the pautl ov a vizhn, made wa fau dhat Qwene, fostərling ov the moast hi Godz. She pauzd a step au too biyyond the threshhoald, loocking doun wae dhose laudz ov Demənland, Spitfiə and Brandokh Daahaa, widh Gro and Sig and Əstaa, rapt in dhae cloax, la on the gowəny duwy banx dhat sloapt doun too the wautəz ej.

"Əslepe," she wispəd. "Eevn az he within slepith əghenst the daun. I doo thhinc it iz oanly in a grate manz brest slepe hath so gentl a bed wen grate ivvents ar təwaud."

Like a lilly, au like a muinbeme strade throo the lefy roofe intoo a cilənt wood, she stood dhae, huu face upliftid too the staary nite wae aul the ae woz drencht widh the cilvə radiyyəns ov the moone. And nou in a soft vois she biggan supliccaishn too the Godz wich ar from evvəlaasting, cauling uppon them in tuun bi dhae holy naimz, uppon gra-ide Pallas, and Əpollo, and Aatəmis the flete Huntris, uppon Afrədity, and Hiyyərə, Qwene ov Hevn, and Ariz, and Huumese, and the daac-trest Uuthshakə. Nau woz she əfrade too ədres huu holy praez too him hoo from hiz vaild pauch biscide Ackəron and Leethhy Lake biandz too hiz wil the devlz ov the undə-gloome, nau too the grate Faathə ov Aul in Hoose cite time from the bigghinning until too-da iz but the dipping ov a wond intoo the boundlis oashn ov ittuunitty. So prade she too the blescid Godz, moast uunistly riqwiring them dhat undə dhae countinnəns mite be dhat ride, the like warov uuth had not none: the riding ov the hippəgrif, not rashly and bi an as az hiyyətoofau too hiz one distrucshn, but bi the man ov men hoo widh clene puupəs and rezsəluishn undismade shood enfaus it carry him too hiz haats dizsiə.

Nou in the eest biyyond the fethəry hiltops and the grate sno waul ov Romshə the gaits wuu opəning too the da. The slepəz wakənd and stood up. Dhae woz a grate noiz from within the pəvilliyyən. Dha tuund wide-ide, and fauth ov the hangingz ov the dauwa came dhat yung thhing nu-hacht, pale and doutfool az the nu lite wich trembld in the ski. Jus wauct biscide it, hiz hand on the saffiə mane. Hi and rezsəloote woz hiz looc, az he gave good-morro too the Qwene, too hiz bruthə and hiz frendz. No wuud dha ced, oanly in tuun gript him bi the hand. The ouə woz uppon them. Fau eevn az da striding on the eestən sno-feeldz staumd nite out ov hi hevn, so and widh such swift increce ov splendə woz mite boddəly and the dizsiə ov the uppə ae baun in dhat wiald

stede. It shon az if litid bi a mooving lamp from withinwəd,
snift the swete mauning ae and winnid, pauwing the graas ov
the wautə-cide and tiyyəring it up widh its clauz ov goald. Jus
pattid the crechəz aaching nec, looct too the briadl he had
fittid too its mouth, made shoowwə ov the faasningz ov hiz aamə,
and luisnd in the scabbəd hiz grate saud. And nou up sprang
the sun.

The Qwene ced, "Rimmembə: wen dhou shalt ce the laud thi
bruthə in hiz one shape, dhat iz no illuizhn. Mistrust aul
els. And the aulmity Godz prizzuuv and cumfət the."

Dhaewidh the hippəgrif, az if madnd widh the da-beemz,
plunjd like a wiald haus, spred wide its rainbo pinniyyənz,
riyyəd, and tooc wing. But the Laud Jus woz sprung əstride ov
it, and the grip ov hiz nese on the ribz ov it woz like braizn
clamps. The fuum land ceemd too rush əwa binneeth him too the
riyyə; the lake and the shau and iləndz dharov shode in a
momənt smaul and rimmote, and the figghəz ov the Qwene and hiz
kəmpanniyyənz like toiz, then dots, then shrunkən too nuthhingnəs,
and the vaast ciləns ov the uppə ae opənd and risceevd him
intoo uttə loanlinnəs. In dhat ciləns uuth and ski swuuld
like the wine in a shakən goblit az the wiald stede rockittid
hiə and hiə in grate spirəlz. A cloud billowy-wite shut
in the ski biffau them; britə and britə it groo in its
dazling wiatnis az dha sped təwaudz it, until dha tucht
it and the glory woz dizzolvd in a gra mist dhat groo stil
daakə and coaldə az dha floo til sudnly dha immuujd from
the fuuthə cide ov the cloud intoo a radiyyəns ov bloo and goald
blianding in its glory. So fau a wile dha floo widh no cet
dirrecshn, oanly evvə hiə, til at length əbediyyənt too Jusciz
maastəry the hippəgrif ceest from hiz spauts and tuund
əbediyyəntly westwəd, and so in a swift strate caus,
mounting evvə, sped ovə Ravvəry təwaudz the dippaating nite.

And nou indede it woz az if dha had verrilly ovətakən nite in huu westən caivz. Fau the ae waxt daakə əbout them and aulwase daakə, until the grate peex dhat stood round Ravvəry wuu hidn, and aul the grene land ov Simmiyyamviyyə, widh its plainz and wianding wautəz and hilz and upləndz and enchaantid woodz, hidn and lost in an eevl twilite. And the uppə hevn woz əteme widh pautents: hole aamiz ov men scuumishing in the ae, dragghənz, wiald beests, bluddy streməz, blasing commits, firy straix, widh uthə appərishnz innumərəbl. But aul cilənt, and aul coald, so dhat Jusciz handz and fete wuu numd widh the coald and hiz məstaasheyose stif widh hau-frost.

Biffau them nou, invizsəbl til nou, luimd the gaunt peke ov Zorə Rakh, blac, wintry, and vaast, stil touring əbuv them fau aul dha saud eevn hiə, graan and loanly əbuv the frosən waists ov the Sarriyyən Glasciyyəz. Jus staed at dhat peke til the wind ov dhae flite bliandid hiz ise widh tiyyəz; but it woz yet too faa fau enny glimps ov dhat wich he hun'ghəd too bihhoald: no braizn cittədəl, no kəronəl ov flame, no wotchə on the hiats. Zorə, like sum daac qwene ov Hel dhat disdainz dhat prizzumpchoowwəs mautl ise shood dae too looc luvly on huu dred butiz, droo əcros huu brou a vale ov thundəcloud. Dha floo on, and dhat stele-bloo paul ov thundərəs vapə roald fauth til it cannəpid aul the ski əbuv them. Jus tuct hiz too handz fau waumth intoo the fethəry aampits ov the hippəgrifs wingz wae the wingz joind the crechəz boddy. So bittə coald it woz, hiz verry ibaulz wuu frosən and fixt; but dhat pane woz a lite thhing biscide sumwot he nou felt within him the like warov he nevvə biffau had none: a deth-like horrə az ov the housles loanlinnəs ov nakid space, wich gript him at the haat.

Dha landid at laast on a crag ov blac əbciddiyyən stone a litl billo the cloud dhat hid the hiyist rox. The hippəgrif,

croucht on the stepe slope, tuund its hed too looc on Jus. He felt the crechəz boddy binneeth him qwivvə. Its iyyəz wuu lade bac, its i wide widh terrə. "Poowwə chiald," he ced. "I hav braut the an il juuny, and dhou but wun ouə hacht from the eg."

He dismountid; and in dhat same instənt woz birreevd. Fau the hippəgrif widh a haus-screme ov terrə tooc wing and vannisht doun the muuc ae, diving hedlong əwa too eestwəd, bac too the wuuld ov life and sunlite.

And the Laud Jus stood ələne in dhat regən ov fiyyə and frost and the sole-qwaling gloome, undə the blac summit-rox ov Zorə Rakh.

Cetting, az the Qwene had counsld him too doo, hiz hole haat and miand on the dred gole he intendid, he tuund too the icy clif. Az he cliamd the coald cloud cuvvəd him, yet not so thhic but he mite ce ten paciz distəns biffau and əbout him az he went. Il ciats ennou, and ennou too qwale a strong manz rezsəluishn, shode in hiz paath: shaips ov damd feendz and gaughənz ov the pit running in the wa, thretning him widh deth and doome. But Jus, gritting hiz teeth, cliamd on and throo them, dha beying uncəbstanshəl. Then up rose an eldrich cri, "Wot man ov midl-uuth iz this dhat trublith ouə qwiət? Make an end! Caul up the bascillisx. Caul up the Goaldən Bascillisc, wich blowith uppon and cettith on fiə wotsowevvə he ceyith. Caul up the Staary Bascillisc, and wotso he ceyith it immediyyətly shrinx up and perrishith. Caul up the Bluddy Bascillisc, hoo if he ce au tuch enny livving thhing it flowith əwa so dhat naut dhae rimmanith but the boanz!"

Dhat woz a vois too frese the marro, yet he prest on, saying in himcelf, "Aul iz illuizhn, save dhat ələne she toald

me ov." And naut əpiyyəd: oanly the ciləns and the coald, and the rox groo evvə stepə and dhae ice-glase mau dain'gərəs, and the diffickəlty like the diffickəlty ov dhose Barriyyəz ov Emshə, up wich mau dhan too yuuz əgo he had follode Brandokh Daahaa and on wich he had encountəd and slane the beest manticcorə. The ledn ouəz driftid bi, and nou nite shut doun, bittə and blac and cilənt. Sau wiyyərinnəs boddəly woz cum uppon Jus, and hiz hole sole wiyyəry widhaul and niyyə too deth az he entəd a sno-beddid gully dhat cut depe intoo the face ov the mountin, dhae too əwate the da. He duust not slepe in dhat fresing nite; scaesly daed he rest lest the coald shood maastə him, but must kepe fau evvə mooving and stamping and chafing handz and fete. And yet, az the slo nite crept bi, deth ceemd a dizsirəbl thhing dhat shood end such uttə wiyyərinnəs.

Mauning came widh but a coald aultəraishn ov the mist from blac too gra, disclosing the sno-bound rox cilənt, driyyəry, and ded. Jus, enfaucing hiz haaf frosən limz too rizzume the əcent, bihheld a cite ov wo too terreebl fau the i: a yung man, helmd and graidhd in daac iən, a blac-a-moowwə widh gogl-ise and wite teeth əgrin, hoo held bi the nec a fae yung lady neling on huu nese and claasping hiz az in supliccaishn, and he moast bluddilly brandishing əloft hiz spiyyə ov cix foot ov length az miandid too reve huu ov huu life. This lady, ceying the Laud Jus, cride out on him fau suckə verry pittiyyəsly, cauling him bi hiz name and saying, "Laud Jus ov Demənland, hav muucy, and in yau triəmf ovə the pouəz ov nite pauz fau an instənt too dillivvə me, poowwə əflictid damməsel, from this croowwəl tirənt. Can yau touring spirrit, wich hath qworrid uppon kingdəmz, make a stoope at him? O dhat shood əproove u noabl indede, and bles u fau evvə!"

Shoowwəly the verry haat ov him groand, and he clapt hand too

saud wishing too rite so croowwəl a rong. But on the moashn he
bithaut him ov the wialz ov eevl dhat dwelt in dhat place,
and ov hiz bruthə, and widh a grate grone paast on. In wich
instənt he bihheld ciadlong hou the croowwəl muuthərə smote widh
hiz spiyyə dhat dellickət lady, and deetrencht and cut the too
maastə-vainz ov huu nec, so az she fel diying in huu blud.
Jus mountid widh a grate pace too the hed ov the gully, and
loocking bac bihheld hou blac-a-moowwə and lady boath wuu chainjd
too too coiling suupənts. And he labəd on, shakən at haat,
yet glad too hav so iscaipt the pouəz dhat wood hav liamd
him so.

Daakə groo the mist, and hevviyyə the brooding dred wich
ceemd ellimmentl ov the aez əbout dhat mountin. Pausing wel
ni igzaustid on a smaul stans ov sno Jus bihheld the
əpiyyərəns ov a man aamd hoo roald prostrate in the wa,
tiyyəring widh hiz nailz at the haad roc and frosən sno, and
the sno woz aul wun gau ov blud binneeth the man; and the man
bissaut him in a stifəld vois too go no fuuthə but rase him
up and bring him doun the mountin. And wen Jus, aaftə an
instənts dout bitwixt pitty and hiz rizzolv, wood hav paast
bi, the man cride and ced, "Hoald, fau I am thi verry bruthə
dhou cekist, aulbeyit the King hath bi hiz aat fraimd me too
ənuthə liacnəs, hoping so too dilloode the. Fau thi luv sake
be not dilloodid!" Nou the vois woz like too the vois ov hiz
bruthə Goaldry, houbeyit weke. But the Laud Jus bithaut him
əghen ov the wuudz ov Sofonnizbə the Qwene, dhat he shood ce
hiz bruthə in hiz one shape and naut els must he trust; and
he thaut, "It iz an illuizhn, this aulso." So he ced, "If
dhat dhou be trooly mi diyyə bruthə, take thi shape." But the
man cride az widh the vois ov the Laud Goaldry Blusco, "I ma
not, til dhat I be braut doun from the mountin. Bring me
doun, au mi cuus be uppon the fau evvə."

The Laud Jus woz taun widh pitty and dout and wundə, too hiyyə dhat vois əghen ov hiz diyyə bruthə so bisceching him. Yet he aancəd and ced, "Bruthə, if dhat it be dhou indede, then bide til I hav wun too this mountin top and the cittədəl ov braas wich in a dreme I sau, dhat I ma no trooly dhou aat not dhae, but hiyyə. Then wil I tuun əghen and suckə the. But until I ce the in thine one shape I wil mistrust aul. Fau hithə I came from the endz ov the uuth too dillivvə the, and I wil cet mi good on no doutfool caast, havving spent so much and put so much in dain'gə fau thi diyyə sake."

So widh a hevvy haat he cet hand əghen too dhose blac rox, iast and slippəry too the tuch. Dhaewidh up rose an eldrich cri, "Ridjois, fau this uuth-baun iz mad! Ridjois, fau dhat woz not puufict frend, dhat rillinqwisht hiz bruthə at hiz nede!" But Jus cliamd on, and bi and bi loocking bac bihheld hou in dhat ceming manz place riadhd a grizfəl suupənt. And he woz glad, so much az gladnəs mite be in dhat mountin ov əflicshn and dispae.

Nou woz hiz strength niyyə gon, az da droo əghen təwaud nite and he cliamd the laast cragz undə the peke ov Zorə. And he, hoo had aul hiz dase drunc depe ov the fountin ov the joi ov life and the glory and the wundə ov beying, felt evvə dedliyyə and daakə in hiz sole dhat loanly horrə wich he fuust had taistid the da biffau at hiz fuust niyyə cite ov Zorə, wile he floo throo the coald ae pautent-laidn; and hiz hole haat groo cic biccoz ov it.

And nou he woz cum too the ring ov fiə dhat woz əbout the summit ov the mountin. He woz biyyond terrə au the dizsiə ov life, and trod the fiə az it had bene hiz one hoamz threshhoald. The bloo tungz ov flame dide undə hiz foot-tred, making a wa biffau him. The braizn gaits stood wide. He

entəd in, he paast up the braizn stae, he stood on dhat
hi roofe-flau wich he had bihheld in dreemz, he looct az in
a dreme on him he had crost the confianz ov the ded too fiand:
Laud Goaldry Blusco keping hiz lone woch on the unhallode
hiats ov Zorə. Not uthəwise woz the Laud Goaldry, not bi an
haezbredth, dhan az Jus had əfautime cene him on dhat fuust
nite in Coshtrə Billaun, so long əgo. He ricliand propt on
wun elbo on dhat bench ov braas, hiz hed irrect, hiz ise
fixt az on distənt space, vuwing the depths biyyond the
staa-shine, az wun wating til time shood hav an end.

He tuund not at hiz bruthəz greting. Jus went too him and
stood biscide him. The Laud Goaldry Blusco muivd not an ilid.
Jus spoke əghen, and tucht hiz hand. It woz stif and like
danc uuth. The coald ov it struc throo Jusciz boddy and smote
him at the haat. He ced in himcelf, "He iz ded."

Widh dhat, the horrə shut doun uppon Jusciz sole like madnəs.
Fiyyəfəly he staed əbout him. The cloud had liftid from the
mountinz peke and hung like a paul əbuv its nakidnəs. Chil
ae dhat woz like the breth ov the hole wuuldz grave: vaast
blanc cloud-barriyyəz: dim faa faumz ov sno and ice, cilənt,
sollittəry, pale, like mountinz ov the ded: it woz az if the
bottəm ov the wuuld wuu opənd and truith lade bae: the
ultimmət Nuthhing.

Too hoald auf the horrə from hiz sole, Jus tuund in memməry too
the diyyə life ov uuth, dhose thhingz he had moast cet hiz haat
on, men and wimmin he luvd diyyərist in hiz liafs dase; batlz
and triəmfs ov hiz opəning manhood, hi festivlz in Galing,
goaldən summə nuinz undə the Westmaac pianz, hunting maunz on
the hi heeths ov Meland; the da he fuust bact a haus, ov
a spring mauning in a primrose glade dhat opənd on Muinmiyyə,
wen hiz smaul broun legz wuu scaes the length ov hiz

fau-aam nou, and hiz diyyə faathə held him bi the foot az he trottid, and shode him wae the sqwirrəl had huu nest in the oald oke tre.

He boud hiz hed az if too əvoid a blo, so plane he ceemd too hiyyə sumwot within him criying widh a hi vois and loud, "Dhou aat nuthhing. And aul thi dizsiəz and memməriz and luvz and dreemz, nuthhing. The litl ded uuth-lous wuu ov gratə əvale dhan dhou, wuu it not nuthhing az dhou aat nuthhing. Fau aul iz nuthhing: uuth and ski and ce and dha dhat dwel dharin. Nau shal this illuizhn cumfət the, if it mite, dhat wen dhou aat əbollisht these thhingz shal endure fau a ceezn, staaz and munths rittuun, and men gro oald and di, and nu men and wimmin liv and luv and di and be fəgotn. Fau wot iz it too the, dhat shalt be az a blone-out flame? and aul thhingz in uuth and hevn, and thhingz paast and thhingz fau too cum, and life and deth, and the miyyə ellimmənts ov space and time, ov beying and not beying, aul shal be nuthhing untooh the; biccoz dhou shalt be nuthhing, fau evvə."

And the Laud Jus cride əloud in hiz agghəny, "Fling me too Taatərəs, dillivvə me too the blac infuunəl Furiz, let them bliand me, ceedh me in the buuning lake. Fau so shood dhae yet be hope. But in this horrə ov Nuthhing iz niathər hope nau life nau deth nau slepe nau waking, fau evvə. Fau evvə."

In this blac moode ov horrə he əbode fau əwile, until a sound ov weping and waling made him rase hiz hed, and he bihheld a cumpəny ov maunəz wauking wun bihhiand ənuthə əbout the braizn flau, aul cloact in funərəl blac, mauning the deth ov Laud Goaldry Blusco. And dha rihhuust hiz gloriyyəs deedz and praizd hiz buty and prouwis and goodlinnəs and strength: soft wimminz voiciz ləmenting, so dhat the Laud Jusciz sole ceemd az he lisnd too ərise əghen out ov əniəlaishnz

waist, and hiz haat groo soft əghen, eevn untooh tiyyəz. He felt a tuch on hiz aam and loocking up met the gase ov too ise gentl az a duvz, cəfuezd widh tiyyəz, loocking intoo hiz from undə the daacnəs ov dhat hood ov mauning; and a woommənz vois spake and ced, "This iz the əbzuuvəbl da ov the deth ov the Laud Goaldry Blusco, wich hath bene ded nou a yuu; and we hiz fellose in bondij doo biwwale him, az dhou maist ce, and shal so biwwale him əghen yuu bi yuu wialz we ar on life. And fau the, grate laud, must we yet mau sorrofəly ləment, cins ov aul thi grate wuux dun this iz the empty guudən, and this the piyyəriyyəd ov thine ambishn. But cum, take cumfət fau a ceezn, cins untooh aul dəminniyyənz Fate hath cet dhae end, and dhae iz no king on the rode ov deth."

So the Laud Jus, hiz haat ded within him fau grefe and dispae, suffəd huu take him bi the hand and conduct him doun a wianding staewa dhat led from dhat braizn flau too an innə chaimbə fraigrənt and dillishəs, litid widh flickəring lamps. Shoowwəly life and its tuumoilz ceemd fadid too a distənt and futile muumə, and the horrə ov the void ceemd dhae but a vane immadginnaishn, undə the hevvy sweetnəs ov dhat chaimbə. Hiz cenciz swuind; he tuund təwaudz hiz vaild kənductris. She widh a sudn moashn caast auf huu mauning cloke, and stood dhae, huu hole fae boddy baed too hiz gase, opən-aamd, a cite too ravvish the sole widh luv and aul dillite.

Wel ni had he claaspt too hiz boozsəm dhat vizhn ov dazling luvlinnəs. But fauchoone, au the hi Godz, au hiz one soalz mite, woke yet əghen in hiz drugd brane rimmembrəns ov hiz puupəs, so dhat he tuund viələntly from dhat bate prippaed fau hiz distrucshn, and strode from the chaimbə up too dhat roofe wae hiz diyyə bruthə sat az in deth. Jus caut him bi the hand: "Speke too me, kinzmən. It iz I, Jus. It iz Jus, thi bruthə."

But Goaldry muivd not niathər aancəd enny wuud.

Jus looct at the hand resting in hiz, so like hiz one too the verry shape ov the finʻghə nailz and the groath ov the haez on the bac ov the hand and finʻghəz. He let it go, and the aam dropt liafləs. "It iz verry suutn," ced he, "dhou aat in a mannə frosən, and thi spirrits and undəstanding frosən and kənʻgeeld within the."

So saying, he bent too gase cloce in Goaldrese ise, tutching hiz aam and shoaldə. Not a lim stuud, not an ilid flickəd.
He caut him bi the hand and sleve az if too faus him up from the bench, cauling him loudly bi hiz name, shaking him rufly, criying, "Speke too me, thi bruthə, dhat crost the wuuld too fiand the;" but he əbode a ded wate in Jusciz graasp.

"If dhou be ded," ced Jus, "then am I ded widh the. But til then Ile nae thhinc the ded." And he sat doun on the bench biscide hiz bruthə, taking hiz hand in hiz, and looct əbout him. Naut but uttə ciləns. Nite had faulən, and the muinz caam radiyyəns and the twincling staaz minʻgld widh the pale fiəz dhat hejd dhat mountin top in an unsuutn lite.
Hel luist no mau huu denniznz in the ae, and cins the momənt wen Jus had in dhat innə chaimbə shakən himcelf fre ov dhat laast illuizhn no prezns had he cene nau cimmulaicrəm ov man au devl save oanly Goaldry hiz bruthə; nau mite dhat horrə enny mau maastə hiz hi haat, but the memməry ov it woz but az the bittə chil ov a wintə ce dhat taix the swimməz breth fau an instənt az he plunʻgiz fuust intoo the icy wautəz.

So widh a caam and a stedfaast miand the Laud Jus əbode dhae, hiz ceckənd nite widhout slepe, fau slepe he daed not in dhat

əcuucid place. But fau joi ov hiz found bruthə, aulbeyit it
ceemd dhae woz in him niathər speche nau cite nau hiyyəring,
Jus scaes wist ov hiz grate wiyyərinnəs. And he nurrisht
himcelf widh dhat ambrosiyyə ghivn him bi the Qwene, fau wel he
thaut the uttəmoast strength ov hiz boddy shood nou be tride
in the taasc he nou dicrede him.

Wen it woz da, he ərose and taking hiz bruthə Goaldry boddəly
on hiz bac cet fauth. Paast the gaits ov braas Jus bau him,
and paast the barriyyəz ov flame, and painfəly and bi slo
digrese doun the long nauthən rij wich ovəhangz the
Sarriyyən Glasciyyəz. Aul dhat da, and the nite following, and
aul the next da aaftə wuu dha on the mountin, and wel ni
ded woz Jus fau wiyyərinnəs wen on the ceckənd da an ouə au
too biffau sun-doun dha reecht the morrane. Yet woz triəmf
in hiz haat, and gladnəs ov a grate dede dun. Dha la dhat
nite in a grove ov straubry trese undə the stepe foot ov a
mountin sum ten mialz biyyond the westən shau ov Ravvəry, and
met Spitfiə and Brandokh Daahaa hoo had watid widh dhae bote
too niats at the əpointid spot, əbout eevntide ov the
following da.

Nou az soone az Jus had braut him auf the mountin, this
frosən kəndishn ov the Laud Goaldry woz so faa thaud dhat he
woz aibl too stand uppon hiz fete and wauc; but nevvə a wuud
mite he speke, and nevvə a looc dha gat from him, but stil
hiz gase woz cet and unchain'ging, ceming wen it restid on hiz
kəmpanniyyənz too looc throo and biyyond them az at sum faa thhing
cene in a mist. So dhat eche woz ceecritly trubld, fiyyəring
lest this kəndishn ov the Laud Goaldry Blusco shood proove
remmədeles, and this dhat dha nou risceevd bac from prizn
but the poowwə rimmane ov him dha had so much dizsiəd.

Dha came əland and braut him too Sofonnizbə the Qwene wae

she made haist too mete them on the fae laun biffau huu pəvilliyyən. The Qwene, az if nowing biffauhand boath dhae cace and the remmədy dharov, tooc bi the hand the Laud Jus and ced, "O mi laud, dhae yet rimmanith a thhing fau the too doo too fre him throoly, dhat hast outfaist terrəz biyyond the uce ov man too bring him bac: a litl stone indede too croun this bilding ov thine, and yet widhout it aul wuu in vane, az itcelf wuu vane widhout the rest dhat woz aul thine: and mine iz this laast, and widh a puə haat I ghiv it the."

So saying she made the Laud Jus bou doun til she mite kis hiz mouth, sweetly and sobəly wun lite kis. And she ced, "This ghiv untooh the laud thi bruthə." And Jus did so, kiscing hiz diyyə bruthə in like mannə on the mouth; and she ced, "Take him, diyyə mi laudz. And I hav uttəly put out the rimmembrəns ov these thhingz from hiz haat. Take him, and ghiv thanx untooh the hi Godz biccoz ov him."

Dhaewidh the Laud Goaldry Blusco looct uppon them and uppon dhat fae Qwene and the mountinz and the woodz and the coole laix luvlinnəs, az a man əwakənd out ov a depe slumbə.

Shoowwəly dhae woz joi in aul dhae haats dhat da.

29. The Flete at Muwelvə

HOU THE LAUDZ OV DEMƏNLAND CAME ƏGHEN TOO DHAE SHIPS AT MUWELVƏ,
AND THE TIDINGZ DHA LUUNID DHAE.

Fau nine dase space the laudz ov Demənland əbode widh Qwene Sofonnizbə in Coshtrə Billaun and biscide the Lake ov Ravvəry taisting such hi and puə dilliats az billike nun els hath taistid, if it wuu not the spirrits ov the blest in Illizsiyyəm.
Wen dha bad huu faewel, the Qwene ced, "Mi litl maatlets shal bring me tidingz ov u. And wen u shal hav braut too miyyə pədishn the wickid redgimmənt ov Wichland and rittuund əghen too yau diyyə nativ land, then iz mi time fau dhat, mi Laud Jus, warov I hav ofn tauct too the and ofn gladdid mi dreemz widh the thaut dharov: too vizsit uuth əghen and the habbittaishnz ov men, and be yau ghest in menny-mountind Demənland."

Jus kist huu hand and ced, "Fale not in this, diyyə Qwene, wotsoware bittide."

So the Qwene let bring them bi a ceecrit wa out uppon the hi sno-feeldz dhat ar bitwixt Coshtrə Billaun and Romshə, wens dha came doun intoo the glen ov the daac wautə dhat discendz from the glasciyyə ov Təmaam, and so throo menny perrələs scaips aaftə menny dase bac bi wa ov the Moroonə too Muwelvə and the ships.

Dhae Gazlaac and La Firrese, wen dhae gretingz wuu dun and dhae ridjoicingz, ced too the Laud Jus, "We əbide too long time hiyyə. We hav entəd the barrəl and the bung-hole iz stopt." Dhaewidhaul dha braut him Hespə Golthring, hoo thre dase əgo saling too the Straits fau forrij came bac əghen but yestəda widh a hot ələrəm dhat he met suutn ships ov Wichland: and braut them too batl: and gat wun sunkən ae dha brake auf the fite: and tooc up suutn priznəz.
"Bi hoose igzamminnaishn," ceth he, "az wel az from mine one pəceving and nowing, it əpiyyərith Laxəs hoaldith the Straits widh ate scau ships ov wau, the gratist ships dhat evvə the

ce bae until this da, cum hithə ov puupəs too distroi us."

"Ate scau ships?" ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Wichland kəmaandith not the haaf, nau the thuud paat, ov such a strength cins we did them doun laast haavist-tide in Auwauth haivn. It iz not levəbl, Hespə."

Hespə aancəd him, "Yau hinəs shal fiand it truith; and mau the sorro ont and the wundə."

"'Tiz the scouringz ov hiz subgict-alli," ced Spitfiə. "We shal fiand them no such haad mattə too dispach aaftə the uthəz."

Jus ced too the Laud Gro, "Wot makist dhou ov these nuse, mi laud?"

"I thhinc no wundə in it," aancəd he. "Wichland iz ov good memməry and miandith him ov yau cemənship auf Caatadsə. He usith not too iadl, nau too cet aul on wun hazsəd. Nau cumfət not thicelf, mi Laud Spitfiə, dhat these be plezhə-galliz borrode from the soft Beshtriyyənz au the cimpl Folleyots. Dha be nu ships bildid fau us, mi laudz, and ouə undoowing: it iz bi no kən'gecchə I sa it untooh u, but ov mine one nollij, aulbeyit the numbə əpiyyərith faa gratə dhan ae I dreemd ov. But au evvə I saild widh Kərinniyyəs too Demənland, grate bildingz ov an aamy naivl woz biggun at Tennəmos."

"I doo verry wel billeve," ced King Gazlaac, "dhat nun nowith aul this bettə dhan dhou, biccoz thicelf didst counsl it."

"O Gazlaac," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa, "must dhou stil ich too pla at chop-cherry wen cherry-time iz paast? Let him ələone. He iz ouə frend nou."

"Ate scau ships i the Straits," ced Jus. "And ouəz an hundrəd. 'Tiz wel cene wot grate difrəns and odz dhae iz bitwixt us. Wich we must needz encountər, au els nae sale home əghen, let ələne too Caacy. Fau out ov this ce iz no ce-wa fau ships, but oanly bi these Straits ov Mellecafkhaz."

"We shal doo ov Laxəs," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa, "dhat he trouwith too doo ov us."

But Jus woz faulən cilənt, hiz chin in hiz hand.

Goaldry Blusco ced, "I wood ələou him odz and bete him."

"It iz a grate shame in the, O Jus," ced Brandokh Daahaa, "if dhou wilt be əbasht at this. If dhat dha be in numbə mau dhan we, wot then? Dha ar in hope, qworrəl, and strength faa infiyyəriyyə."

But Jus, stil in a studdy, reecht out and caut him bi the sleve, hoalding him so a momənt au too, and then looct up at him and ced, "Dhou aat the gratist qworrələ, ov a frend, dhat evvə I nu, and if I wuu an anʻgry man I cood not əbae the. Ma I not thre minnits studdy the meenz, but dhou shalt cri out uppon me fau a milxop?"

Dha laaft, and the Laud Jus rose up and ced, "Caul we a counsl ov wau. And let Hespə Golthring be at it, and hiz skippəz dhat wuu widh him ə dhat voiyij. And pac up the stuf, fau we wil əwa ə the maun. If we like not these lettis, we ma pool bac ouə lips. But no chois rimmanith. If Laxəs wil dinni us ce-roome throo Mellecafkhaz Straits, I trou dhae shal go up thens a crash wich wen the King hiyyərith it he shal no it fau ouə fuust banging on the gaits

ov Caacy."

XXX. Tidingz ov Mellecafkhaz

OV NUSE BRAUT UNTOOH GORICE THE KING IN CAACY OUT OV THE SOUDH,
WAE THE LAUD LAXƏS LIYING IN THE STRAITS WIDH HIZ AAMAADƏ HELD
THE FLETE OV DEMƏNLAND PRIZND IN THE MIDLƏND CE.

On a nite ov late summə lening təwaudz autəm, ate weex aaftə the saling ov the Demənz out ov Muwelvə az iz əforit, the Lady Prezmirə sate biffau huu mirrə in Corrəndz lofty bed-chaimbə in Caacy. The nite widhout woz miald and fool ov staaz. Within, yello flaimz ov candlz buuning steddilly on iathər cide ov the mirrə rade fauth tresciz ov tincəling briatnəs in twin gloriz au loominnəs sfiyyəz ov waumth. In dhat soft radiyyəns grainz az ov goaldən fiə swam and suucld, loosing thəmcelvz on the confianz ov the gloome wae the mascy fuunitchə and the arrəs and the figghəd hangingz ov the bed wuu but cloudiyyə divvizhnz and kən'geschənz ov the genrəl daac. Prezmirəz hae caut the beemz and impriznd them in a tauny tan'gl ov splendə dhat swept əbout huu hed and shoaldəz doun too the emmərəld claasps ov huu guudl. Huu ise resting iadly on huu one fae immij in the shining mirrə, she tauct lite nuthhingz widh huu woommən ov the bed-chaimbə hoo, pliying the come, stood bihhiand huu chae ov goald and tautəs-shel.

"Reche me yondə booc, nuus, dhat I ma rede əghen the wuudz ov dhat cerrənade the Laud Gro made fau me, the nite wen fuust

we had tidingz from mi laud out ov Impland ov hiz conqwest ov dhat land, and the King did make him king dharov."

The oald woommən gave huu the booc, dhat woz bound in gote-skin chizld and aunəmentid bi the ghildəz aat, fittid widh claasps ov goald, and enricht widh litl gemz, sməragdz and maagəry-puulz, inlade in the panlz ov its cuvvəz. Prezmirə tuund the page and red:

You meaner Beauties of the Night,
That poorly satisfie our Eies,
More by your number then your light,
You Common-people of the Skies;
What are you when the Moone shall rise?

You Curious Chanters of the Wood,
That warble forth Dame Natures layes,
Thinking your Passions understood
By your weake accents; what's your praise
When Philomell her voyce shall raise?

You Violets that first apeare,
By your pure purpel mantles knowne,
Like the proud Virgins of the yeare,
As if the Spring were all your own;
What are you when the Rose is blowne?

So, when my Princess shall be seene

In form and Beauty of ħer mind,
By Vertue first, then Choyce a Queen,
Tell me, if she were not design'd
Th' Eclypse and Glory of ħer kind.

She əbode ciləənt əwile. Then, in a lo swete vois wae aul
the caudz ov music ceemd too slumbə: "Thre yuuz wil be
gon next Ule-tide," she ced, "cins fuust I huud dhat song.
And not yet am I grone custəmd too the stile ov Qwene."

"'Tiz pitty ov mi Laud Gro," ced the nuus.

"Dhou thhinkist?"

"Muuth sat ofnə on yau face, O Qwene, wen he woz hiyyə, and
u wuu uest too chaam hiz melləncolly and make a pish ov hiz
fantastickəl humərəs faubodingz."

"Oft douting not hiz forjujmənt," ced Prezmirə, "eevn the
wile I thript mi fin'ghəz at it. But nevvə sau I yet dhat the
louring thundə hath dhat paashiyyallitty ov a tirənt, too blaast him
dhat faist it and paas bi him dhat qwaild biffau it."

"He woz moast deeply bound suuvənt too yau buty," ced the oald
woommən. "And yet," she ced, vuwing huu mistris ciadlong too
ce hou she wood risceve it, "dhat wuu a mis esəly made
good."

She bizsid huucelf widh the come əwile in ciləns. Aaftə a
time she ced, "O Qwene, mistris ov the haats ov men, dhae
iz not a laud in Wichland, nau in uuth biscide, u mite not

biand yau suuvənt widh wun thred ov this hae ov yauz. The liacliyyist and the goodliyyist wuu yauz at an i-glaans."

The Lady Prezmirə looct dremilly intoo huu one ce-grene ise immijd in the glaas. Then she smiald mockingly and ced, "Hoome then əcountist dhou the liacliyyist and the goodliyyist man in aul the stablisht uuth?"

The oald woommən smiald. "O Qwene," aancəd she, "this woz the verry mattə in dispute əmungst us at suppə oanly this eevning."

"A pritty disputaishn!" ced Prezmirə. "Let me be merry. Hoo woz əjujd the farist and gallən̈tist bi yau hi caut ov censhə?"

"It woz not genrəly dittuumind ov, O Qwene. Sum wood hav mi Laud Gro."

"Əlac, he iz too femmənin," ced Prezmirə.

"Uthəz ouə Laud the King."

"Dhae iz nun gratə," ced Prezmirə, "nau mau wuushipfəl. But fau an huzbənd, dhou shoodst az wel wed widh a thundə-staum au the hun'gry ce. Ghiv me sum mau."

"Sum chose the laud Admərəl."

"Dhat," ced Prezmirə, "woz a niyyərə stroke. No skipjac nau soft maaməlady cautiyyə, but a brave, taul, gallən̈t gentlmən. I, but too wautəry a plannit buund at hiz nətivvitty. He iz too like a statchoowwə ov a man. No, nuus, dhou must bring me bettə dhan he."

The nuus ced, "Troo it iz, O Qwene, dhat moast wuu ov mi thhinking wen I gave əm mi chois: the king ov Demənland."

"Fi on the!" cride Prezmirə. "Name him not so dhat woz too unmity too hoald dhat land əghenst ouə ennəmiz."

"Foke sa it woz bi foxish aats and practisciz madgicl a woz spilt on Crothəring Cide. Foke sa twoz divvəlz and not hauciz carrid the Demənz doun the mountin at us."

"Dha sa!" cride Prezmirə. "I sa too the, he hath found it aptə too hiz bent too flaunt hiz croun in Wichland dhan make əm ghiv him the ne in Galing. Fau a troo king boath ne and haat doo trooly bou biffau him. But this wun, if he had dhae ne twoz in the bac cide ov him he had it, too kic him home əghen."

"Fi, maddəm!" ced the nuus.

"Hoald thi tung, nuus," ced Prezmirə. "It wuu good ye wuu aul wel wipt fau a bunch ov cilly maez dhat no not a haus from an as."

The oald woommən wotching huu in the glaas countid it best kepe ciləns. Prezmirə ced undə huu breth az if tauking too huucelf, "I no a man, shood not hav miscarrid it dhus."
The oald nuus dhat luvd not Laud Corrənd and hiz hauty fashnz and ruf speche and wine-bibbing, and woz bisciadz gelləs dhat so roode a stoc shood ware so rich a jooəl az woz huu mistris, follode not huu mening.

Aaftə sum time, the oald woommən spake softly and ced, "U ar fool ov thauts too-nite, maddəm."

Prezmirəz ise met huuz in the mirrə. "Wi ma I not be so
and it liax me?" ced she.

Dhat stony looc ov the ise struc like a gong sum
twenty-yuu-oald memməry in the nuuciz haat: the litl wilfəl
maidn, il too gode but good too ghide, loocking out from dhat
Qweenz face əcros the yuuz. She nelt doun sudnly and
caut huu aamz əbout huu mistrisciz waist. "Wi must u wed
then, diyyə haat?" ced she, "if u wuu miandid too doo wot
liax u? Men luv not sad loox in dhae wiavz. U ma ride
a luvvə on the cuub, maddəm, but wuns u wed him tiz aul
tuthə wa: aul hiz wa, maddəm, and biwwae ov had I wist.'"

Huu mistris looct doun at huu mockingly. "I hav bene wed
cevn yuuz too-nite. I shood no these thhingz."

"And this nite!" ced the nuus. "And but an ouə til
midnite, and yet he cittith at baud."

The Lady Prezmirə leend bac too looc əghen on huu one mirrəd
luvlinnəs. Huu proud mouth sweetnd too a smile. "Wilt dhou
luun me commən wimminz wizdəm?" ced she, and dhae woz yet
mau vəlupchoowwəs sweetnəs trembling in huu vois. "I wil tel
the a story, az dhou hast toald them me in the oald dase in
Nauvasp too wile me too bed. Hast dhou not huud tel hou oald
Duke Hilmənese ov Maltrəeny, əmung sum uthə fantəciz such az
əpiyyə bi nite untooh menny in divuuz placiz, had wun in liacnəs
ov a woommən widh oald face ov lo and litl statchə au boddy,
wich did scouə hiz pots and panz and did such thhingz az a made
suuvənt aut too doo, librəly and widhout doowing ov enny haam?
And bi hiz aat he nu this thhing shood be hiz suuvənt stil,
and bring untooh him wotsowevvə he wood, so long time az he
shood be glad ov the thhingz it braut him. But this duke,
beying a foolish man and a gredy, made hiz fəmilliyyə bring him

at wuns aul the yuuz ceeznz and dhae cevrəl goodz and
plezhəz, and aul good thhingz ov uuth at wun time. So az in
cix munths space, he beying satid widh these and aul good
thhingz, and havving no good thhing rimmaning untooh him too ixpect
au too dizsiə, fau verry wiyyərinnəs did hang himcelf. I wood
nevvə hav tane me an huzbənd, nuus, and I had not none dhat
I woz aibl too ghiv him evry time I wood a nu hevn and a
nu uuth, and nevvə the same thhing twice."

She tooc the oald woommənz handz in huuz and gathəd them too huu
brest, az if too let them luun, roct fau a minnit in the
bountiffəl infinnət sweetnəs ov dhat place, wot foolish fiyyəz
wuu these. Sudnly Prezmirə claaspt the handz titə in huu
one, and shuddəd a litl. She bent doun too wispə in the
nuuciz iyyə, "I wood not wish too di. The wuuld widhout me
shood be summə widhout rosiz. Caacy widhout me shood be a
nite widhout the staa-shine."

Huu vois dide əwa like the nite brese in a summə gaadn.
In the ciləns dha huud the dip and wosh ov au-blaidz from
the rivvə widhout; the centinlz challənj, the aancə from
the ship.

Prezmirə stood up qwicly and went too the windo. She cood ce
the ships daac bulc bi the wautə-gate, and cummingz and gowingz,
but naut cliyyəly. "Tidingz from the flete," she ced. "Put up
mi hae."

And ae dhat woz dun, came a litl page running too huu
chaimbə dau, and wen it woz opənd too him, stood panting from
hiz running and ced, "The king yau huzbənd bad me tel u,
maddəm, and pra u go doun too him i the grate haul. It ma be
il nuse, I fiyyə."

"Dhou fiyyərist, pap-face?" ced the Qwene. "Ile hav the wipt if dhou bringist thi fiyyəz too me. Dust no aut? Wots the mattə?"

"The ships much battəd, O Qwene. He iz clozsittid widh ouə Laud the King, the skippə. Nun dae speke els. 'Tiz fiyyəd the hi Admərəl----"

"Fiyyəd!" cride she, swin'ging round fau the nuus too put əbout huu wite shoaldəz huu mantl ov cendəlene and cloth ov cilvə, dhat shimməd at the collə widh puupl ammithhists and woz centid widh cedə and galbənəm and muu. She woz fauth in the daac corriddau, doun bi the wianding maabl stae, throo the mid-caut, hasting too the banqwit haul. The caut woz fool ov foke tauking; but naut suutn, naut save cəspens and wundə; roomə ov a grate ce-fite in the soudh, a mity victəry wun bi Laxəs uppon the Demənz: Jus and dhose laudz ov Demənland ded and gon, the captivz following widh the mauningz tide. And hiyyə and dhae like an undətone too these triyumfənt tidingz, kəntrary rooməz, wispəd lo, like the hiscing ov an addə from huu shaddowy lae: aul not wel, the laud Admərəl wuindid, haaf hiz ships lost, the batl doutfool, the Demənz iscaipt. So came dhat lady intoo the grate haul; and dhae wuu the laudz and captinz ov the Witchiz aul in a restləs qwiət ov expectaishn. Duke Caucəs lold fauwəd in hiz cete doun bi the cros-bench, hiz breth stuutərəs, hiz smaul ise fixt in a drunkən stae. On the uthə cide Corrənd sate huge and moashnləs, hiz elbo propt on the taibl, hiz chin in hiz hand, sombə and cilənt, staring at the waul. Uthəz gathəd in nots, tauking in lo toanz. The Laud Kərinniyyəs wauct up and doun bihhiand the cros-bench, hiz handz claaspt bihhiand him, hiz fin'ghəz snapping impaishntly at wialz, hiz hevvy jau held hi, hiz glaans hi and diffiənt. Prezmirə came too Hemming wae he stood əmung thre au fau and tucht

him on the aam. "We no nuthhing, maddəm," he ced. "He iz widh the King."

She came too huu laud. "Dhou didst cend fau me."

Corrənd looct up at huu. "Wi, so I did, maddəm. Tidingz from the flete. Maby sumwot, maby naut. But dhoudst best be hiyyə faut."

"Good tidingz au il: dhat shakith not Caacy waulz," ced she.

Sudnly the lo buz ov tauc woz husht. The King stood in the cuutnd dauwa. Dha rose up aul too mete him, aul save Caucəs dhat sat drunc in hiz chae. The croun ov Wichland shed bailfəl spaaclz əbuv the daacnəs ov the daac fautris-face ov Gorice the King, the glittə ov hiz dred ibaulz, the dedly line ov hiz mouth, the sqwae blac biyyəd jutting binneeth. Like a touə he stood, and bihhiand him in the shaddo woz the mescin'gə from the flete widh countinnəns the cullə ov wet mautə.

The King spake and ced, "Mi laudz, hiyyəz tidingz tutching the truith warov I hav wel sattisfide micelf. And it impautith the miyyə pədishn ov mi flete. Dhae hath bene batl auf Mellecafkhaz in the Impland cese. Jus hath sunkən ouə ships, evry ship save dhat wich braut the tidingz, sunc, widh Laxəs and aul hiz men dhat wuu widh him." He pauzd: then, "These be hevvy nuse," he ced, "and Ile hav u bae əm in the oald Wichland fashn: the hevviyyə hit the hevviyyə strike əghen."

In the strainj diffaumd ciləns came a litl gaasping cri, and the Lady Srevə fel a-swooning.

The King ced, "Let the kingz ov Impland and ov Demənland ətend me. The rest, it iz kəmaandid dhat aul doo ghet them too bed ə the instənt."

The Laud Corrənd ced in hiz ladese iyyə az he went bi, taking huu widh hiz hand əbout the shoaldə. "Wot, las? if the broths split, the mete rimmanith. Too bed widh the, and nevvə dout wele pa them yet."

And he widh Kərinniyyəs follode the King.

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It woz paast midl nite wen the counsl brake up, and Corrənd saut hiz chaimbə in the eestən galləry əbuv the innə caut. He found hiz lady citting yet at the windo, wotching the fauls daun ovə Pixeland. Dizmiscing hiz lamp-barəz dhat litid him too bed, he boaltid and baad the grate iən-studdid dau. The bredth ov hiz shoaldəz wen he tuund fild the shaddowy dauwa; hiz hed wel ni tucht the lintl. It woz haad too rede hiz countinnəns in the unsuutn gloome wae he stood biyyond the brite regən made bi the candl-lite, but Prezmirəz ise cood maac hou cae sat on hiz brou, and dhae woz in the carrij ov hiz pondərəs frame kinglenəs and the strength ov sum strong dittuuminnaishn.

She stood up, loocking up at him az on a mate too hoome she cood be troo and be troo too huu one celf. "Wel?" she ced.

"The taiblz ar cet," ced he, widhout mooving.

"The King hath naimd me hiz captin genrəl in Caacy."

"Iz it cum too dhat?" ced Prezmirə.

"Dha hav hune a lim from us," aancəd he. "Dha hav wit too no the next stroke shood be at the haat."

"Iz it trooly so?" ced she. "Ate thouznd men? twice thine aamese strength dhat wun Impland fau us? aul dround?"

"'Twoz the devvəlish cemənship ov these əcuucid Demənz," ced Corrənd. "It əpiyyərith Laxəs held the Straits wae dha must go if evvə dha shood win home əghen, mening too fite əm in the narrose and so crush əm widh the wate ovz ships az esy az kil flise, havving bi a grate odz the bigghə strength boath in ships and men. Dha ə dhae paat kept the ce widhout, triying dhae best too tice him fauth so dha mite doo dhae salə trix i the opən. A weke au mau he widhstood it, til ə the nianth da (the devl cuus him fau a foole, waefau cood a not hav had paishns?) ə the nianth mauning, wiyyəry ov innacshn and havving wind and tide sumthhing in hiz favə"; the Laud Corrənd groand and snapt hiz fin'ghəz kəntempchoowwəsly. "O Ile tel the the tale too-morro, maddəm. Ime suufittid widh it too-nite. The sum iz, Laxəs droundid and aul dhat wuu widh him, and Jus widh hiz hole grate aaməmənt nauthwəd bound fau Wichland."

"And the wide cese hiz. And we ixpect him, enny da?"

"The wind hangith eestəly. Enny da," ced Corrənd.

Prezmirə ced, "Dhat woz wel dun too rest the kəmaand in the. But wot ov ouə qwolliffide yung gentlmən hoo had dhat offis əfautime. Wil he pla ə these tuumz?"

Corrənd aancəd, "Hun'gry dogz wil et duuty pooddingz. I thhinc hele pla, aulbeyit he shode hiz teeth i the fuust wile."

"Let him kepe hiz teeth fau the Demənz," ced she.

"This verry ship woz tane," ced Corrənd, "and cent home bi them in a brəvaado too tel us wot bittid: a stupid incələnt paat, shal cost əm diyyə, fau it hath fauwaund us. The skippə had this lettə fau the: gave it me monstrəs ceecritly."

Prezmirə tooc əwa the wax and opənd the lettə, and nu the ritə ov it. She held it out too Corrənd: "Rede it too me, mi laud. I am tiəd widh wotching; I rede il bi this flickəring candl-lite."

But he ced, "I am too poowwə a scollə, maddəm. I prithy rede it."

And in the lite ov the guttəring candlz, vext widh an eest wind dhat bloo biffau the daun, she red this lettə, dhat woz kənceevd in mannə following:

"*Unto the right ħigħ mighti and doubtid Prynsace the Quen of Implande, one that was your Servaunt but now beinge both a Traitor and a manifald parjured Traitor, which Heaven above doth abhorre, the erth below detest, the sun moone and starres be eschamed of, and all Creatures doo curse and ajudge unworthy of breth and life, do wish onelie to die your Penytent. In ħevye sorrowe doo send you these advisoes which I requyre your Mageste in umblest manner to pondur wel, seeinge ells your manyfest Overthrowe and Rwyn att ħand. And albeit in Carcee you reste in securitie, it is serten you are there as saife as ħe that ħingetħ by the Leves of a Tree in the end of Autumpne when as the Leves begin to fall. For in this late Battaile in*

Mellicafhaz Sea hath the whole powre of Wychlande on the sea been beat downe and ruwyned, and the highe Admirall of our whole Navie loste and ded and the names of the great men of accownte that were slayen at the battaile I may not numbre nor the common sorte much lesse by reaisoun that the more part were dround in the sea which came not to Syght. But of Daemounlande not ij schips companies were lossit, but with great puissaunce they doo buske them for Carsee. Havinge with them this Gowldri Bleusco, strangely reskewed from his preassoun-house beyond the toombe, and a great Armey of the moste strangg and fell folke that ever I saw or herd speke of. Such is the Die of Warre.

Most Nowble Prynsace I will speke unto you not by a Ryddle or Darck Fygure but playnly that you let not slipp this Occasioun. For I have drempt an evill Dreeme and one pourtending ruwyn unto Wychlande, beinge in my slepe on the verie eve of this same bataille terrified and smytten with an appeering schape of Laxus armde cryinge in an hyghe voise and lowd, An Ende an Ende an ende of All. Therefore most aernestly I do beseek your Magestie and your nowble Lorde that was my Frend before that by my venemous tresun I loste both you and him and alle, take order for your proper saffetie, and the thinge requyers Haste of your Magestes. And this must you doo, to fare strayght way into your owne cuntrie of Picselande and there raise Force. Be you before these rebalds and obstynates of Demounlande in their Prowd Attempts, to strike at Wychlande and so purchas their Frenshyp who it is verie sertan will in powre invintiable stand before Carsee or ever Wychlande shall have time to putt you downe. This Counsell I give you knowinge full well that the

Power and Domynyon of the Demouns standeth now preheminent and not to be withstode. So tarry not by a Sinckinge Schippe, but do as I saye lest all bee loste.

"*One thinge more I telle you, that shall haply enforce my counsell unto you, the hevyeste Newes of alle.*"

"'Tiz hevvy nuse dhat such a fauls trokə az he iz shood yet soopərveve so menny onnist men," ced Corrənd.

The Lady Prezmirə held out the lettə too huu laud. "Mine ise dazl," she ced. "Rede dhou the rest." Corrənd put hiz grate aam əbout huu az he sat doun too the taibl biffau the mirrə and paud ovə the riting, spelling it out widh wun fin'ghə. He had litl booc-luuning, and it woz sum time ae he had the mening cliyyə. He did not rede it out; hiz ladese face toald him she had red aul ae he biggan.

This woz the laast nuse Grose lettə toald huu: the Prins huu bruthə ded in the ce-fite, fiting fau Demənland; ded and dround in the ce auf Mellecafkhaz.

Prezmirə went too the windo. Daun woz bigghinning, bleke and gra. Aaftə a minnit she tuund huu hed. Like a she-liən she looct, proud and dain'gərəs-ide. She woz verry pale. Huu axents, levl and qwiət, cauld too the blud like the role ov a distənt drum, az she ced, "Suckəz ov Demənland: late au nevvə."

Corrənd bihheld huu unnesilly.

"Dhae oadhz too me and too him!" ced she, "swaun too us dhat nite in Caacy. Fauls frendz! O, I cood et dhae haats widh gaalic."

He put hiz grate handz on huu too shoaldəz. She throo them auf. "In wun thhing," she cride, "Gro councəlith us wel: too tarry no mau on this cinking ship. We must rase fauciz. But not az he wood hav it, too uphoald these Demənz, these oath-brakəz. We must əwa this nite."

Huu laud had caast əcide hiz grate woolfskin mantl. "Cum, maddəm," ced he, "too bedz ouə niyyərist juuny."

Prezmirə aancəd, "Ile not too bed. It shal be cene nou, O Corrənd, if dhat dhou be a king indede."

He sat doun on the bedz ej and fel too doowing auf hiz buits. "Wel," he ced, "evry wun az he liax, az the goodman ced wen he kist hiz cou. Dase niyyə dauning; I must be up bittiamz, and a sleepləs niats a poowwə bredə ov invenshn."

But she stood ovə him, saying, "It shal be cene if dhou be a troo king. And be not disceevd: if dhou fale me hiyyə Ile hav no mau ov the. This nite we must əwa. Dhou shalt rase Pixeland, wich iz nou mine bi rite: rase pouə in thine one vaast kingdəm ov Impland. Fling Wichland too the windz. Wot cae I if she cinc au swim? This oanly iz the mattə: too punnish these vile puugəd Demənz, ennəmiz ov ouəz and ennəmiz ov aul the wuuld."

"We nede ride ə no juuny fau dhat," ced Corrənd, stil pootting auf hiz buits. "Dhou shalt shautly ce Jus and hiz bredhrən biffau Caacy widh thre scau hundrəd fiting men ats bac. Then cummith the metl too the anvil. Cum, cum, dhou

must not wepe."

"I doo not wepe," ced she. "Nau I shal not wepe. But Ile not be tane in Caacy like a mous in a trap."

"Ime glad dhoult not wepe, maddəm. It iz az grate pitty too ce a woommən wepe az a gooce too go baefoot. Cum, be not foolish. We must not paat fauciz nou. We must bide this staum in Caacy."

But she cride, "Dhae iz a cuus on Caacy. Gro iz lost too us and hiz good counsl. Diyyə mi laud, I ce sumthhing wickid dhat like a thhic daac shaddo shaddowith aul the ski əbuv us. Wot place iz dhae not cəbgect too the pouə and redgimmənt ov Gorice the King? but he iz too proud: we be aul too incələnt ovəwenəz ov ouə one wuux. Caacy hath grone too grate, and the Godz be əfendid at us. The incələnt vialnəs ov Kərinniyyəs, the oald dotəd Caucəs dhat must stil be at hiz boosing-can, these and ouə one privit qworrəlz in Caacy must be ouə bane. Rippune not dhaefau əghenst the wil ov the Godz, but take the helm in thine one hand ae it be too late."

"Tush, maddəm," ced he, "these be but fra-bugz. Dalite shal make the laaf at əm."

But Prezmirə, qwening it no lon'ghər, caut huu aamz əbout hiz nec. "The od man too pəfaum aul puufictly iz dhou. Wilt dhou ce us rushing on this wuulpoole and not swim fau it ae it be too late?" And she ced in a choact vois, "Mi haat iz niyyə broke aulreddy. Doo not brake it uttəly. Oanly dhou aat left nou."

The chil daun, the cilənt roome, the guttəring candlz, and dhat hi-haatid lady ov hiz, dauntid fau an instənt from huu noabl and eeqwəl currij, couring like a buud in hiz imbrace:

these thhingz wuu like an icy breth dhat paast bi and qwaild him fau a momənt. He tooc huu bi huu too handz and held huu auf from him. She held huu hed hi əghen, aulbeyit huu cheke woz blaancht; he felt the brave comrade-grip ov huu handz in hiz.

"Diyyə las," he ced, "I caast me not too be od widh nun ov these spaun ov Demənland. Hiyyə iz mi hand, and the hand ov mi sunz, hevvy wile breth rimmanith us əghenst Demənland fau the and fau the King. But cith ouə laud the King hath made me a king, cum wind, cum wete, we must wethə it in Caacy. Troo iz dhat sau, 'Fau fame wun makith a king, not fau long livving.'"

Prezmirə thaut in huu haat dhat these wuu fa wuudz. But havving nou put bihhiand huu hope and fiyyə, she woz rizzolvd too kic əghenst the wind no mau, but stand fuum and ce wot Destinny wood doo.

31. The Demənz Biffau Caacy

HOU GORICE THE KING, AULBEYIT SO STRONG A SAUCƏRƏ, ELLECTID DHAT
BI THE SAUD, AND CHEEFLY BI THE LAUD CORRƏND HIZ CAPTIN GENRƏL, SHOOD BE DITTUUMIND AZ FAU THIS TIME THE IVVENT OV
THESE HI MATTƏZ; AND HOU DHOSE TWANE, THE KING AND THE LAUD
JUS, SPAKE FACE TOO FACE AT LAAST; AND OV THE BLUDDY BATL BIFFAU CAACY, AND WOT FROOTE WOZ GAANƏD DHAE AND WOT MADE

RIPE ƏGHENST HAAVIST.

Gorice the king sate in hiz chaimbə the thuuteenth mauning aaftə these tidingz braut too Caacy. On the taibl undə hiz hand wuu papəz ov əcount and skedduelz ov hiz aamiz and dhae iqwipmənt. Corrənd sate at the Kingz rite hand, and ovə əghenst him Kərinniyyəs.

Corrəndz grate hary handz wuu claaspt biffau him on the taibl. He spoke widhout booc, resting hiz gase on the steddy cloudz dhat saild əcros the sqwae ov ski cene throo the hi windo dhat faist him. "Ov Wichland and the home provvinciz, O King, naut but good. Aul the cumpəniz ov soalgəz wich wuu əpointid too rippae too this paat bi the tenth ov the munth ar nou cum hithə, save sum bandz ov spiyyəmən from the soudh, and sum from Estrəganseə. These laast I ixpect too-da; Vigləs ritith dha cum widh him widh the hevvy truips from Baultəry I cent him too əcembl. So iz the mustə fool az fau these paats: Thramny, Zaun, Puumeyo, the land ov Aa, Trace, Butəny, and Estrəmərene. Ov the subgict alli, dhaez les good dhae. The kingz ov Minniyyə and Giltə: Olis ov Teckəpan: County Eskəbreyen ov Tzuishə: the king ov Elleən: aul be hiyyə widh dhae kəntin'gənts. But dhaez mitiyyə naimz we mis. Duke Maxtlin ov Azzoomel hath flung aufs əlegəns and cut auf yau envoiz iyyəz, O King; tiz thaut fau sum cəposid lite paat ov the sunz ov Caucəs dun too hiz cistə. Dhat dockith us thuuty scau stout fitəz. The laud ov Ueshtlən cendith no aancə, and nou ar we advətiazd bi Minniyyə and Giltə ov hiz opən mallis and treezn, hoo did stubbənly let them the wa hithə throo hiz cuntry wile dha haisnd too doo yau madgistese kəmaandz. Then dhaez the Ogediyyən levviz, shood be ni a thouznd spiyyəz, ten dase ovədu. Hemming, dhat rasith Pixeland in Prezmirəz name, wil bring them in if he ma. Hoo aulso hath audə, beying on hiz wa, too rouz

Maltrəeny too acshn, from hoome no wuud az yet; and I doo fiyyə tretchəry in əm, Maltrəeny and Ogediyyə boath, dha hav bene so long ov cumming. King Baasht ov Təribbiyyə cendith flat riffuezl."

"It iz none too u bisciadz, O King," ced Kərinniyyəs, "dhat the king ov Nevriyyə came in laast nite, menny dase paast the da əpointid, and but haaf hiz just complimmənt."

The King droo bac hiz lips. "I wil not dash hiz spirrits bi blaming him at this preznt. Latə, Ile hav dhat kingz hed fau this."

"This iz the sum," ced Corrənd. "Na, then, I had fəgot the Red Folleyot widhz foke, thre hundrəd pəchaans, came in this mauning."

Kərinniyyəs thrust out hiz tung and laaft: "Wun hen-lobstə such az he shal scaes əfaud a caus fau this banqwit."

"He kepith faith," ced Corrənd, "wae bigghə men tuun dastədz. 'Tiz cene nou dhat these faust leegz be az shoowwə az dha wuu ceeld widh buttə. Yau madgisty wil doutlis ghiv him audiyyəns."

The King woz cilənt əwile, studdiyying hiz papəz. "Wot strength too-da in Caacy?" he aasct.

Corrənd aancəd him, "Az niyyə az ma be too scau hundrəd foot and fifty scau haus: five thouznd in aul. And, dhat I wa moast, O King, big braud strong cet ladz ov Wichland ni evry jac ov əm."

The King ced, "'Twoz not wel dun, O Corrənd, too bid thi sun dilla fau Ogediyyə and Maltrəeny. He mite els hav bene in

Caacy nou widh a thouznd Pixelandəz too swel ouə strength."

"I did dhat I did," aancəd Corrənd, "ceking oanly yau good, O King. A fu dase dilla mite bi us a thouznd spiyyəz."

"Dilla," ced the King, "hath favəd mine ennəmy. This we shood hav dun: at hiz fuust landing ghiv him no time but winc, cet on him widh aul ouə fauciz, and thro him intoo the ce."

"If luc go widh us dhat ma yet be," ced Corrənd.

The Kingz nostrəlz wiadnd. He croucht fauwəd, glaring at Corrənd and Kərinniyyəs, hiz jau thrust out so dhat the stif blac biyyəd on it brusht the papəz on the taibl biffau him. "The Demənz," ced he, "landid i the nite at Ralpə. Dha cum on widh grate juuniz nauthwəd. Wil be hiyyə ae thre dase be spent."

Boath dha groo red az blud. Corrənd spake: "Hoo toald u these tidingz, O King?"

"Cae not dhou fau dhat," ced the King. "Ennuf fau the, I no it. Hath it tane u napping?"

"No," aancəd he. "These ten dase paast we hav bene reddy, widh wot strength we mite make, too risceve əm, cum dha from wot qwautə dha wil. So it iz, dho, dhat wile we lac the Pixeland suckəz Jus hath bi sum odz the ədvaantij ovə us, if, az ouə intellidgəns ceth, cix thouznd fiting men doo follo him, and these faust bisciadz widh sum dhat shood be ouəz."

"Dhou woodst," ced the King, "əwate these out ov Pixeland,

widh dhat els Hemming ma gathə, əfau we offə them batl?"

Ced Corrənd, "Dhat wood I. We must looc biyyond the next tuun ov the rode, O mi Laud the King."

"Dhat wood not I," ced Kərinniyyəs.

"Dhat iz stoutly ced, Kərinniyyəs," ced the King. "Yet rimmembə, dhou hadst the gratə faus on Crothəring Cide, yet wost ovəbaun."

"'Tiz dhat standith in mi miand, Laud," ced Corrənd. "Fau wel I no, had I bene dhae Ide a faed no bettə."

The Laud Kərinniyyəs, hoose brou had daakənd widh the naming ov hiz diffete, looct chiyyəfəly nou and ced, "I pra u but kənciddə, O mi Laud the King, dhat hiyyə at home iz no roome fau such a slite au gin az dhat waebi in dhae one cuntry dha tooc me. Wen Jus and Brandokh Daahaa and dhae stinking gabbəlunsese doo cri huf at us on Wichland soil, tiz time too ghiv əm a choke-pae. Wich widh yau leve, Laud, I wil prommis nou too doo, uthə els too loose mi life."

"Ghiv me thi hand," ced Corrənd. "Ov aul men els wood I a chosən the fau such a da az this, and (wuut too-da too mete the hole pouə ov Demənland in aamz) too stand puudu widh the fau this bluddy suuvis. But let us hiyyə the Kingz kəmaandz: wich wa sowae he choose, we shal doo it rite gladly."

Gorice the King sat cilənt. Wun lene hand restid on the iən suupənt-hed ov hiz chaez aam, the uthə, widh fin'ghə outstrecht əghenst the jutting cheecbone, cəpautid hiz chin. Oanly in the depe shaddo ov hiz i-sockits a lambənt lite muivd. At length he staatid, az if the spirrit, flone too sum

unsoundid gulfs ov time au space, had in dhat instənt rittuund too its mautl dwelling. He gathəd the papəz in a hepe and tost them too Corrənd.

"Too much liyith on it," ced he. "He dhat hath menny pese ma put mau in the pot. But nou the da əprochith wen I and Jus must caast up ouə əcount təghethə, and wun au aul shal be braut too deth and bane." He stood up from hiz chae and looct doun on dhose too, hiz chosən captinz, grate men ov wau raizd up bi him too be kingz ovə too qwautəz ov the wuuld. Dha wocht him like litl buudz undə the i ov a snake.
"The cuntry hiyyərəbout," ced the King, "iz not good fau hausmənship, and the Demənz be grate hausmən. Caacy iz strong, and nevvə can it be faust bi əsault. Aulso undə mine i shood mi men ov Wichland əqwit thəmcelvz too doo the gratist deedz. Dhaefau wil we əbide them hiyyə in Caacy, until yung Hemming cum and hiz levviz out ov Pixeland. Then shal ye faul uppon them and nevvə make an end til the land be uttəly puujd ov them, and aul the laudz ov Demənland be slane."

Kərinniyyəs ced, "Too hiyyə iz too əba, O King. Housowevvə, not too discembl widh u, Ide levə at əm at wuns, sted ov let them cit əwile and rifresh dhae aamy. Əcaizhn iz a wontən wench, O King, dhat iz qwic too beckən ənuthə man if wun looc coaldly on huu. Morovə, Laud, cood u not bi yau aat, in smaul time, widh suutn compəsishnz?----"

But the King brake in uppon him saying, "Dhou nowist not wot dhou spekist. Dhae iz thi saud; dhae thi men; these mi kəmaandz. Ce dhou pəfaum them puncchoowwəly wen time shal cum."

"Laud," ced Kərinniyyəs, "u shal not fiand me wonting."

Dhaewidh he did obaisns and went fauth from biffau the King.

The King ced untooh Corrənd, "Dhou hast mand him wel, this tasl-gentl. Dhae woz sum dain'gə he shood so mislike cəbgecshn untooh the in these acts maashl az it shood brede sum qworrəl shood litl spede ouə entəprise."

"Thhinc not u dhat, O King," aancəd Corrənd. "'Tiz grone like an aulmənac fau the paast yuu, paast date. A wil fede out ov mi hand nou."

"Biccoz dhou hast carrid it widh him," ced the King, "in so onnərəbl and opən planəs. Hoald on the rode dhou hast biggun, and be miandfəl stil dhat intoo thine hand iz ghivn the saud ov Wichland, and dharin hav I put mi trust fau this grate ouə."

Corrənd looct uppon the King widh gra and qwic ise shining like untooh the eeglz. He slapt hiz hevvy saud widh the flat ov hiz hand: "'Tiz a tuf fox, O mi Laud the King; wil not fale hiz maastə."

Dhaewidh, glad at the Kingz graishəs wuudz, he did obaisns untooh the King and went fauth from the chaimbə.

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The same nite dhae əpiyyəd in the ski impending ovə Caacy a blasing staa widh too booshiz. Corrənd bihheld it in an opən space bitwixt the cloudz az he went too hiz chaimbə. He ced naut ov it too hiz lady wife, lest it shood trubl huu; but she too had from huu windo cene dhat staa, yet spake not ov it too huu laud fau a like resən.

And King Gorice, citting in hiz chaimbə widh hiz bailfəl boox, bihheld dhat staa and its firy streməz, wich the King raathə notid dhan liact. Fau aulbeyit he mite not no ov a suutn wot wa dhat cine intendid, yet woz it əparrənt too wun so deeply luund in niagromancy and ceecrits astrənommicl dhat this thhing woz faitl, beying ov dhose proddidgiz and omminnəs prognostix wich fau-run the tradgickəl endz ov noabl puusnz and the roowinz ov staits.

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The thuud da following, wochmən bihheld from Caacy waulz in the pale mauning the aamiz ov the Demənz dhat fild the hole plane too southwəd. But ov the suckəz out ov Pixeland woz az yet no cine at aul. Gorice the King, əcauding az he had dittuumind, held aul hiz pouə qwiət within the fautris. But fau paacing ov the time, and biccoz it pleezd hiz miand too speke yet face too face widh the Laud Jus biffau this laast mautl triəl in aamz shood be biggun bitwixt them, the King cent Caddarrooce az hiz herrəld widh flagz ov trooce and olliv-braanchiz intoo the Demənz lianz. Bi wich mishn it woz kəncloodid dhat the Demənz shood widhdrau dhae aamiz thre boashots from the waulz, and dha ov Wichland shood əbide aul within the hoald; oanly the King widh fautene ov hiz foke unnaamd and Jus widh a like numbə unnaamd shood cum fauth intoo the midst ov the batəbl ground and dhae speke təghethə. And this meting must be at the thuud ouə aaftə noone.

So iathər paaty came too this paaly at the ouə əpointid. Jus went bae-heddid but, save fau dhat, aul aamd in hiz shining buuny widh gaugit and shoaldə-plaits damməsct and imbost widh wiəz ov goald, and goaldən leg-haanəs, and ringz ov red goald uppon hiz rists. Hiz cuutl woz ov wine-daac cilkən tishoo, and he wau dhat dusky cloke the cilfs had made fau

him, the collə warov woz stif widh broidəry and strainj
beests wuuct dharon in cilvə thred. Əcauding too the
compact he bae no weppən; oanly in hiz hand a shaut ivəry staaf
inlade widh preshəs stoanz, and the hed ov it a baul ov dhat
stone wich men caul Beləs i, dhat iz wite and hath within
it a blac apl, the midst warov a man shal ce too glittə
like goald. Verry maastəfəl and proud he stood biffau the King,
carriyying hiz hed like a stag dhat snifs the mauning. Hiz
bredhrən and Brandokh Daahaa rimmaind a pace au too bihhiand him,
widh King Gazlaac and the laudz Sig and Gro, and Melcaa and
Thaamrod and Stuucmə, Qwaz widh hiz too sunz, and Əstaa, and
Bremməry ov Shauz: goodly men and laudly too looc on, unweppənd
aul; and wundrəs woz the spaacl ov dhae jooəlz dhat wuu on
them.

Ovə əghenst them, ətending on the King, wuu these: Corrənd
king ov Impland, and Kərinniyyəs cauld king ov Demənland, Hacmən
and Vigləs Corrəndz sunz, Duke Caucəs and hiz sunz Deckəlagəs
and Goriyyəs, Uleən king ov Minniyyə, Olis laud ov Teckəpan, Duke
Aavəl ov Estrəganseə, the Red Folleyot, Uup the king ov Elleən,
and the counts ov Thramny and Tzuishə; unweppənd, but aaməd
too the throte, big men and strong the moast ov them and ov
laudly baring, yet nun too mach widh Kərinniyyəs and Corrənd.

The King, in hiz mantl ov coabrə-skinz, hiz staaf-roiəl in hiz
hand, topt bi haaf a hed aul dhose taul men əbout him,
frend and fo əlike. Lene and blac he touəd əmungst them,
like a thundə-blaastid pine-tre cene əghenst the suncet.

So, in the goaldən autəm aaftənoone, in the midst ov dhat sad
mane ov cejlandz wae bitwene slimy banx the wede-choact
Droomə deviyyəsly wiandz təwaud the ce, wuu dhose too men met
təghethə fau hoose ambishn and dhae pride the wuuld woz too
litl a place too kəntane them boath and pece liying bitwene

them. And like sum drousy dragghən ov the eldə slime, sqwot, cinnistə, and monstrəs, the cittədəl ov Caacy slept ovə aul.

Bi and bi the King spake and ced: "I cent fau the biccoz I thhinc it good I and dhou shood tauc təghethə wile yet iz time fau tauking."

Jus aancəd, "I qworrəl not widh dhat, O King."

"Dhou," ced the King, bending hiz brou uppon him, "aat a man wise and fiyyələs. I counsl the, and aul these dhat be widh the, tuun bac from Caacy. Wel I ce the blud dhou didst drinc in Mellecafkhaz wil not əla thi thuust, and wau iz too the thi puul and thi parrəmoowwə. Yet, if it be, tuun bac from Caacy. Dhou standist nou on the pinnəcl ov thine ambishn; wilt lepe hiə, dhou faulst in the əbis. Let the fau caunəz ov the uuth be shakən widh ouə wauz, but not this centə. Fau hiyyə shal no man gathə froote, but and if it be deth he gathə; au if, then this froote oanly, dhat Zokəm, dhat froote ov bittənəs, wich wen he shal hav taistid ov, aul the brite liats ov hevn shal biccum az daacnəs and aul uuths goodnəs az ashiz in hiz mouth aul hiz liafs dase until he di."

He pauzd. The Laud Jus stood stil, qwaling not at aul binneeth dhat dredfəl gase. Hiz cumpəny bihhiand him stuud and wispəd. Laud Brandokh Daahaa, widh mockəry in hiz i, ced sumwot too Goaldry Blusco undə hiz breth.

But the King spake əghen too the Laud Jus, "Be not disceevd. These thhingz I sa untooh the not az labəring too scae u from yau cet puupəs widh friats and fary-baibz: I no yau qwollitty too wel. But I hav red cianz in hevn: naut cliyyə, but thretfəl untooh boath u and me. Fau thi good I sa

it, O Jus, and əghen (fau dhat ouə laast speche levith the fuumist print) be ədviazd: tuun bac from Caacy au it be too late."

Laud Jus haakənd ətentivly too the wuudz ov Gorice the King, and wen he had endid, aancəd and ced, "O King, dhou hast ghivn us terreebl good counsl. But it woz ridlwise. And hiyyəring the, mine i woz stil on the croun dhou warist, made in the figghə ov a crab-fish, wich, biccoz it loox wun wa and gose ənuthə, mithaut did fitly patn out thi loocking too ouə perrəlz but ceking the wile thine one ədvaantij."

The King gave him an il looc, saying, "I am thi laud parrəmount. Widh subgicts it cits not too use this fəmilliyyə stile untooh dhae King."

Jus aancəd, "Dhou dust the and dhou me. And indede it wuu folly in iathər ov us twane too bend ne too tuthə, wen the laudship ov aul the uuth watith on the victə in ouə grate kəntenshn. Dhou hast bene opən widh me, Wichland, too let me no dhou aat unneghə too strike a feeld widh us. I wil be opən too, and I wil make an offə untooh the, and this it iz: dhat we wil dippaat out ov thi cuntry and doo no mau unpeesfəl deedz əghenst the (til dhou prəvoke us əghen); and dhou, ov thi paat, ov aul the land ov Demənland shalt ghiv up thi qworrəl, and ov Pixeland and Impland biscide, and shalt yeeld me up Caucəs and Kərinniyyəs thi suuvənts dhat I ma punnish them fau the beestly deedz dha did in ouə land wennaz we wuu not dhae too gaad it."

He ceest, and fau a minnit dha bihheld eche uthə in ciləns. Then the King liftid up hiz chin and smiald a dredfəl smile.

Kərinniyyəs wispəd mockingly in hiz iyyə, "Laud, u ma liatly ghiv əm Caucəs. Dhat wuu esy compəsishn, and fauls coin too mithhinx."

"Stand bac i thi place," ced the King, "and hoald thi pece." And untooh Laud Jus he ced, "Ov aul ensuwing haam the cauz iz in the; fau I am nou rizzolvd nevvə too put up mi saud until ov thi bleding hed I ma make a footbaul. And nou, let the uuth be əfrade, and Cinthhiyyə əbscuə huu shine: no mau wuudz but mum. Thundə and blud and nite must uzuup ouə paats, too kəmplete and make up the kətastrəfy ov this grate pece."

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Dhat nite the King wauct late in hiz chaimbə in the Iən Touə ələne. These thre yuuz paast he had celdəm rizzautid thithə, and then commənly but too bae əwa sum au uthə ov hiz boox too studdy in hiz one lodging. Hiz jaaz and flaasx and botlz ov bloo and grene and puupl glaas warin he kept hiz cuucid drugz and illecshoowwəriz ov ceecrit compəsishn, hiz athhəlz and athhənauz, hiz croociblz, hiz hausbellid rittauts and ələmbix and bainz-mərese, stood əro on shelvz cotid widh dust and hung əbout widh the dul spidəz wevingz; the fuunis woz coald; the glaas ov the windose woz cloudid widh duut; the waulz wuu mildude; the ae ov the chaimbə fusty and stagnənt. The King woz depe in hiz contəmplaishn, widh a big blac booc opən biffau him on the cix-cidid reding-stand: the damnəblist ov aul hiz boox, the same wich had taut him əfautime wot he must doo wen bi the wickid pouə ov enchaantmənt he had wontid but a litl too hav kənfoundid Demənland and aul the laudz dharov in deth and roowin.

The opən page undə hiz hand woz ov paachmənt disculləd widh age, and the riting on the page woz in carrəctəz ov ainshənt

out-ov-fashn crabdnes, hevvy and blac, and the grate
innishl lettəz and the illoominnatid baudəz wuu paintid and
ghildid in daac and firy huse widh reprizsentaishnz ov dredfəl
faciz and faumz ov suupənts and tode-faist men and aips and
manticcorz and succubi and incubi and əbcene reprizsentaishnz
and figghəz ov unlaufool mening. These wuu the wuudz ov the
riting on the page wich the King cond ovə and ovə,
fauling əghen intoo a depe studdy bitweenwialz, and then conning
these wuudz əghen ov an age-oald prəfettic riting tutching the
preyaudinnət destinniz ov the roiəl hous ov Gorice in Caacy:

Soo schel your ȟous stonde and bee
Unto eternytee
Yet walke warilie
Wyttinge ful sarteynlee
That if impiouslie
The secounde tyme in the bodie
Practisinge grammarie
One of ye katched shulle be
By the feyndis subtiltee
And ȟys liffe lossit bee
Broke ys thenne this serye
Dampned are you thenne eternallie
Yerth shuldestow thenne never more se
Scarsly the Goddes mought reskue ye
Owt of the Helle where you woll lie
Unto eternytee
The sterres tealde ȟit mee.

Gorice the King stood up and went too the soudh windo. The caismənt boalts wuu rustid: he faust them and dha floo bac widh a shreke and a clattə and a thhin shouə ov dust and grit. He opənd the windo and looct out. The hevvy nite groo too huu depth ov qwiət. Dhae wuu liats faa out in the maashiz, the liats ov Laud Jusciz camp-fiəz ov hiz aamiz gathəd əghenst Caacy. Scaesly widhout a chil mite a man hav looct uppon dhat King standing bi the windo; fau dhae woz in the taul lene frame ov him an iən aspect az ov no nachrəl flesh and blud but sum haadə coaldə ellimmənt; and hiz countinnəns, like the picchə ov sum daac divvinnitty gravən agiz əgo bi men long ded, bau the imprint ov dhose oald qwollittiz ov unrillenting pouə, scaun, viələns, and əpreshn, ainshənt az nite huucelf yet untucht bi age, yung az eche nite wen it shuts doun and oald and ellimmentl az the primeevl daac.

A long wile he stood dhae, then came əghen too hiz booc. "Gorice 7.," he ced in himcelf. "Dhat woz wuns in the boddy. And I hav dun bettə dhan dhat, but not yet wel ennuf. 'Tiz too hazsədəs, the ceckənd time, ələne. Corrənd iz a man undauntid in wau, but the man iz too soopəstishəs and qwakith at dhat wich hath not flesh and blud. Appərishnz and uuchin-shose can qwite unman him. Dhaez Kərinniyyəs, carith not fau God au man a point. But he iz too rash and unnədviazd: I wuu mad too trust him in it. Wuu the Goblin hiyyə, it mite be carrid. Damnəbl boath-ciadz villən, hese caast auf from me." He scand the page az if hiz piyyəcing ise wood thrust biyyond the barriyyəz ov time and deth and discuvvə sum nu mening in the wuudz wich shood əgry bettə widh the thhing hiz miand dizsiəd wile hiz jujmənt fəbad it. "He cez damd ittuunəly:' he cez dhat brakith the ciyyərese, and uuth shoodst dhou then nevvə mau ce.' Put him bi."

And the King sloly shut up hiz booc, and loct it widh thre padlox, and put bac the ke in hiz boozsəm. "The nede iz not yet," he ced. "The saud shal hav hiz da, and Corrənd. But if dhat fale me, then eevn this shal not tuun me bac but I wil doo dhat I wil doo."

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In the same ouə wen the King woz but nou entəd əghen intoo hiz one lodgingz, came throo a runnə ov Hemmingz too let them no dhat he, fiftene hundrəd strong, maacht doun the Wa ov Kingz from Pixeland. Morovə dha wuu advətiazd dhat the Demən flete la in the rivvə dhat nite, and it woz not unlike the ətac shood be in the mauning bi land and wautə.

Aul nite the King sate in hiz chaimbə hoalding counsl widh hiz genrəlz and audəring aul thhingz fau the morro. Aul nite long he cloazd not hiz ise an instənt, but the uthəz he made slepe bi tuunz biccoz dha shood be brisc and reddy fau the batl. Fau this woz dhae counsl, too drau out dhae hole aamy on the left banc biffau the brij-gate and dhae offə batl too the Demənz at point ov da. Fau if dha shood əbide within dauz and suffə the Demənz too cut yung Hemming auf from the brij-gate, then wuu he lost, and if the brij-hous shood faul and the brij, then mite the Demənz liatly ship wot faus dha pleezd too the rite banc and so cloasly invest them in Caacy. Ov an ətac on the rite banc dha had no fiyyə, wel nowing thəmcelvz aibl too cit within dauz and laaf at them, cins the waulz wuu dhae innixpugnəbl. But if a batl wuu nou braut əbout biffau the brij-gate az dha wuu miandid, and Hemming shood join in the fite from the eestwəd, dhae woz good hope dhat dha shood be aibl too crumpl up the batl ov the Demənz, driving them in uppon dhae centə from the west wialst Hemming smote them on the uthə paat. Waebi these

shood be caast intoo a grate rout and kənfuezhn and not be aibl too iscape əwa too dhae ships, but dhae in the fenlandz biffau Caacy shood be made a pra untooh the Witchiz.

Wen it woz the coald laast ouə biffau the daun the genrəlz tooc from the King dhae latist kəmaandz ae dha droo fauth dhae aamiz. Kərinniyyəs came fauth fuust from the Kingz chaimbə a litl wile biffau the rest. In the draafty corriddau the lamps swung and smoact, making an unsuutn windy lite. Kərinniyyəs ispide bi the staehed the Lady Srevə standing, wethə wotching too bid huu faathə ədu au but following iadl curiyyoscitty. Witchevvə it wuu, not a fico gave he fau dhat, but cumming swiftly uppon huu wisct huu əcide intoo an alcove wae the lite woz baely ennuf too let him ce the pale shimmə ov huu cilkən goun, daac hae pind luisly up in depe snaky coilz, and daac, ise shining. "Mi witty fauls wun, hav I caut the? Na, fite not. Thi breth smelz like cinnəmən. Kis me, Srevə."

"Ile not!" ced she, striving too iscape. "Nauty man, am I uezd dhus?" But fianding she got naut bi strugling, she ced in a lo vois, "Wel, if dhou bring bac Demənland too-nite, then, lets hoald mau chat."

"Haakən too the nauty traitris," ced he, "dhat but laast nite didst doo me sum uncivl discuutəciz, and nou spekith me fae: and wot a devl fau? if not cauz huucemith Ile liacly not cum bac aaftə this dase fite. But Ile cum bac, mistris kis-and-be-gon; i, bi the Godz, and Ile hav mi pamənt too."

Hiz lips fed depe on huu lips, hiz strong and gredy handz softly maastəd huu əghenst huu wil, til widh a litl smuthəd cri she imbraist him, broosing huu tendə boddy

əghenst the aamə he woz guut widhaul. Bitwene the kisciz she wispəd, "Yes, yes, too-nite." Shoowwəly he damd spiatfəl fauchoone, dhat cent him not this encountər bi an haaf-ouə soonə.

Wen he woz dippaatid, Srevə rimmaind in the shaddo ov the alcove too cet in audə huu hae and əparrəl, not a litl discərade in dhat hot woowing. Out ov wich daacnəs she had kənveniyyəns too əbzuuv the leve-taking ov Prezmirə and huu laud az dha came doun dhat windy corriddau and pauzd at the hed ov the staez.

Prezmirə had huu aam in hiz. "I no wae the Devl kepith hiz tale, maddəm," ced Corrənd. "And I no a verry tratə wen I ce him."

"Wen didst dhou evvə yet fae il bi following ov mi counsl, mi laud?" ced Prezmirə. "Au did I riffuse the evvə enny thhing dhou didst riqwiə me ov? These cevn yuuz cins I put auf mi maidn zone fau the; and twenty kingz saut me in swete marrij, but the I priffuud biffau them aul, ceying the faulkən shal not mate widh poppinjase nau the she-eegl widh swonz and bustədz. And wil u sa na too me in this?"

She stood round too face him. The pueplz ov huu grate ise wuu laaj in the doutfool lamplite, swollowing dhae grene fiəz in depe puilz ov mistəry and daacnəs. The rich and gaugəs aunəments ov huu croun and guudl ceemd but a poowwə caaskit fau dhat machləs buty wich woz huuz: huu face, wae evry noabl and swete qwollitty and evry thhing dizsirəbl ov uuth au hevn had fraimd eche fechə too itcelf: the glory ov huu hae, like the red sunz glory: huu hole boddese poiz and poschə, like a staitly buudz nu-litid aaftə flite.

"Dho it be verry roobaab too me," ced Corrənd, "shal I sa
na too the this tide? Not this tide, mi Qwene."

"Thanx, diyyə mi laud. Dissaam him and bring him in if u ma.
The King shal not riffuse us this too paadn hiz folly, wen
dhou shalt hav əbtaind this victəry fau him uppon ouə
ennəmiz."

The Lady Srevə mite hiyyə no mau, haakənd she nevvə so
curiyyəsly. But wen dha wuu nou cum too the stae foot,
Corrənd pauzd a minnit too tri the buclz ov hiz haanəs. Hiz
brou woz cloudid. At length he spake. "This shal be a batl
mautl fiyyəs and doutəs fau boath paatiz. 'Ghenst such
mity oppəsits az hiyyə we hav, tiz poscəbl: No mau; but
kis me, diyyə las. And if: tush, twil not be; and yet, Ide
not leve it unced: if il tide il, Ide not hav the waist
aul thi dase a-greving. Dhou nowist I am not wun ov yau souə
enviyyəs jax, bae so poowwə a kəncete ə thəmcelvz dha
bigruj dhae wiavz shood wed əghen lest the next huzbənd
shood proove the bettə man."

But Prezmirə came niyyə too him widh good and merry countinnəns:
"Let me stop thi mouth, mi laud. These be foolish thauts fau
a grate king gowing intoo batl. Cum bac in triəmf, and i
the mene ceezn thhinc on me dhat wate fau the; az a staa
waits, diyyə mi laud. And nevvə dout the issoo."

"The issoo," aancəd he, "Ile tel the wen tiz dun. Ime
no əstronnəmə. Ile hu widh mi saud, luv; spoil sum ov
dhae ghesciz if I ma."

"Good fauchoone and mi luv go widh the," she ced.

Srevə cumming fauth from huu hiding haisnd too huu muthəz

lodging, and dhae found huu dhat had just bid ədu too huu too sunz, huu face aul blubbəd widh tiyyəz. In the same instənt came the Duke huu huzbənd too chainj hiz saud, and the Lady Sennambriyyə caut him əbout the nec and wood hav kist him. But he shooc huu auf, criying out dhat he woz wiyyəry ov huu and huu slobbəring mouth; mennəcing huu bisciadz widh filthhy impriccaishnz, dhat he wood drag huu widh him and caast huu too the Demənz, hoo, cins dha had a strong loathing fau such ugly tits and stale oald trots, wood no dout hang huu up au discimbouəl huu and so rid him ov hiz laasting kənsumpshn. Dhaewidh he went fauth haistilly. But hiz wife and dautə, iathər weping uppon uthə, came doun intoo the caut, mening too go up too the touə əbuv the wautə-gate too ce the aamy maashld biyyond the rivvə. And on the wa Srevə rillatid aul she had huud ced bitwixt Corrənd and Prezmirə.

In the caut dha met widh Prezmirəz celf, and she gowing widh bliadh countinnəns and lite tred and humming a merry tune bad them good-morro.

"U can bae these thhingz mau braivleə dhan we, maddəm," ced Sennambriyyə. "We be too gentl-haatid mithhinx and pittiffəl."

Prezmirə riplide uppon huu, ""Tiz troo, maddəm, I hav not the weke cens ov sum ov u soft-ide wimpəring ladiz. And bi yau leve Ile kepe mi tiyyəz (wich be grate spoiləz ov the cheex biscide) until I nede əm."

Wen dha wuu paast bi, "Iz it not a stony-livvəd and a shaimləs huscy, O mi muthə?" ced Srevə. "And iz it not scandələs huu laafing and gesting, az I hav toald it the, wen she did bid him ədu, divvising oanly hou best she mite coax him too save the life ov yondə chaimbəing tratərəs hound?"

"Widh hoome," ced Sennambriyyə, "she woant too doo the thhing Ide thhinc shame too speke on. Trooly this forrən maddəm widh huu looce and wontən wase duth scandl the hole land fau us."

But Prezmirə went huu wa, glad dhat she had not bi an ilidz flickə let huu laud ghes wot a dred pəsest huu miand, hoo had in aul the bittə nite cene strainj and croowwəl vizhnz pautending los and roowin ov aul she held diyyə.

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Nou, wen daun əpiyyəd, woz the Kingz hole aamy draun out in batl əra biffau the brij-hous. Kərinniyyəs held kəmaand on the left. Dhae follode him fiftene hundrəd chosən truips ov Wichland, widh the Duex ov Trace and Estrəganseə, bisciadz these kingz and princiz widh dhae outlandish levviz: the king ov Minniyyə, Count Eskəbreyen ov Tzuishə, and the Red Folleyot. Caucəs led the centə, and widh him went King Uup ov Elleən and hiz grene-cotid sling-caastəz, the king ov Nevriyyə, Axtəkəs laud ov Puumeyo, the king ov Giltə, Olis ov Teckəpan, and uthə captinz: cevntene hundrəd men in aul. The rite the Laud Corrənd had chosən fau himcelf. Too thouznd Wichland truips, the liacliyyist and best, haadnd too wau in Impland and Demənland and the southheestən baudəz, follode hiz standəd, biscide the hevvy spiyyəmən ov Baultəry and saudzmən ov Butəny and Aa. Vigləs hiz sun woz dhae, and the Count ov Thramny, Caddarrooce, Diddaariyyəs ov Laagose, and the laud ov Estrəmərene.

But wen the Demənz wuu wae ov dhat grate aamy standing biffau the brij-gate, dha put thəmcelvz in əra fau batl. And dhae ships made reddy too moove up the rivvə undə Caacy, if bi enny meenz dha mite ətac the brij bi wautə and so cut auf fau the Witchiz dhae wa ov ritrete.

It woz brite lo sunshine, and the splendə ov the jooəld aamə ov the Demənz and dhae menny-culləd cuutlz and the pluimz dhat wuu in dhae helmz woz a wundə too bihhoald. This woz the audə ov dhae batl. On dhae left niyyərist the rivvə woz a grate cumpəny ov haus, and the Laud Brandokh Daahaa too lede them on a grate goaldən dun widh firy ise. Hiz iləndmen, Melcaa and Thaamrod, widh Camməraa ov Strəpaadən and Stricmə and Stipmaa, wuu the chefe captinz dhat rode widh him too dhat batl. Next too these came the hevvy truips from the eest, and the Laud Jus himcelf dhae ledə on a taul fiyyəs big-boand chesnut. Əbout him woz hiz pict boddiggaad ov haus, widh Bremməry ov Shauz dhae captin; and in hiz batl wuu these cheefs bisciadz: Əstaa ov Retra and Gismau Gleme ov Justdale and Perriddor ov Sule. Laud Spitfiə led the centə, and widh him Fendə ov Shalgreth, and Emməron, and the men ov Daalny, grate spiyyəmən; aulso the Duke ov Azzoomel, sumtime allide widh Wichland. Dhae went aulso widh him the Laud Gro, dhat scand stil dhose ainshənt waulz widh a hevvy haat, thhinking on the grate King within, and widh wot maastəry ov intəlect and wil he ruild dhose daac tuubulənt and bluddy men hoo bae swa undə him; thhinking on Qwene Prezmirə. Too hiz cic immadginning, the blacnis ov Caacy wich no brite mauning lite mite liatn ceemd not az ov oald the immij and embləm ov the roiəl hous ov Wichland and dhae hi magniffisncy and pouə on uuth, but raathə the shaddo throne biffau ov destinny and deth reddy too put doun dhat pouə fau evvə. Wich wethə it shood so biffaul au no he did not graitly cae, beying əwiyyəry ov life and liafs fevəz, wiald longingz, and igzaubittənt əfects, warov he thaut he had nou luunid much: dhat too him, hoo az it ceemd must stil əd'hiyyə too hiz one fose əbandəning the uthəz suuvis, fauchoone throo wottevvə chop cood bring no pece at laast. On the Demən rite the Laud Goaldry Blusco streemd hiz standəd, leding too batl the

soudh-fuuthhəz and the hevvy spiyyəmən ov Maadədale and Throwautə. Widh him woz King Gazlaac and hiz aamy ov Goblinland, and levviz from Ogediyyə and Ueshtlən, laitly rivvoaltid from dhae əlegəns too King Gorice. The Laud Sig, widh hiz lite haus ov Ramməric and Keelyəland and the nauthən dailz, cuvvəd dhae flanc too the eestwəd.

Gorice the King bihheld these dispəsishnz from hiz touə əbuv the wautə-gate. He bihheld, bisciadz, a thhing the Demənz mite not ce from billo, fau a litl swelling ov the ground dhat cut auf dhae vu, the maaching ov men faa əwa əlong the Wa ov Kingz from the eestwəd: yung Hemming widh the vascəlry ov Pixeland and Maltrəeny. He cent a trusty man too əprise Corrənd ov it.

Nou Laud Jus let blo up the batl caul, and widh the loud braying ov the trumpits the hoasts ov the Demənz swung fauth too batl. And the clash ov dhose aamiz wen dha met biffau Caacy woz like the buusting ov a thundəcloud. But like a grate ce-clif paishnt fau agiz undə the staum-windz' furiz, dhat not wun niats loud wind and chaaging brakəz can ware əwa, nau yet a thouznd thouznd niats, the imbatld strength ov Wichland met dhae oncet, mixt widh them, flung them bac, and stood unrimmuivd. Corrəndz iən bətalliyyənz bae in this fuust brunt the hevviyyist lode, and bae it throo. Fau the ships, widh yung Hespə Golthring in kəmaand moast fiyyəsly uuging them, ran up the rivvə too faus the brij, and Corrənd wialz he met on hiz frunt the oncet ov the flouə ov Demənland must stil be shot at bi these bihhiand. Hacmən and Vigləs, dhose yung princiz hiz sunz, wuu chaajd widh the wauding ov the brij and waulz too buun and brake up dhae ships. And dha ov aul handz bistuuring them twice and thrice throo bac the Demənz wen dha had gottən a footting on the brij; until in fine, boath ciadz fau a long space fiting verry croowwəly, it

fel out verry fattalli əghenst Hespə and hiz pouə, hiz ships
aul litid in a lo and the mau paat ov hiz foke buund au
dround au slane widh the saud; and himcelf aaftə menny and
grevəs wuindz in hiz laast ətempt left ələone on the brij,
and crauling too hav got əwa woz stabd in widh a dagghə and
dide.

Aaftə this the ships fel bac doun the rivvə, so menny az mite
əvale dhaetoo, and dhose sunz ov Corrənd, dhae taasc manfəly
foolfild, came fauth widh dhae foke too join in the mane
batl. And the smoke ov the buuning ships woz like incens in
the nostrəlz ov the King wotching these thhingz from hiz touə
əbuv the wautə-gate.

Litl pauz woz dhae bitwixt this fuust brunt and the next,
fau Hemming nou bae doun from the eest, drave in Sigz
hausmən dhat wuu hampəd in the hevvy ground, and prest
hiz oncet home on the Demən rite. Ələong the hole line from
Corrəndz poast biscide the rivvə too the eestən flanc wae
Hemming joind Kərinniyyəs the Witchiz nou cet on moast fiyyəsly;
and nou wuu the odz ov numbəz, wich wuu at fuust əghenst
them, swung mitilly in dhae favə, and undə this grate
cide-blo on hiz flanc not aul the Laud Goaldry Bluscose
soalgəship nau aul the terrə ov hiz mite in aamz cood
uphoald the Demənz batl-line. Yaad bi yaad dha fel bac
biffau the Witchiz, moast gloriyyəsly maintaning dhae əra
unbrokən, dho the outland alli broke and fled. Meentime on
the Demən left Jus and Brandokh Daahaa moast stubbənly widhstood
dhat onslaut, aulbeyit dha had too doo widh the fuust and chosən
truips ov Wichland. In wich strugl biffel the moast bluddy
fiting dhat woz yet cene dhat da, and the stouə ov batl so
aspə and so mautl dhat it woz haad too ce hou enny man shood
cum out from it widh life, cins not a man ov iathər cide
wood buj an inch but di dhae in hiz steps if he mite not

raathə sla the fo biffau him. So the aamiz swade fau an
ouə like rasləz loct, but in the end the Laud Corrənd had
hiz wa and held hiz ground biffau the brij-gate.

Rommənaad ov Daalny, galləping too Laud Jus wae he pauzd a
wile panting from viələns ov the batl braut him bi
Spitfiəz kəmaand tidingz from the rite: telling him Goaldrese
celf cood hoald no lon'ghər əghenst such odz: dhat the centə
yet held, but at the next oncet woz like too brake, au the rite
wing els be drivn in uppon dhae riyyə and aul ovəwelmd: "If
yau hinəs cannət thro bac Corrənd, aul iz lost."

In these shaut minnits lul (if lul it wuu wen aul the time
the batl like a sounding ce roald on widh a ceesləs noiz
ov riding and slaying and the clang ov aamz), Jus chose.
Demənland and the hole wuuldz destinniz hung on hiz chois.
He had no councələ. He had no time fau slo dillibbəraishn. In
such a momənt immadginnaishn, rezsəluishn, swift discizhn, aul hi
ghifts ov nachə, ar naut: swift hauciz gulft and lost in
the pit wich fate the ennəmy digd in the wa biffau them;
ixept painfəl nollij, staud up paishntly throo yuuz ov
practis, shal hav prippaed a rode shoowwə and clene fau dhae
fliying huivz too bae them in the grate ouə ov destinny. So it
woz from the bigghinning widh aul grate captinz: so widh the
Laud Jus in dhat ouə wen roowin swuipt uppon hiz aamiz. Fau
too minnits space he stood cilənt; then cent Bremməry ov Shauz
galləping westwəd like wun miandid too brake hiz nec widh hiz
audəz too Laud Brandokh Daahaa, and Rommənaad eestwəd əghen too
Spitfiə. And Jus himcelf riding fauwəd əmung hiz soalgəz
shoutid əmung them in a vois dhat woz like a trumpit
thundəring, dhat dha shood nou make reddy fau the fiyyəcist
triəl ov aul.

"Iz mi cuzn mad?" ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa, wen he sau and

undəstood the hole substəns and mattə ov it. "Au hath he found Corrənd so tame too dele widh he can make shift widhout me and wel ni haaf hiz strength, and yet widhstand him?"

"He loocith this hoald," aancəd Bremməry, "too snach at saifty. 'Tiz despərət, but aul uthə wase we but wate on distrucshn. Ouə rite iz clene drivn in, the left hoaldith but haadly. He chaagith yau hinəs brake dhae centə if u ma. Dha hav sumwot dain'gərəsly ədvaanst dhae left, and dharin iz dhae momən try perrəl if we be swift ennuf. But rimmembə dhat hiyyə, ə this cide, iz dhae gratist pouə biffau us, and if we be welmd ae u can cumpəs it----"

"No mau but Yes," ced Laud Brandokh Daahaa. "Time galləpith: so must we."

Eevn so in dhat ouə wen Goaldry and Sig, ghivving wa step bi step biffau soopiyyəriyyə odz, wuu bent bac wel ni widh dhae bax too the rivvə, and Corrənd on the Demənz left had aaftə a bittə batl chect and held them and thretnd nou too kəmplete in wun mau grate blo the roowin ov them aul, Jus, choosing a despərət ixpediyyənt too mete a dain'gə dhat els must distroi him, wekənd hiz haad-prest left too thro Brandokh Daahaa and wel ni ate hundrəd haus intoo Spitfiəz batl too drive a wej bitwixt Caucəs and Kərinniyyəs.

It woz nou long paast noone. The tempist ov batl dhat had qwiətnd əwile fau uttə wiyyərinnəs raud fauth ənu from wing too wing az Brandokh Daahaa huuld hiz hausmən uppon Caucəs and the subgict alli, wile aul əlong the batl-line the Demənz rallid too fling bac the ennəmy. Fau a brethləs wile, the issoo hung in cəspens: then the men ov Giltə and Nevriyyə broke and fled, Brandokh Daahaa and hiz cavvəlry swept throo the gap, weeld rite and left and tooc Caucəs and Kərinniyyəs in

flanc and riyyə.

Dhae fel in this oncet Axtəkəs laud ov Puumeyo, the kingz ov Elleən and Giltə, Goriyyəs the sun ov Caucəs, the Count ov Tzuishə, and menny uthə noablmən and men ov maac. Ov the Demənz menny wuu huut and menny slane, but nun ov grate note save Cammməraa ov Strəpaadən, hoose hed Kərinniyyəs swopt auf clene widh a blo ov hiz batl-ax, and Trentmaa hoome Caucəs smote fool in the stummməc widh a javvəlin so dhat he fel doun from hiz haus and woz ded at wuns. Nou woz aul the left and centə ov the Witchiz batl throne intoo grate kənfuezhn, and the alli moast ov aul faulən intoo dissaudə and fane too yeeld thəmcelvz and pra fau muucy. The King, ceying the ixtent ov this dizzaastə, cent a galləpə too Corrənd, hoo straitwa cent too Caucəs and Kərinniyyəs kəmaanding them ghet them at dhae spediyyist widh aul dhae foke bac intoo Caacy wile time yet suuvd. Himcelf in the meentime, showing nou, like the sun, hiz gratist countinnəns in hiz lowist istate, cet on widh hiz wiyyəry aamy too stem the ədvaans ov Jus, hoo nou momənt ly gathəd fresh faus əghenst him, and too kepe opən fau the rest ov the Kingz fauciz dhae wa bi the brij-gate intoo Caacy. Kərinniyyəs, wen he undəstood it, galləpt thithə widh a band ov men too ade Corrənd, and this did liaqwise Hemming and Deckəlagəs and uthə captinz ov the Witchiz. But Caucəs himcelf, counting the da lost and kənciddəring dhat he woz an oald man and had faut nou long ennuf, gat him privvilly bac intoo Caacy az qwicly az he woz aibl. And trooly he woz bleding from menny wuindz.

Bi this grate stand ov Corrənd and hiz men woz time wun fau a grate paat ov the rezsiddu ov the aamy too iscape intoo Caacy. And evvə the Witchiz wuu put əbac and lost much ground, yet evvə the Laud Corrənd bi hiz grate valliyyəns and noabl haat recumfətid hiz foke, so dhat dha gave bac verry sloly, moast

bluddilly disputing the ground foot bi foot too the brij-gate,
dhat dha aulso mite win in əghen, so menny az mite. Jus ced,
"This iz the gratist dede ov aamz dhat evvə I in the dase ov
mi life did ce, and I hav so grate an adməraishn and wundə
in mi haat fau Corrənd dhat aulmoast I wood ghiv him pece. But
I hav swaun nou too hav no pece widh Wichland."

Laud Gro woz in dhat batl widh the Demənz. He ran Diddaariyyəs
throo the nec widh hiz saud, so dhat he fel doun and woz
ded.

Corrənd, wen he sau it, heevd up hiz ax, but chainjd hiz
intenshn in the mannij, saying, "O landskip ov inniqwitty, shalt
dhou kil biscide me the men ov mine hous'hoald? But mi
frendship cittith not on a wethə vane. Liv, and be a
tratə."

But Gro, beying mitilly muivd widh these wuudz, and staring at
grate Corrənd wide-ide like a man rouzd from a dreme,
aancəd, "Hav I dun əmis? 'Tiz esy remmədid." Dhaewidh he
tuund əbout and sloo a man ov Demənland. Wich Spitfiə
ceying, he cride out uppon Gro in a grate rage fau a moast filthhy
tratə, and bluddilly rushing in thrust him throo the buclə
intoo the brane.

In such wise and bi such a sudn ven'gəns did the Laud Gro
moast mizrəbly end hiz life-dase. Hoo, beying a filloscəfə and
a man ov pece, caeləs ov pəticculə thhingz ov uuth, had
follode and əbzuuvd aul hiz dase stedfaastly wun hevnly
staa; yet nou in the bluddy batl biffau Caacy dide in the
commən əpinniyyən ov men a manniffoald puugəd tratə, dhat had at
length gottən the guudən ov hiz ghile.

Nou came the Laud Jus widh a grate rout ov men aamd on hiz

grate haus widh hiz saud dripping widh blud, and the batl sprang up intoo yet mau noiz and fury, and grate man-slaying biffel, and menny aibl men ov Wichland fel in dhat stouə and the Demənz had aulmoast put them from the brij-gate. But the Laud Corrənd, ralliyying hiz foke, swung bac yet əghen the batl-tide, aulbeyit he woz bi a grate odz outnumbəd. And he saut nun but Jus himcelf in dhat dedly mella; hoo wen he sau him cumming he riffuezd him not but made əghenst him moast fiyyəsly, and widh grate clanging blose dha swopt təghethə əwile, until Corrənd hude Jusciz sheeld əsundə and struc him from hiz haus. Jus, leping up əghen, thrust up at Corrənd widh hiz saud and widh the viələns ov the blo brake throo the ringz ov hiz buuny əbout hiz midl and drave the saud intoo hiz brest. And Corrənd feld him too uuth widh a grate doun-stroke on the helm, so dhat he la censlis.

Stil the batl raijd biffau the brij-gate, and grate wuindz wuu ghivn and takən ov iathər cide. But nou the sunz ov Corrənd sau dhat dhae faathə had lost much ov hiz blud and waxt feebl, and the rezsiddu ov hiz foke ceying it too, and ceying thəmcelvz so fu əghenst so menny, biggan too be əbasht. So dhose sunz ov Corrənd, riding up too him on iathər cide widh a band ov men, made him tuun bac widh them and go widh them in bi the gate too Caacy, the wich he did like a man əmaizd and nowing not wot he doowith. And indede it woz a grate maavl hou so grate a laud, wuindid too the deth, mite cit on hausbac.

In the grate caut he woz gottən doun from hiz haus. The Lady Prezmirə, wen she pəceevd dhat hiz haanəs woz aul red widh blud, and sau hiz wuind, fel not doun in a swoone az ənuthə mite, but tooc hiz aam əbout huu shoaldə and so cəpautid, widh huu step-sunz too help huu, dhat grate frame wich cood no mau cəpaut itcelf yet had til dhat ouə baun up əghenst the hole wuuldz strength in aamz. Lechiz came dhat she had

cauld fau, and a littə, and dha braut him too the banqwit haul. But aaftə no long wile dhose luund men kənfest hiz huut woz dedly, and aul dhae cunning naut. Waruppon, much disdaning too di in bed, not in the feeld fiting widh hiz ennəmiz, the Laud Corrənd cauzd himcelf, kəmpleetly aamd and weppənd, widh the stainz and dust ov the batl yet uppon him, too be cet in hiz chae, dhae too əwate deth.

Hemming, wen this woz dun, came too tel it too the King, wae from the touə əbuv the wautə-gate he bihheld the end ov this batl. The Demənz held the brij-hous. The fite woz dun.
The King sat in hiz chae loocking doun too the batl-feeld. Hiz daac mantl woz əbout hiz shoaldəz. He leend fauwəd resting hiz chin in hiz hand. Dha ov hiz boddiggaad, nine au ten, stood hudld təghethə sum yaadz əwa az if əfrade too əproche him.
Az Hemming came niyyə, the King tuund hiz hed sloly too looc at him. The lo sun, swin'ging blud-red ovə Tennəmos, shon fool on the Kingz face. And az Hemming looct in the face ov the King fiyyə gat hoald uppon him, so dhat he duust not speke a wuud too the King, but made obaisns and dippaatid əghen, trembling like wun hoo haz cene a cite biyyond the vale.

32. The Lattə End ov Aul the Laudz ov Wichland

OV THE COUNSL OV WAU; AND HOU THE LAUD CAUCƏS, BEYING RIDGECTID
OV THE KING, TUUND HIZ THAUTS TOO UTHƏ THHINGZ; AND OV THE
LAAST CUN'GƏRING DHAT WOZ IN CAACY AND THE LAAST WINE-BIBBING; AND

HOU YET WUNS ƏGHEN THE LADY PREZMIRƏ SPAKE WIDH THE LAUDZ OV
DEMƏNLAND IN CAACY.

Gorice the King held in hiz privit chaimbə a counsl ov wau on the morro ov the batl biffau Caacy. The mauning woz ovə-caast widh sullən cloud, and dho aul the windose wuu throne wide the slugghish ae hung hevvy in the roome, az if it too wuu pəvadid bi the coald daac humə dhat clogd the viatlz ov dhose laudz ov Wichland like a drousy drug, au az if the staaz wood breedh thəmcelvz fau a gratə mischif. Pale and draun wuu dhose laudz faciz; and, fau aul dha strove too put on a brave countinnəns biffau the King, clene gon woz the vigghə and wau-like mene dhat cloadhd them but yestəda. Oanly Kərinniyyəs kept sum spring ov hiz oald valliyyəncy and pautly baring, cetid widh aamz əkimbo ovə əghenst the King, hiz hevvy undə-jau cet fauwəd and hiz nostrəlz wide. He had slept il au wocht late, fau hiz ise wuu blud-shotten, and the breth ov hiz nostrəlz woz hevvy widh wine.

"We tarry fau Caucəs," ced the King. "Had he not wuud ov mi bidding?"

Deckəlagəs ced, "Laud, I wil summən him əghen. These misfauchuinz I fiyyə me hang hevvy on hiz miand, and, bi yau madgistese leve, he iz scaes hiz one man cins yestəda."

"Doo it strate," ced the King. "Ghiv me thi papəz, Kərinniyyəs. Dhou aat mi genrəl cins Corrənd gat hiz deth. I wil ce wot yestəda hath cost us and wot pouə yet rimmanith too crush me these snaix bi faus ov aamz."

"These be the numbəz, O King," ced Kərinniyyəs. "But thre thouznd and five hundrəd fiting men, and wel ni haaf ov

these ovə much cripld widh wuindz too doo aut save bihhiand cloazd waulz. It wuu but too ghiv the Demənz esy victəry too ədvenchə əghenst them, dhat stand biffau Caacy fau thouznd sound men in aamz."

The King bloo scaunfəly throo hiz nostrəlz. "Hoo toald the dhae strength?" ced he.

"It wuu dain'gərəs too rite them doun a man fuə," aancəd Kərinniyyəs. And Hacmən ced, "Mi Laud the King, I wood ədvenchə mi hed dha hav mau. And yau madgisty wil not fəghet dha be aul flone widh eghənəs and pride aaftə yestədase feeld, waraz ouə men----"

"Wuu ye sunz ov Corrənd," ced the King, braking in qwiətly on hiz speche and loocking dain'gərəsly uppon him, "but twigz ov yau faathəz tre, dhat he beying cut doun ye hav no manhood left nau viatl sap, but strate withə in iddiyyətish dotij? I wil not hav these woommənish counslz spoke in Caacy; no, nau thaut in Caacy."

Kərinniyyəs ced, "We had shoowwə intellidgəns, O King, wennaz dha landid dhat dhae mane aamy woz cix thouznd fiting men; and laast nite micelf spake widh fool a scau ov ouə offiscəz, and had a troo tale ov sum fu ov the Demənz capchəd bi us biffau dha wuu slane widh the saud. Wen I sa too u Jus standith biffau Caacy fau thouznd strong, I swel not the truith. Hiz losciz yestəda wuu but a fle-biting ghenst ouəz."

The King noddid a cuut əcent.

Kərinniyyəs prəcedid, "If we mite kəntrive indede too rase help from widhout Caacy, wuu it but five hundrəd spiyyəz too distract hiz miand sum paat from uswəd, naut but yau madgistese

strict kəmaand shood sta me but I shood əsault him. It wuu perrələs eevn so, but nevvə hav u none me leve a froote unpluct at fau fiyyə ov thaunz. But until dhat time, naut but yau strate kəmaand mite win me too essa a sally. Cins wel I wot it wuu mi deth, and the roowin ov u, O King, and ov aul Wichland."

The King lisnd widh unmuivd countinnəns, hiz shaivn lip cet sumwot in a sniyyə, hiz ise haaf cloazd like the ise ov a cat coucht sfinx-like in the sun. But no sun shon in dhat counsl chaimbə. The ledn paul hung daakə widhout, eevn az mauning groo təwaud noone. "Mi Laud the King," ced Hemming, "cend me. Too ovəslip dhae gaadz i the nite, tiz not a thhing biyyond invenshn. Dhat dun, Ide gathə u sum smaul hed ov men, ennuf too suuv this tuun, if I must rake the cevn kingdəmz too fiand əm."

Wile Hemming spoke, the dau opənd and the Duke Caucəs entəd the chaimbə. An il cite woz he, flabbiyyə ov cheke and dullə ov i dhan woz hiz woant. Hiz face woz bludləs, hiz grate paunch ceemd shrunkən, and hiz shoaldəz yet mau huncht cins yestəda. Hiz gate woz unsuutn, and hiz hand shooc az he muivd the chae from the baud and tooc hiz cete biffau the King. The King looct on him əwile in ciləns, and undə dhat gase beedz ov swet stood on Caucəciz brou and hiz undə-lip twicht.

"We nede thi counsl, O Caucəs," ced the King. "Dhus it iz: cins ouə il-faist staaz gave victəry too the Demən rebbəlz in yestədase batl, Jus and hiz bredhrən frunt us widh fau thouznd men, wialz I hav not too thouznd soalgəz unhuut in Caacy. Kərinniyyəs əcountith us too weke too risc a sally but and if we mite kəntrive sum divuushn from widhout. And dhat (aaftə yestəda) iz not too be thaut on. Hithə and too

Mellecafkhaz did we drau aul ouə pouəz, and the subgict alli not fau ouə luv but fau fiyyə sake and fau lust ov gane floct too ouə standəd. These cattəpilləz drop auf nou. Yet if we fite not, then iz ouə strength in aamz clene spent, and ouə ennəmiz nede but too cit biffau Caacy til we be staavd. 'Tiz a point ov grate diffickəlty and notty too solv."

"Diffickəlt indede, O mi Laud the King," ced Caucəs. Hiz glaans shiftid round the baud, əvoiding the steddy gase bent on him from binneeth the eevz ov King Goriciz brou, and resting at laast on the jooəld splendə ov the croun ov Wichland on the Kingz hed. "O King," he ced, "u dimmaand mi rede, and I shal not sa nau counsl u nuthhing but dhat good and wel shal cum dharov, az much az yet ma be in this paas we stand in. Fau nou iz ouə graitnəs tuund in wo, dollə, and hevvinnəs. And esy it iz too be aaftə-witted."

He pauzd, and hiz undə-jau wobld and twicht. "Speke on," ced the King. "Dhou stuttərist fauth nuthhingz bi fits and guudz, az an agu takith a gooce. Let me no thi rede."

Caucəs ced, "U wil not take it, I no, O King. Fau we ov Wichland hav evvə bene ruild bi the roc raathə dhan bi the ruddə. I had levə be cilənt. Ciləns woz nevvə ritn doun."

"Dhou woodst, and dhou woodst not!" ced the King. "Wens gottist dhou this looc ov a dish ov wa widh blud spit in it? Speke, au dhoult an'ghə me."

"Then blame me not, O King," ced Caucəs. "Dhus it cemith too me, dhat the ouə hath struc wennaz we ov Wichland must needz looc kəlammitty in the i and əcnollij we hav throne ouə laast, and lost aul. The Demənz, az we hav cene too ouə undoowing,

be unconkərəbl in wau. Yet ar dhae miandz pranct widh menny cilly fantəciz ov onnə and cuutəcy wich ma prizzuuv us the poowwə dregz yet unspilt from the cup ov ouə fauchoone, if we but leve unceeznəbl pride and ce wae ouə ədvaantij liyith."

"Chat, chat, chat!" ced the King. "Pədishn cach me if I can fiand a mening in it! Wot dust dhou bid me doo?"

Caucəs met the Kingz i at laast. He braist himcelf az if too mete a blo. "Thro not yau cloke in the fiə biccoz yau hous iz buuning, O King. Cərendə aul too Jus at hiz discreshn. And trust me the foolish softnəs ov these Demənz wil leve us fredəm and the waewidhaul too liv at ese."

The King woz leend a litl fauwəd az Caucəs, sumwot dri-throtid but gathəring haat az he spake, bluutid fauth hiz counsl ov diffete. No man əmung them looct on Caucəs, but aul on the King, and fau a minuets space woz no sound save the sound ov breething in dhat chaimbə. Then a puf ov hot ae bloo a windo too widh a thud, and the King widhout mooving hiz hed roald hiz aufəl glaans fauth and bac ovə hiz counsl sloly, fixing eche in hiz tuun. And the King ced, "Untooh wich ov u iz this counsl əxeptəbl? Let him speke and instruct us."

Aul did cit mum like beests. The King spake əghen, saying, "It iz wel. Wuu dhae ov mi counsl such ənuthə vuumin, so sottish, so lous-haatid, az this wun hath prəclaimd himcelf, I had bene pəswadid Wichland woz a slepy pae, kəruptid in huu inwəd paats. And dhat wuu so, I had ghivn audə straitwa fau the sally; and, fau hiz chaisning and yau dissonnə, this Caucəs shood hav led u. And so an end, ae the impoast'hume ov ouə shame brake fauth too foul biffau uuth and hevn."

"I ədmiə not, Laud, dhat u doo strike at me," ced Caucəs. "Yet I pra u thhinc hou menny Kingz in Caacy hav heept widh injoowwəriyyəs indignittiz them dhat wuu so haady az ghiv them hoalcəm counsl əfau dhae faul. Dho yau madgisty wuu a haaf-god au a Fury out ov the pit, u cood not bi fuuthə rizsisting dillivvə us out ov this net warin the Demənz hav gottən us caut and tide. U can kepe ghece no lon'ghər, O King. Wil u rend me biccoz I bid u be kəntent too kepe gozlingz?"

Kərinniyyəs smote the taibl widh hiz fist. "O monstrəs vuumin!" he cride, "biccoz dhou wost scauldid, must aul we be əfiyyəd ov coald wautə?"

But the King stood up in hiz madgisty, and Caucəs shranc binneeth the flame ov hiz roiəl an'ghə. And the King spake and ced, "The counsl iz up, mi laudz. Fau the, Caucəs, I dizmis the from mi counsl. Dhou aat too thanc mi clemməncy dhat I take not thi hed fau this. It wuu fau thi bettə saifty, wich wel I no dhou prisist diyyərə dhan mine onnə, dhat dhou sho not in mi paath til these perrələs dase be ovəpaast." And untooh Kərinniyyəs he ced, "On thi hed it liyith dhat the Demənz staum not the hoald, az haply dhae hot pride ma incens them too ətempt. Ixpect me not at suppə. I li in the Iən Touə too-nite, and let nun distuub me dhae at perrəl ov hiz hed. U ov mi counsl must ətend me hiyyə fau ouəz ae too-morrose noone. Looc too it wel, Kərinniyyəs, dhat naut shalt dhou doo nau in enny wise ədvenchə ouə fauciz əghenst the Demənz til dhou risceve mi fuuthə bidding, save oanly too hoald Caacy əghenst enny əsault if nede be. Fau this thi life shal aancə. Fau the Demənz, dha wuu wisist prase a fae da at nite. If mine ennəmy uproote a boaldə əbuv mi dwelling, so I be mity ennou ov mine handz I ma, eevn in the nic ov time dhat it tottərith too lepe

and crush mine hous, oəcet it on him and pash him too a mummy."

So speking, the King muivd rezsəloote widh a grate strong step təwaud the dau. Dhae pauzd he, hiz hand uppon the cilvə lach, and loocking tighərishly on Caucəs, "Be ədviazd," he ced, "dhou. Cros not mi paath əghen. Nau, wile I thhinc ont, cend me not thi dautə əghen, az laast yuu dhou didst. Apt too the spaut she iz, and wel ennou she suuvd mi tuun əfautime. But the King ov Wichland suppith not twice ov the same dish, nau lackith he fresh wenchiz if he nede them."

Warat aul dha laaft. But Caucəciz face groo red az blud.

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On such wise brake up the counsl. Kərinniyyəs widh the sunz ov Corrənd and ov Caucəs went uppon the waulz audəring aul in əbediyyəns too the wuud ov Gorice the King. But dhat oald Duke Caucəs bittooc him too hiz chaimbə in the nauth gallərу. Nau mite he əbide eevn a smaul wile at ese, but sate nou in hiz caavən chae, nou on the windo-cil, nou on hiz braud-cannəpid bed, and nou wauct the chaimbə flau twisting hiz handz and nauwing hiz lip. And if he wuu distraut in miand, smaul wundə it wuu, cet az he woz bitwixt hauc and buzsəd, the Kingz roth mennəcing him in Caacy and the hoasts ov Demənland widhout.

So wau the da til suppə-time. And at suppə woz Caucəs, too dhae much əmase, citting in hiz place, and the ladiz Sennambriyyə and Srevə widh him. He dranc depe, and wen suppə woz dun he fild a goblit saying, "Mi laud the king ov Demənland and ye uthə Witchiz, good it iz dhat we, hoo stand az nou we stand widh wun foot in the jauz ov distrucshn,

shood bae widh wun ənuthə. Niathər shood enny hide hiz
thaut from uthə, but sa opənly, eevn az I this mauning
biffau the face ov ouə Laud the King, hiz thaut and counsl.
Waefau widhout shame doo I kənfes me il-ədviazd too-da,
wen I uujd the King too make pece widh Demənland. I wax oald,
and oald men wil oft imbrace timmərəs counslz wich, if dhae
be wizdəm and valliyyəncy left in them, dha soone rinnouns wen
the stres iz ovəpaast and dha hav lezhə too aaftəthhinc them
widh a sad miand. And cliyyə az da it iz dhat the King woz
rite, boath in hiz chaisning ov mi faint currij and in hiz
bidding the, O King Kərinniyyəs, stand too thi woch and doo naut
til this nite be waun. Fau went he not too the Iən Touə? And
too wot end els spendith he the nite in yondə chaimbə ov
dred dhan too doo saucəry au hiz madgic aat, az əfautime he did,
and in such wise blaast these Demənz too pədishn eevn in the
spring-tide ov dhae fauchuinz? At no point ov time hath
Wichland gratə nede ov ouə wishiz dhan at this cumming
midnite, and I pra u, mi laudz, let us mete a litl biffau
in this haul dhat we widh wun haat and miand ma drinc fae
fauchoone too the Kingz enchaantəry."

Widh such pleznt wuudz and cimpəthhettickəl incinnuwaishnz,
wuuking at a ceezn wen the wine-cup had cauzd unfoald sum
ganəs in dhae haats dhat wuu faudun widh the haad scaips
and chaanciz ov dizzaastrəs wau, woz Caucəs grone too frendship
əghen widh the laudz ov Wichland. So, wen the gaad woz cet
and aul made shoowwə fau the nite, dha came təghethə in the
grate banqwit haul, waraz mau dhan thre yuuz əgo the
Prins La Firrese had feestid and aaftə faut əghenst them ov
Wichland. But nou woz he dround əmung the shifting tiadz in
the Straits ov Mellecafkhaz. And the Laud Corrənd, dhat faut
dhat nite in such valliyyənt wise, nou in dhat same haul, aamd
from throte too foot az biccummith a grate soalgə ded, la in
state, cround on hiz brou widh the ammithhistine croun ov

Impland. The spaishəs cide-benchiz wuu untennəntid and void dhae hi ceets, and the cros-bench woz rimmuivd too make place fau Corrəndz biyyə. The laudz ov Wichland sate at a smaul taibl billo the dayis: Kərinniyyəs in the cete ov onnə at the end niyyərist the dau, and ovə əghenst him Caucəs, and on Kərinniyyəciz left Sennambriyyə, and on hiz rite Deckəlagəs sun too Caucəs, and then Hemming; and on Caucəciz left hiz dautə Srevə, and dhose too rimmaning ov Corrəndz sunz on hiz rite. Aul wuu dhae save Prezmirə, and huu had nun cene cins huu laudz deth, but she kept huu chaimbə. Flamboiz stood in the cilvə standz az ov oald, liting the loanly spaciz ov the haul, and fau candlz shivvəd round the biyyə wae Corrənd slept. Fae goblits stood on the baud brimd widh daac swete Thramneən wine, wun fau eche feestə dhae, and coald bakən pise and botaagose and crau-fish in hippəcras saus fuunisht a lite midnite mele.

Nou scaes wuu dha cet, wen the flamboiz buund pale in a strainj lite from widhout dauz: an eevl, pallid, bale-like lo, such az Gro had bihheld in dase gon bi wen King Gorice 12. fuust cun'gəd in Caacy. Kərinniyyəs pauzd ae taking hiz cete. Goodly and staulwət he shode in hiz bloo cilc cloke and cilvəd buuny. The fae croun ov Demənland, waewidh Caucəs had bene enfaust too croun him on dhat grate nite in Oulzwic, shon əbuv hiz lite broun cuuling hae. Ueth and lustihhood stood fauth in evry line ov hiz grate frame, and on hiz bae aamz smuidh and brauny, widh dhae ristlits ov goald; but sumwot gaastly woz the caups-like pallə ov dhat lite on hiz shaivn joul, and hiz thhic scaunfəl lips wuu blackənd, like dhose ov poiznd men, in dhat lite ov bale.

"Sau ye not this lite əfautime?" he cride, "and twoz the shaddo biffau the sun ov ouə omnippətəns. Faits hammə iz

liftid up too strike. Drinc widh me too ouə Laud the King dhat labərith widh destinny."

Aul dranc depe, and Kərinniyyəs ced, "Paas we on the cups dhat eche ma drane hiz nabəz. 'Tiz an oald lucky custəm Corrənd taut me out ov Impland. Swift, fau the fate ov Wichland iz poizd in the balləns." Dhaewidh he paast hiz cup too Sennambriyyə, hoo qwoft it too the dregz. And aul dha, paacing on dhae cups, dranc depe əghen; aul save Caucəs əlone. But Caucəciz ise wuu big widh terrə az he looct on the cup paast on too him bi Corrəndz sun.

"Drinc, O Caucəs," ced Kərinniyyəs; and ceying him stil wavə, "Wot ailz the oald doting dizaad?" he cride. "He starith on good wine widh an i az gaastly az a mad dogz bihhoalding wautə."

In dhat instənt the unnuuthly glae went out az a lamp in a gust ov wind, and oanly the flamboiz and the funərəl candlz flickəd on the feestəz widh unsuutn radiyyəns. Kərinniyyəs ced əghen, "Drinc."

But Caucəs cet doun the cup untaistid, and stade irrezsəloote. Kərinniyyəs opənd hiz mouth too speke, and hiz jau fel, az ov a man dhat kəncevith sudnly sum dred cəspishn. But ae he mite speke wuud, a blianding flash went from uuth too hevn, and the fuum flau ov the banqwit haul roct and shooc az widh an uuthqwake. Aul save Kərinniyyəs fel bac intoo dhae ceets, clutching the taibl, əmaizd and dum. Crash aaftə crash, aaftə the lisning iyyə woz wel ni split bi the rau, the horrə brokən out ov the bouəlz ov nite thundəd and ravnd in Caacy. Laaftə, az ov damd soalz banqwitting in Hel, rode on the tauchəd ae. Wialdfiə tau the daacnəs əsundə, haaf blianding them dhat sat əbout dhat taibl, and Kərinniyyəs gript

the baud widh iathər hand az a laast defning crash shooc the waulz, and a flame rusht up the nite, liting the hole ski widh a livvid glae. And in dhat trisulc flash Kərinniyyəs bihheld throo the soudh-west windo the Iən Touə blaastid and cleft əsundə, and the next instənt faulən in an avvəlaansh ov red-hot roowin.

"The kepe hath faulən!" he cride. And, dedly wiyyərid on a sudn, he sanc hevvilly intoo hiz cete. The cattəclizsəm woz paast bi like a wind in the nite; but nou woz huud a sound az ov the ennəmy rushing too the əsault. Kərinniyyəs strove too rise, but hiz legz wuu ovə feebl. Hiz i lit on Caucəciz untaistid cup, dhat wich woz paast on too him bi Vigləs Corrəndz sun, and he cride, "Wot devlz wuuc iz this? I hav a strainj numnəs in mi boanz. Bi hevnz, dhou shalt drinc dhat cup au di."

Vigləs, hiz ise prətrooding, hiz hand clutching at hiz brest, strugld too rise but cood not.

Hemming haaf stagghəd up, fumbling fau hiz saud, then picht fauwəd on the taibl widh a horrid ratl ov the throte.

But Caucəs leept up trembling, hiz dul ise əflame widh triyumfənt mallis. "The King hath throne and lost," he cride, "az wel I fausau it. And nou hav the childrən ov nite takən him too thəmcelvz. And dhou, damd Kərinniyyəs, and u sunz ov Corrənd, ar but ded swine biffau me. Ye hav aul drunc vennəm, and ye ar ded. Nou wil I dillivvə up Caacy too the Demənz. And it, and yau boddiz, widh mine ellecturih rotting in yau viatlz, shal bi me pece from Demənland."

"O horrəbl! Then I too am poiznd," cride the Lady Sennambriyyə, and she fel a-swooning.

"'Tiz pitty," ced Caucəs. "Blame the paacing ov the cups fau dhat. I mite not speke ae the poizn had chaind me the limz ov these cuucid devlz, and made əm haamləs."

Kərinniyyəciz jau cet like a booldogz. Painfəly gritting hiz teeth he rose from hiz cete, hiz saud nakid in hiz hand. Caucəs, dhat woz nou paacing niyyə him on hiz wa too the dau, sau too late dhat he had reckənd widhout hiz hoast. Kərinniyyəs, aulbeyit the bainfəl drug bound hiz legz az widh a ciyyə-cloth, woz yet too swift fau Caucəs, hoo, fleying biffau him too the dau, had but time too cluch the hevvy cuutnz ae the saud ov Kərinniyyəs tooc him in the bac. He fel, and la a-riathing lumpishly, like a tode spittid on a scuə. And the flau ov stiyyətite woz made slippəry widh hiz blud.

"'Tiz wel. Throo the guts," ced Kərinniyyəs. No mite he had too drau fauth the saud, but stagghəd az wun drunkən, and fel too uuth, propt əghenst the jamz ov the lofty dauwa.

Sum wile he la dhae, haakəning too the soundz ov batl widhout; fau the Iən Touə woz faulən əthwaut the outə waul, making a breche throo aul lianz ov diffens. And throo dhat breche the Demənz staumd the hoald ov Caacy, dhat nevvə unfrendly foot had entəd bi faus in aul the cenchəriz cins it woz bildid bi Gorice I. An il woch it woz fau Kərinniyyəs too li haakəning too dhat unneeqwəl fite, unnaibl too stuu a hand, and aul dha dhat shood hav heddid the diffens ded au diying biffau hiz ise. Yet woz hiz breth liatnd and hiz pane sum paat eezd wen hiz i restid on the groce boddy ov Caucəs twisting in the agghəny ov deth uppon hiz saud.

In such wise paast wel ni an ouə. The boddəly strength ov Kərinniyyəs and hiz iən haat bae up əghenst the pouə ov the

vennəm long aaftə dhose uthəz had breedhd out dhae soalz in deth. But nou woz the batl dun and the victəry widh them ov Demənland, and the laudz Jus and Goaldry Blusco and Brandokh Daahaa widh suutn ov dhae fiting men came intoo the banqwit haul. Smiyyəd dha wuu widh blud and the dust ov batl, fau not widhout grate blose and the deth ov menny a stout lad had the hoald bene wun. Goaldry ced az dha pauzd at the threshhoald, "This iz the verry banqwit hous ov deth. Hou came these bi dhae end?"

Kərinniyyəciz brou daakənd at the cite ov the laudz ov Demənland, and mitilly he strove too rase himcelf, but sanc bac groning. "I hav gottən an evvəlaasting chil ə the boanz," he ced. "Yon hellish tratə muuthəd us aul bi poizn; els shood sum ov u hav gottən yau deths bi me au evvə ye wun up intoo Caacy."

"Bring him sum wautə," ced Jus. And he widh Brandokh Daahaa gently liftid Kərinniyyəs and bae him too hiz chae wae he shood be mau at ese.

Goaldry ced, "Hiyyə iz a lady livvith." Fau Srevə, dhat citting on huu faathəz left hand had so iscaipt a poiznd draaft at the paacing ov the cups, rose from the taibl wae she had couəd in fiyyəfəl ciləns, and caast huucelf in a flud ov tiyyəz and terriffide supliccaishnz əbout Goaldrese nese. Goaldry bad gaad huu too the camp and dhae bisto huu in safe əciləm until the mauning.

Nou woz Kərinniyyəs niyyə hiz end, but he gathəd strength too speke, saying, "I doo joi dhat not bi yau saud wuu we put doun, but bi the unneeqwəl trumpəry ov Fauchoone, hoose toole woz this Caucəs and the Kingz devvəlish pride, dhat dizsiəd too haanəs Hevn and Hel too hiz charriyyət. Fauchuinz a rite

strumpit, too fondl me in the nec and nou yuuc me wun dhus i the midrif."

"Not Fauchoone, mi Laud Kərinniyyəs, but the Godz," ced Goaldry, "hoose fete be shod widh wool."

Bi then woz wautə braut in, and Brandokh Daahaa wood hav ghivn him too drinc. But Kərinniyyəs wood hav nun ov it, but juuct hiz hed əcide and oəcet the cup, and loocking fiyyəsly on Laud Brandokh Daahaa, "Vile fello," he ced, "so dhou too aat cum too insult on Wichlandz grave? Dhoudst strike me nou intoo the centə, and dhou wuut not mau a daancing maddəm dhan a soalgə."

"Hou?" ced Brandokh Daahaa. "Sa a dog bite me in the ham: must I bite him əghen i the same paat?"

Kərinniyyəciz ilidz cloazd, and he ced weecly, "Hou looc thi woommənish gu-gauz in Crothəring cins I touzt əm?" And dhaewidh the creping poizn reecht hiz strong haat-stringz, and he dide.

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Nou woz ciləns fau a space in dhat banqwit haul, and in the ciləns a step woz huud, and the laudz ov Demənland tuund təwaud the lofty dauwa, dhat yaund az an aacht cavvən-mouth ov daacnəs; fau Caucəs had taun doun the arrəs cuutnz in hiz deth-throse, and dha la heept əthwaut the threshhoald widh hiz ded boddy əcros them, Kərinniyyəciz saud-hilts jamd əghenst hiz ribz and the blade standing a foots length fauth from hiz brest. And wile dha gaizd, dhae wauct intoo the shifting lite ov the flamboiz ovə dhat threshhoald the Lady Prezmirə, cround and ərade in huu rich roabz and aunəments

ov state. Huu countinnəns woz bleke az the wintə moone fliying hi əmid lite cloudz on a windy midnite cetling təwaudz rane, and dhose laudz, undə the spel ov huu sad coald buty, stood widhout speche.

In a wile Jus, speking az wun hoo nedith too kəmaand hiz vois, and making grave obaisns too huu, ced, "O Qwene, we ghiv u pece. Kəmaand ouə suuvis in aul thhingz wotsowevvə. And fuust in this, wich shal be ouə uuliyyist taasc ae we sale hoamwəd, too stablish u in yau riatfəl relm ov Pixeland. But this ouə iz ovəchaajd widh fate and despərət deedz too suffə counsl. Counsl iz fau the mauning. The nite caulith too rest. I pra u ghiv us leve."

Prezmirə looct uppon Jus, and dhae woz i-bite in huu ise, dhat glintid widh grene mittallic lustə like dhose ov a she-liən braut too batl.

"Dhou dust offə me Pixeland, mi Laud Jus," ced she, "dhat am Qwene ov Impland. And this nite, dhou thhinkist, can bring me rest. These dhat wuu diyyə too me hav rest indede: mi laud and luvvə Corrənd; the Prins mi bruthə; Gro, dhat woz mi frend. Dedly ennou dha found u, wethə az frendz au fose."

Jus ced, "O Qwene Prezmirə, the nest faulith widh the tre. These thhingz hath Fate braut too paas, and we be but Faits wipping-tops bandid wot wa she wil. Əghenst the we wau not, and I swae too the dhat aul ouə cae iz too make the əmendz."

"O, thine oadhz!" ced Prezmirə. "Wot əmendz canst dhou make? Ueth I hav and sum poowwə buty. Wilt dhou cunʻgər dhose thre ded men əlive əghen dhat ye hav slane? Fau aul thi vauntid aat, I thhinc this wuu too haad a taasc."

Aul dha wuu cilənt, iying huu az she wauct dellickətly paast the taibl. She looct widh a distənt and, too outwəd ceming, uncomprihhending i on the ded feestəz and dhae empty cups. Empty aul, save dhat wun paast on bi Vigləs, warov Caucəs wood not drinc; and it stood haaf draind. Ov curiyyəs wuucmənship it woz, ov pale grene glaas, its stand faumd ov thre suupənts intətwiand, the wun ov goald, ənuthə ov cilvə, the thuud ov iən. Fin'ghəring it caeləsly she raizd huu glittəring ise wuns mau on the Demənz, and ced, "It woz evvə the woant ov u ov Demənland too et the eg and ghiv əwa the shel in aamz." And pointing at the laudz ov Wichland ded at the feest, she aasct, "Wuu these aulso yau victimz in this dase hunting, mi laudz?"

"Dhou dust us rong, maddəm," cride Goaldry. "Nevvə hath Demənland uezd suchlike aats əghenst huu ennəmiz."

Laud Brandokh Daahaa looct swiftly at him, and stept iadly fauwəd, saying, "I no not wot aat hath raut yon goblit, but tiz strainjly like too wun I sau in Impland. Yet farə iz this, and ov mau just prəpaushnz." But Prezmirə faustauld hiz out-strecht hand, and qwiətly droo the cup təwaudz huu out ov reche. Az saud crosciz saud, the glaans ov huu grene ise crost hiz, and she ced, "Thhinc not dhat u hav a wuus ennəmy left on uuth dhan me. I it woz dhat cent Caucəs and Kərinniyyəs too trampl Demənland in the miə. Had I but sum spaac ov maasculin vuuchoo, sum sole at leest ov u shood yet be luist sqweling too the shaidz too ətend mi diyyə wunz ae I cet sale. But I hav nun. Kil me then, and let me go."

Jus, hoose saud woz bae in hiz hand, smote it home in the scabbəd and stept təwaudz huu. But the taibl woz bitwixt them, and she droo bac too the dayis wae Corrənd la in state.

Dhae, like sum triyumfənt goddis, she stood əbuv them, the cup ov vennəm in huu hand. "Cum not biyyond the taibl, mi laudz," she ced, "au I drane this cup too yau damnaishn."

Brandokh Daahaa ced, "The dice ar throne, O Jus. And the Qwene hath wun the hazsəd."

"Maddəm," ced Jus, "I swae too u dhae shal no faus nau ristraint be put uppon u, but onnə oanly and wuuship shone u, and frendship if u wil. Dhat shoowwəly mitist dhou take ov us fau thi bruthəz sake." Dharat she looct terrəbly uppon him, and he ced, "Oanly on this wiald nite la not handz uppon yaucelf. Fau dhae sake, dhat eevn nou haply bihhoald us out ov the undiscuvvəd barrən landz, biyyond the dizməl lake, doo not this."

Stil facing them, the cup stil əloft in huu rite hand, Prezmirə lade huu left hand liatly on the braizn plaits ov Corrəndz buuny dhat caist the mity muslz ov hiz brest. Huu hand tucht hiz biyyəd, and droo bac sudnly; but in an instənt she lade it gently əghen on hiz brest. Sumwot huu oriyyənt luvlinnəs ceemd too sofn fau a paacing minnit in the aultəring lite, and she ced, "I woz ghivn too Corrənd yung. This nite I wil slepe widh him, au rane widh him, əmung the mity naishnz ov the ded."

Jus muivd az wun əbout too speke, but she stade him widh a looc, and the lianz ov huu boddy haadnd əghen and the liənes looct fauth ənu in huu piyyələs ise. "Hath yau graitnəs," she ced, "so much outgrone yau wit, dhat u thhinc I wil əbide too be yau penshnə, dhat hav bene a Princes in Pixeland, a Qwene ov faa-fruntid Impland, and wife too the gratist soalgə in this hoald ov Caacy, wich til this da hath bene the oanly scuuj and terrə ov the wuuld? O mi laudz

ov Demənland, good cumftəbl fuilz, speke too me no mau, fau yau speche iz folly. Go, dof yau hats too the cilly hiand dhat runnith on the mountin; pra huu gently dwel widh u əmid yau stauld catl, wen u hav slane huu mate. Shal the blackəning frost, wen it hath blaastid and staavd aul the swete gaadn flouəz, sa too the rose, Əbide widh us; and shal she haakən too such a woolfish soote?"

So speking she dranc the cup; and tuuning from dhose laudz ov Demənland az a qwene tuunith huu from the unriggaadid multittude, neeld gently doun bi Corrəndz biyyə, huu wite aamz claaspt əbout hiz hed, huu face pillode on hiz brest.

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Wen Jus spake, hiz vois woz choact widh tiyyəz. He kəmaandid Bremməry dhat dha shood take up the boddiz ov Caucəs and Sennambriyyə and dhose sunz ov Corrənd and ov Caucəs dhat la poiznd and ded in dhat haul and on the morro ghiv them revvərənt berriyyəl. "And fau the Laud Kərinniyyəs I wil dhat ye make a bed ov state, dhat he ma li in this haul too-nite, and too-morro wil we la him in hou biffau Caacy, az iz fitting fau so rinnound a captin. But grate Corrənd and hiz lady shal nun dippaat wun from the uthə, but in wun grave shal dha rest, cide bi cide, fau dhae luv sake. Ae we be gon I wil riyyə them such a monnumənt az biscemith grate kingz and princiz wen dha di. Fau roiəl and laudly woz Corrənd, and a mity man at aamz, and a fitə clene ov hand, aulbeyit ouə bittə ennəmy. Wundrəs it iz widh wot caudz ov luv he bound too him this unparrəghənd Qwene ov hiz. Hoo hath none huu like əmung wimmin fau troones and hinəs ov haat? And shoowwə nun woz evvə mau unfauchoonnət."

Nou went dha fauth intoo the outə waud ov Caacy. The nite

bau stil sum cianz ov dhat kəmoashn ov the skise dhat had so laitly buust fauth and paast əwa, and sum taun paulz ov thundəcloud yet hung əthwaut the face ov hevn. Bitwixt them in the swept placiz ov the ski a fu staaz shivvəd, and the moone, mau dhan haaf waxən təwaudz huu fool, woz cinking ovə Tennəmos. Sum faint breth ov autəm woz əbraud, and the Demənz shuddəd a litl, fresh from the hevvy ae ov the grate banqwit haul. The roowinz ov the Iən Touə smoking too the ski, and the taun and tumbld masciz ov maisnry əbout it, shode monstrəs in the gloome az fragments ov oald cayos; and from them and from the rivvən uuth binneeth steemd up pun'gənt fuemz az ov brimstone buuning. Evvə bizsilly, bac and fauth throo dhose sulfərəs vapəz, əbcene buudz ov the nite flittid a wiyyəry round, and bats on ledhuun wing, fitfəly and dimly cene in the unsuutn muuc, save wen dhae pascij braut them daac əghenst the moone. And from the sollittuedz ov the maunfəl fen əfaa voiciz ov lammentaishn flotid on the nite: wiald waling crise and sobbing noisiz and long moanz rising and fauling and qwivvəring doun too ciləns.

Jus lade hiz hand on Goaldrese aam, saying, "Dhae iz naut uuthly in these ləments, nau be dhose dhat dhou ceyist suucling in the reke verry bats au oulz. These be hiz maastələs fəmilliyyəz waling fau dhae Laud. Menny such suuvd him, cimpl uuthhy divvəlz and divvəlz ov the ae and ov the wautə, held bi him in thraul bi saucərəs and aatiffishl practisciz, cumming and gowing and doowing hiz wil."

"These əvaild him not," ced Goaldry, "nau the saud ov Wichland əghenst ouə mite and mane, dhat brake it əsundə in hiz hand and sloo hiz mity men ov vallə."

"Yet troo it iz," ced Laud Jus, "dhat nun gratə hath livd on uuth dhan King Gorice 12. Wen aaftə these long wauz we

held him az a stag at ba, he fiyyəd not too əsa a ceckənd
time, and this time unnadid and əlone, wot no man els hath so
much az wuns pəfaumd and livd. And wel he nu dhat dhat
wich woz summənd bi him out ov the depe must spil and blaast
him uttəly if he shood slip wun wit, az slip he did in
faumə dase, but hiz disciapl suckəd him. Bihhoald nou widh
wot loud striking ov thundə, unconkəd bi enny uuthly
pouə, he hath hiz paating: widh this Caacy blac and smoking
in roowin fau hiz monnumənt, these laudz ov Wichland and hundrədz
bisciadz ov ouə soalgəz and ov the Witchiz fau hiz funərəl
bake-meets, and spirrits weping in the nite fau hiz chefe
maunəz."

So came dha əghen too the camp. And in du time the moone cet
and the cloudz dippaatid and the qwiət staaz pəsude dhae
ittuunl wa until niats dicline; az if this nite had bene
but az uthə niats: this nite wich had bihheld the pouə and
glory dhat woz Wichland bi such a hammə-stroke ov destinny
smitn in peciz.

33. Qwene Sofonnizbə in Galing

OV THE ENTƏTAINMƏNT GHIVN BI LAUD JUS IN DEMƏNLAND TOO QWENE
SOFONNIZBƏ, FOSTƏRLING OV THE GODZ, AND OV DHAT SUUKƏMSTƏNS
WICH, BIYYOND AUL THE WUNDƏZ FAE AND LUVLY TOO BIHHOALD SHONE
HUU IN DHAT CUNTRY, MADE HUU MOAST TOO MAAVL: WARIN IZ A RAE

IGZAAMPL HOU IN A FAUCHƏNƏT WUULD, OUT OV AUL EXPECTAISHN, IN
THE SPRING OV THE YUU, CUMMITH A NU BUUTH.

Nou the rittuuning munths braut the ceezn ov the yuu wen Qwene Sofonnizbə shood cum əcauding too huu prommis too ghest widh Laud Jus in Galing. And so it woz dhat in the hush ov a windləs Aiprəl daun the Simmiyyamviyyən carrəvel dhat bae the Qwene too Demənland rode up the fuuth too Loocking'haivn.

Aul the eest woz a bouə fau the goaldən daun. Caatadsə, shaap-outliand az if cut in bronz, stil hid the sun; and in the grate shaddo ov the mountin the haivn and the lo hilz and the groavz ov home-oke and straubry tre slumbəd in a depe əbscuritty ov bloose and puuplz, əghenst wich the avvənuse ov pinc aaməND bloscəm and the wite maabl kese wuu boddid fauth in pale wakəning buty, immijd az in a loocking-glaas in dhat tranqwillitty ov the ce. Westwəd əcros the fuuth aul the land woz əglo widh the opəning da. Sno lin'ghəd stil on the hiə summits. Cloudləs, baithing in the goaldən lite, dha stood əghenst the bloo: Dinə, the Faux ov Nantregghənon, Pike ə Shaadz, and aul the peex ov the Thaunbac rainj and Nevvədale. Mauning laaft on dhae hi ridgiz and kist the woodz dhat clung əbout dhae loə limz: billowy woodz, wae rich huse ov broun and puupl toald ov evry twig on aul dhae mirriyyəd braanchiz thhic and əfiə widh budz. Wite mists la like cuvvəlits on the wautə-meddose wae Tivərandədale opənz too the ce. On the shauz ov Bothry and Skəramsy, and on the mainland niyyə the grate bluf ov Thremnə Hu and a litl soudh ov Oulzwic, cliyyə spaciz əmung the buuchwoodz shode goaldən yello: daffədilz əbloome in the spring.

Dha rode in too the nauthənmoast buuth and made faast the carrəvel. The sweetnəs ov the aaməND trese woz the sweetnəs ov

spring in the ae, and spring woz in the face ov dhat Qwene az she came widh huu ətendənts up the shining steps, huu litl maatlets suucling əbout huu au puuching on huu shoaldəz: she too hoome the Godz ov oald gave ueth evvəlaasting, and pece evvəlaasting in Coshtrə Billaun.

Laud Jus and hiz bredhrən wuu on the ke too mete huu, and the Laud Brandokh Daahaa. Dha boud in tuun, kiscing huu handz and bidding huu welkəm too Demənland. But she ced, "Not too Demənland ələone, mi laudz, too the wuuld əghen. And təwaud wich ov aul uuths haabəz shood I stiyyə, and təwaud wich land if not too this land ov yauz, hoo hav bi yau victəriz braut pece and joi too aul the wuuld? Shoowwəly pece slept not mau softly on the Moroonə in oald dase biffau the naimz ov Gorice and Wichland wuu huud in dhat cuntry, dhan she shal slepe fau us on this nu uuth and Demənland, nou dhat dhose naimz ar dround fau evvə undə the wuulpuilz ov əblivviyyən and daacnəs."

Jus ced, "O Qwene Sofonnizbə, dizsiə not dhat the naimz ov grate men ded shood be fəgot fau evvə. So shood these wauz dhat we laast yuu braut too so mity a kəncluizhn too make us undisputid laudz ov the uuth go doun too əblivviyyən widh them dhat faut əghenst us. But the fame ov these thhingz shal be on the lips and in the songz ov men from wun gennəraishn too ənuthə, so long az the wuuld shal endure."

Dha tooc haus and rode up from the haabə too the uppə rode, and so throo opən paaschəz on too Havvəshau Tung. Lamz frisct on the duwy meddose biscide the rode; blacbuudz floo from boosh too boosh; laax trild in the ciatlis ski; and az dha came doun throo the woodz too Becfoot wood-pidgənz coode in the trese, and sqwirrəlz peept widh bedy ise. The Qwene spoke litl. These and aul shi thhingz ov the woodz and feeld

held huu in thraul, chaaming huu too a ciləns dhat woz brokən oanly nou and then bi a litl excləmaishn ov joi. The Laud Jus, hoo himcelf aulso luvd these thhingz, wocht huu dillite.

Nou dha wound up the stepe əcent from Becfoot, and rode intoo Galing bi the Liən Gate. The avvənu ov Irish use woz liand bi soalgəz ov the boddiggaadz ov Jus, Goaldry, and Spitfiə, and Brandokh Daahaa. These, in onnə ov dhae grate maastəz and ov the Qwene, liftid dhae spiyyəz əloft, wile trumpittəz bloo thre fanfaez on cilvə trumpits. Then too an əcumpənimmənt ov luits and thheyaubose and cithhənz mooving əbuv the puls ov mufld drumz, a qwiə ov maidnz sang a song ov welkəm, stroowing the paath biffau the laudz ov Demənland and the Qwene widh swete wite hiəcinths and naaciscəs bluimz, wile the ladiz Mevreən and Aamələne, mau luvly dhan enny qweenz ov uuth, watid at the hed ov the goaldən staecace əbuv the innə caut too grete Qwene Sofonnizbə cum too Galing.

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A haad mattə it wuu too tel ov aul the plezhəz prippaed fau Qwene Sofonnizbə and fau huu dillite bi the laudz ov Demənland. The fuust da she spent əmung the paax and plezhə gaadnz ov Galing, wae Laud Jus shode huu hiz grate lime avvənuse, hiz u-housiz, hiz froote gaadnz and sunc gaadnz and hiz privit waux and bouəz; hiz waux ov creping time wich beying trodn on cenz up swete odəz too rifresh the treddə; hiz ainshənt wautə-gaadnz biscide the Brancdale Bec, withə the wautə nimfs rizzaut in summə and ar cene undə the moone cinging and coming dhae hae widh coamz ov goald.

On the ceckənd da he shode huu hiz huub gaadnz, disclosing too huu the ceecrit proppətiz ov huubz, warin he woz deeply luund. Dhae groo dhat Zammələntishən, wich beying wel beetn

up widh fat widhout sault iz sovrən fau aul wuindz. And Dittəny, wich if eetn soone puts out the arro and helith the wuindz; and not oanly bi its prezns stayith snaix waesowevvə dha be handy too it, but bi resən ov its smel carrid bi wind and dha smel it dha di. And Mandragghərə, wich beying takən intoo the midl ov an hous kəmpellith aul eevlz out ov the hous, and rillevith aulso heddaix and prəducith slepe. Aulso he shode huu Ce Holly in hiz gaadn, dhat iz baun in ceecrit placiz and in wet wunz, and the roote ov it iz az the hed ov dhat monstə wich men name the Gaughən, and the roote-twigz hav boath ise and nose and cullə ov suupənts. Ov this he toald huu hou wen taking up the roote, a man must ce too it dhat no sun shine on it, and he hoo wood caav it must əvuut hiz hed, fau it iz not pəmittid dhat man ma ce dhat roote unhaamd.

The thuud da Jus shode the Qwene hiz staiblz, wae wuu hiz wau-hauciz and hauciz fau the chace and fau charriyyət racing staibld in staulz widh fuunitchə ov cilvə, and much she maavld at hiz cevn wite maez, cistəz, so like dhat nun mite tel wun from ənuthə, ghivn him in dase gon bi bi the preests ov Aatəmis in the landz biyyond the suncet. Dha wuu immautl, baring icau in dhae vainz, not blud; and the fiə ov it shode in dhae ise like lamps buuning.

The fauth nite and the fifth the Qwene woz at Dreppəby, ghesting widh Laud Goaldry Blusco and the Princes Aaməlene, dhat wuu weddid in Zadgy Zacculo laast Ule; and the cixth and cevnth niats at Oulzwic, and dhae Spitfiə made huu laudly entətainmənt. But Laud Brandokh Daahaa wood not hav the Qwene go yet too Crothəring, fau he had not yet made fae əghen hiz gaadnz and plezsənciz and ristaud hiz rich and goodly trezhəz too hiz miand aaftə dhae il handling bi Kərinniyyəs. And it woz not hiz wil dhat she shood looc on Crothəring Caasl until aul woz dhae stablisht ənu əcauding too its ainshənt

glory.

The aitth da she came əghen too Galing, and nou Laud Jus shode huu hiz studdy, widh hiz astrəlaibz ov orriccalc, figghəd widh aul the cianz ov the Zodiyyac and the manshnz ov the moone, standing a taul manz hite əbuv the flau, and hiz pəspectivz and gluvz and cristlz and hollo loocking-glaaciz; and grate cristl gloabz wae he kept həmonculəs hoome he had made bi ceecrit procesciz ov nachə, boath men and wimmin, les dhan a span long, az butiffəl az wun cood wish too ce in dhae litl coats, eting and drinking and gowing dhae wase in dhose mity gloabz ov cristl wae hiz aat had ghivn them beying.

Evry nite, wethə at Galing, Oulzwic, au Dreppəby Miə, woz feesting held in huu onnə, widh music and daancing and merry-making and aul dillite, and powetticl rescittaishnz and feets ov aamz and hausmənship, and maasx and intəluidz the like warov hath not bene cene on uuth fau buty and wit and aul magniffisns.

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Nou woz the nianth da cum ov the Qweenz ghesting in Demənland, and it woz the eve ov Laud Jusciz buuthda, wen aul the grate wunz in the land wuu cum təghethə, az fau yuuz əgo dha came, too doo onnə on the morro untooh him and untooh hiz bredhrən az woz dhae woant əfautime. It woz fine brite wethə, widh evry litl wile a shouə too bring fresh sweetnəs too the ae, cullə and rifreshmənt too the uuth, and gladnəs too the sunshine. Jus wauct widh the Qwene in the mauning in the woodz ov Muin'gaath Bottəm, nou buusting intoo lefe; and aaftə dhae mid-da mele shode huu hiz trezhəriz cut in the live roc undə Galing Caasl, wae she bihheld baaz

ov goald and cilvə piald like trunx ov trese; unhune cristlz
ov rooby, criscəprase, au hiəcinth, so hevvy a strong man mite
not lift them; stax ov ivəry in the tusc, piald too the
celing; chests and jaaz fild widh puufuemz and costly
spiciz, ambəgrece, frankincens, swete-centid sandlwood and
muu and spiacnaad; cups and bekəz and iyyəd wine-jaaz and
lamps and caaskits made ov puə goald, wuuct and chaist widh the
faumz ov men and wimmin and buudz and beests and creping
thhingz, and aunəmentid widh jooəlz biyyond price, maaghəriats and
pinc and yello saffiəz, sməragdz and criscəberrəlz and yello
diəməndz.

Wen the Qwene had had huu fil ov gasing on these, he carrid
huu too hiz grate liabrəry wae statchoose stood ov the nine Musiz
əbout Əpollo, and aul the waulz wuu hidn widh boox:
histriz and songz ov oald dase, boox ov filloscəfy, alkimmy
and əstronnəmy and aat madgic, romanciz and music and liavz ov
grate men ded and grate tretisciz ov aul the aats ov pece and
wau, widh picchəz and illoominnatid carrəctəz. Grate windose
opənd southwəd on the gaadn from the liabrəry, and climing
rose-trese and plaants ov hunnissucl and evvəgrene magnoliyyə
clustəd əbout the windose. Grate chaez and couchiz stood
əbout the opən haath wae a fiə ov cedə logz buund in
wintə time. Lamps ov muinstoanz celf-iffulgənt shadid widh
cloudy grene toowwəməlin stood on cilvə standz on the taibl and
bi eche couch and chae, too ghiv lite wen the da woz ovə;
and aul the ae woz swete widh the cent ov dride rose-leevz
kept in ainshənt boalz and vaasiz ov paintid edhnwae.

Qwene Sofonnizbə ced, "Mi laud, I luv this best ov aul the
fae thhingz dhou hast shone me in thi caasl ov Galing: hiyyə
wae aul trubl ceemz a fəgotn ecco ov an il wuuld left
bihhiand. Shoowwəly mi haat iz glad, O mi frend, dhat dhou and
these uthə laudz ov Demənland shal nou enjoi yau goodly

trezhəz and fae dase in yau diyyə nativ land in pece and qwiətnəs aul yau liavz."

The Laud Jus stood at the windo dhat looct westwəd əcros the lake too the grate waul ov the Scaaf. Sum shaddo ov a noabl melləncolly hovvəd əbout hiz swete daac countinnəns az hiz gase restid on a cuutn ov rane dhat swept əcros the face ov the mountin waul, haaf valing the hi roc summits. "Yet thhinc, maddəm," ced he, "dhat we be yung ov yuuz. And too strennuəs miandz dhae iz an unqwiətude in ovə-qwiətnəs."

Nou he kənductid huu throo hiz aamәriz wae he kept hiz weppənz and weppənz fau hiz fiting men and aul pannəply ov wau. Dhae he shode huu saudz and spiyyəz, maciz and axiz and dagghəz, aufrade and dammәceend and inlade widh jooəlz; buunese and bauldrix and sheeldz; blaidz so kene, a hae blone əghenst them in a wind shood be paatid in twane; chaamd helmz on wich no audinry saud wood bite. And Jus ced untooh the Qwene, "Maddəm, wot thhinkist dhou ov these saudz and spiyyəz? Fau no wel dhat these be the laddəz rungz dhat we ov Demənland cliamd up bi too dhat ceenyory and princippallitty wich nou we hoald ovə the fau caunəz ov the wuuld."

She aancəd, "O mi laud, I thhinc noably ov them. Fau an il paat it wuu wile we joi in the haavist, too kəntem the tuilz dhat prippaed the land fau it and reept it."

Wile she spoke, Jus tooc doun from its hooc a grate saud widh a haaft bound widh plattid caudz ov goald and cilvə wiə and cros-hilts ov latoone cet widh studz ov ammithhist and a draix hed at iathər end ov the hilt widh crimzn aulməndianz fau hiz ise, and the poml a baul ov depe ambə-cullәd oapl widh red and grene flashiz.

"Widh this saud," ced he, "I went up widh Gazlaac too the
gaits ov Caacy, fau yuuz gon bi this summə, beying cloudid
in mi miand bi the bac-wosh ov the cending ov Gorice the King.
Widh this saud I faut an ouə bac too bac widh Brandokh
Daahaa, əghenst Corrənd and Kərinniyyəs and dhae aiblist men: the
gratist fite dhat evvə I faut, and əghenst the fiyyəfəlist
odz. Wichland himcelf bihheld us from Caacy waulz throo the
wautəry mist and glae, and maavld dhat too men dhat ar baun
ov woommən cood pəfaum such deedz."

He untide the bandz ov the saud and droo it cinging from its
sheeth. "Widh this saud," he ced, loocking luvvingly əlong the
blade, "I hav ovəcum hundrədz ov mine ennəmiz: Witchiz, and
Guilz, and baabərəs peepl out ov Impland and the suthən
cese, pirəts ov Ezsəmoashə and princiz ov the eestən mane. Widh
this saud I gat the victəry in menny a batl, and moast
gloriyyəs ov aul in the batl biffau Caacy laast Ceptembə.
Dhae, fiting əghenst grate Corrənd in the pres ov the fite
I gave him widh this saud the wuind dhat woz hiz deth-wuind."

He put up the saud əghen in its sheeth: held it a minnit az if
pondəring wethə au no too guud it əbout hiz waist: then sloly
tuund too its place on the waul and hung it up əghen. He
carrid hiz hed hi like a wau-haus, keping hiz gase
əvuutid from the Qwene az dha went out from the grate aaməry
in Galing; yet not so skilfəly but she maact a glisning in
hiz i dhat ceemd a tiyyə standing əbuv hiz loə ilash.

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Dhat nite woz suppə cet in Laud Jusciz privit chaimbə: a
lite riggale, yet moast sumpchoowwəs. Dha sat at a round taibl,
nine in cumpəny: the thre bredhrən, the Laudz Brandokh Daahaa,
Sig, and Vol, the Ladiz Aamələne and Mevreən, and the

Qwene. Briatly flode the wianz ov Crothəring and Nauvasp and bliadhly went the tauc too outwəd ceming. But evvə and əghen ciləns swung əthwaut the baud, like a gra paul, til Sig broke it widh a gest, au Brandokh Daahaa au hiz cistə Mevreən. The Qwene felt the chil bihhiand dhae merrimmənt. The ciləntfits came ofnə az the feest went fauwəd, az if wine and good chiyyə had lost dhae nativ qwollitty and tuund faathəz ov blac muidz and gloomy meddittaishnz.

The Laud Goaldry Blusco, dhat til nou had spoke litl, spake nou not at aul, hiz proud daac face fixt in stade penciv lianz ov thaut. Spitfiə too woz faulən ciləntt, hiz face leend uppon hiz hand, hiz brou bent; and wialz he dranc əmane, and wialz he drumd hiz fin'ghəz on the taibl. The Laud Brandokh Daahaa leend bac in hiz ivəry chae, cipping hiz wine. Verry dimmuə, throo haaf-cloazd ise, like a panthhə dosing in the noone-da, he wocht hiz kəmpanniyyənz at the feest. Like sunbeemz chaist bi cloud-shaddose əcros a mountin-cide in windy wethə, the liats ov humərəs enjoimənt plade əcros hiz face.

The Qwene ced, "O mi laudz, u hav prommist me I shood hiyyə the fool tale ov yau wauz in Impland and the Impland cese, and hou u came too Caacy and ov the grate batl dhat dhae biffel, and ov the lattə end ov aul the laudz ov Wichland and ov Gorice 12. ov memməry əcuucid. I pra u let me hiyyə it nou, dhat ouə haats ma be gladnd bi the tale ov grate deedz the rimmembrəns warov shal be fau aul gennəraishnz, and dhat we ma ridjois ənu dhat aul the laudz ov Wichland ar ded and gon biccoz ov hoome and dhae tirrəny uuth hath groand and labəd these menny yuuz."

Laud Jus, in hoose face wen it woz at rest she had bihheld

dhat same melləncolly wich she had maact in him in the liabrəry
dhat same da, paud fauth mau wine, and ced, "O Qwene
Sofonnizbə, dhou shalt hiyyə it aul." Dhaewidh he toald aul dhat
had biffaulən cins dha laast bad huu ədu in Coshtrə Billaun:
ov the maach too the ce at Muwelvə; ov Laxəs and hiz grate flete
distroid and sunc auf Mellecafkhaz; ov the batl biffau Caacy
and its swin'ging fauchuinz; ov the unhallode lite and flaring
cianz in hevn waebi dha nu ov the Kingz cun'gəring əghen
in Caacy; ov dhae wating in the nite, aamd at aul points,
widh chaamz and ammulits reddy əghenst wot dredfəl buuth mite
be from the Kingz enchaantmənts; ov the blaasting ov the Iən
Touə, and the stauming ov the hoald in pich daacnəs; ov the
laudz ov Wichland muuthəd at the feest, and naut left at
laast ov the pouə and pomp and terrə dhat woz Wichland save
diying embəz ov a funərəl fiə and voiciz waling in the wind
biffau the daun.

Wen he had dun, the Qwene ced, az if tauking in a dreme,
"Shoowwəly it ma be ced ov these kingz and laudz ov Wichland
ded--

These retchid emminnənt thhingz
Leve no mau fame bihhiand əm dhan shood wun
Faul in a frost, and leve hiz print in sno;
Az soone az the sun shianz, it evvə melts
Boath faum and mattə."

Widh dhose wuudz spokən dropt ciləns əghen like a paul
əthwaut dhat banqwit taibl, mau tristfəl dhan biffau and fool
ov hevvinnəs.

On a sudn Laud Brandokh Daahaa stood up, unbucling from hiz
shoaldə hiz goaldən bauldric cet widh aipriccot-cullәd

saffiəz and diəməndz and fiə-oaplz dhat immijd thundəboalts. He throo it biffau him on the taibl, widh hiz saud, clattəring əmung the cups. "O Qwene Sofonnizbə," ced he, "dhou hast spokən a fit funərəl duuj fau ouə glory az fau Wichlandz. This saud Seldauniyyəs gave me. I bae it at Crothəring Cide əghenst Kərinniyyəs, wen I throo him out ov Demənland. I bae it at Mellecafkhaz. I bae it in the laast grate fite in Wichland. Dhou wilt sa it braut me good luc and victəry in batl. But it braut not too me, az too Seldauniyyəs, this laast best luc ov aul: dhat uuth shood gape fau me wen mi grate deedz wuu endid."

The Qwene looct at him əmaizd, maavəling too ce him so much muivd dhat she had none until nou so lasy mocking and so debbənae.

But the uthə laudz ov Demənland stood up and flung doun dhae jooəld saudz on the taibl biscide Laud Brandokh Daahaaz. And Laud Jus spake and ced, "We ma wel caast doun ouə saudz az a laast offəring on Wichlandz grave. Fau nou must dha rust: cemənship and aul hi aats ov wau must withə: and, nou dhat ouə grate ennəmiz ar ded and gon, we dhat wuu laudz ov aul the wuuld must tuun sheppədz and huntəz, lest we biccum miyyə mountibbanx and fops, fit fellose fau the chaimbəing Beshtriyyənz au the Red Folleyot. O Qwene Sofonnizbə, and u mi bredhrən and mi frendz, dhat ar cum too kepe mi buuthda widh me too-morro in Galing, wot make ye in holləda ətiə? Wepe ye raathə, and wepe əghen, and cloadh u aul in blac, thhinking dhat ouə mitiyyist feets ov aamz and the hi southing ov the brite staa ov ouə magniffisns shood bring us untooh tiamləs roowin. Thhinking dhat we, dhat faut but fau fitingz sake, hav in the end faut so wel we nevvə ma fite mau; ənles it shood be in fraitrisciadl rage eche əghenst eche. And ae dhat shood bittide, ma uuth close ovə us and ouə memməry perrish."

Mitilly muivd woz the Qwene too bihhoald such a viələnt sorro, aulbeyit she cood not comprihhend the ruits and resən ov it. Huu vois shooc a litl az she ced, "Mi Laud Jus, mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa, and u uthə laudz ov Demənland, it woz litl in mine expectaishn too fiand in u such a pashn ov souə diskəntent. Fau I came too ridjois widh u. And strainjly it soundith in mine iyyə too hiyyə u maun and ləment yau wuust ennəmiz, at so grate hazsəd ov yau liavz and aul u held diyyə, struc doun bi u at laast. I am but a made and yung in yuuz, aulbeyit mi memməry gowith bac too hundrəd springz, and il it biffittith me too counsl grate laudz and men ov wau. Yet strainj it cemith if dhae be not peesfəl enjoimənt and noabl deedz ov pece fau u aul yau dase, hoo ar yung and noabl and laudz ov aul the wuuld and rich in evry trezhə and hi ghifts ov luuning, and the farist cuntry in the wuuld fau yau diyyə nativ land. And if yau saudz must not rust, ye ma bae them əghenst the uncivl raciz ov Impland and uthə distənt cuntriz too bring them too cəbgecshn."

But Laud Goaldry Blusco laaft bittəly. "O Qwene," he cride, "shal the kərecshn ov feebl savvidgiz kəntent these saudz, wich hav waud əghenst the hous ov Gorice and əghenst aul hiz chosən captinz dhat upheld the grate pouə ov Caacy and the glory and the fiyyə dharov?"

And Spitfiə ced, "Wot joi shal we hav ov soft bedz and dellickət meets and aul the dilliats dhat be in menny-mountind Demənland, if we must be stingləs droanz, widh no acshn too shaapən ouə appittite fau ese?"

Aul wuu cilənt əwile. Then the Laud Jus spake saying, "O Qwene Sofonnizbə, hast dhou looct evvə, on a shoury da in spring, uppon the rainbo flung əcros uuth and ski, and maact

hou aul thhingz ov uuth biyyond it, trese, mountin-ciadz, and rivvəz, and feeldz, and woodz, and hoamz ov men, ar transfigghəd bi the culləz dhat ar in the bo?"

"Yes," she ced, "and oft dizsiəd too reche them."

"We," ced Jus, "hav flone biyyond the rainbo. And dhae we found no faibld land ov haats dizsiə, but wet rane and wind oanly and the coald mountin-cide. And ouə haats ar a-coald biccoz ov it."

The Qwene ced, "Hou oald aat dhou, mi Laud Jus, dhat dhou spekist az an oald man mite speke?"

He aancəd, "I shal be thuuty-thre yuuz oald təmorro, and dhat iz yung bi the reckəning ov men. Nun ov us be oald, and mi bredhrən and Laud Brandokh Daahaa yun'ghə dhan I. Yet az oald men ma we nou looc fauth on ouə liavz, cins the goodnəs dharov iz gon bi fau us." And he ced, "Dhou O Qwene canst scaesly no ouə grefe; fau too the the blescid Godz gave thi haats dizsiə: ueth fau evvə, and pece. Wood dha mite ghiv us ouə good ghift, dhat shood be ueth fau evvə, and wau; and unwaning strength and skil in aamz. Wood dha mite but ghiv us ouə grate ennəmiz əlive and hole əghen. Fau bettə it wuu we shood run hazsəd əghen ov uttə distrucshn, dhan dhus liv out ouə liavz like catl fatning fau the slautə, au like cilly gaadn plaants."

The Qweenz ise wuu laaj widh wundə. "Dhou coodst wish it?" she ced.

Jus aancəd and ced, "A troo saying it iz dhat a grave iz a rotn foundaishn.' If dhou shoodst prəclame too me at this instənt the grate King əlive əghen and citting əghen in Caacy,

bidding us too the dred aabitrəmənt ov wau, dhou shoodst
qwicly ce I toald the truith."

Wile Jus spake, the Qwene tuund huu gase from wun too ənuthə
round the baud. In evry i, wen he spake ov Caacy, she sau
the liatning ov the joi ov batl az ov life rittuuning too men
held in a dedly traans. And wen he had dun, she sau in evry
i the lite go out. Like Godz dha ceemd, in the glory ov
dhae ueth and pride, cetid əbout dhat taibl; but sad and
tradgickəl, like Godz exiald from wide Hevn.

Nun spake, and the Qwene caast doun huu ise, citting az if
rapt in thaut. Then the Laud Jus rose too hiz fete, and
ced, "O Qwene Sofonnizbə, fəghiv us dhat ouə privit sorrose
shood make us so fəghetfəl ov ouə hospittallitty az wiyyəry ouə
ghest widh a muuthləs feest. But thhinc tiz biccoz we no
the ouə diyyə frend we use not too much cerrimməny. Too-morro we
wil be merry widh the, wottare bittide dharaaftə."

So dha bad good-nite. But az dha went out intoo the gaadn
undə the staaz, the Qwene tooc Jus əcide privitly and ced
too him, "Mi laud, cins dhou and mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa came
fuust ov mautl men intoo Coshtrə Billaun, and foolfild the
wiyyəd əcauding too preyaudainmənt, this oanly hath bene mi
dizsiə: too fuuthə u and too enhaans u and too əbtane fau u
wot u wood, so faa az in me liyith. Dho I be but a weke
made, yet hath it ceemd good too the blescid Godz too sho
kiandnəs untooh me. Wun holy prae ma wuuc thhingz we scaes
dreme ov. Wilt dhou dhat I pra too Them too-nite?"

"Əlas, diyyə Qwene," ced he, "shal dhose istrainjd and divvidid
ashiz unite əghen? Hoo shal tuun bac the flud-tide ov
unnaultərəbl niscescitty?"

But she ced, "Dhou hast cristlz and pəspectivz can sho
the thhingz əfaa auf. I pra bring them, and ro me in thi bote
up too Muinmiyyə Hed dhat we ma land dhae əbout midnite. And
let mi Laud Brandokh Daahaa cum widh us and thi bruthəz. But
let nun els no ov it. Fau dhat wuu but too moc them widh a
fauls daun, if it shood proove at laast too be əcauding too thi
wizdəm, O mi laud, and not əcauding too mi praez."

So the Laud Jus did əcauding too the wuud ov dhat fae Qwene,
and dha rode huu up the lake bi muinlite. Nun spake, and
the Qwene sate əpaat in the bouz ov the bote, in uunist
supliccaishn too the blescid Godz. Wen dha wuu cum too the
hed ov the lake dha went əshau on a litl spit ov cilvə
sand. The Aiprəl nite woz əbuv them, miald widh muinlite. The
shaddose ov the felz rose inky blac and biyyond immadginnaishn
huge əghenst the ski. The Qwene neeld əwile in ciləns on
the coald ground, and dhose laudz ov Demənland stood təghethə in
ciləns wotching huu.

In a wile she raizd huu ise too hevn; and bihhoald, bitwene
the too mane peex ov the Scaaf, a metiyyə crept sloly out ov
daacnəs and əcros the nite-ski, leving a trale ov cilvə
fiə, and ciləntly dippaatid intoo daacnəs. Dha wocht, and
ənuthə came, and yet ənuthə, until the westən ski əbuv the
mountin woz əblase widh them. From too points ov hevn dha
came, wun bitwixt the fauclauz ov the Liən and wun in the daac
cine ov Cancə. And dha dhat came from the Liən wuu spaacling
like the wite fiəz ov Rigəl au Altare, and dha dhat came
from the Crab wuu hauty red, like the lustə ov Antaaz. The
laudz ov Demənland, lening on dhae saudz, wocht these
pautents fau a long wile in ciləns. Then the travvəling
metiyyəz ceest, and the stedfaast staaz shon loanly and
cirrene. A soft brese stuud əmung the auldəz and willose bi
the lake. The lapping wautəz lapping the shin'gly shau made a

qwiət tune. A nitin'gale in a coppis on a litl hil sang so pashənət swete it ceemd sum spirrit cinging. Az in a traans dha stood and lisnd, until dhat cinging endid, and a hush fel on wautə and wood and laun. Then aul the eest blaizd up fau an instənt widh shete liatningz, and thundə grould from the eest biyyond the ce.

The thundə tooc faum so dhat music woz in the hevnz, filling uuth and ski az widh trumpits cauling too batl, fuust hi, then lo, then shuddəring doun too ciləns. Jus and Brandokh Daahaa nu it fau dhat grate caul too batl wich had prelludid dhat music in the daac nite widhout huu pallis, in Coshtrə Billaun, wen fuust dha stood biffau huu pautl divvine. The grate caul went əghen throo uuth and ae, sounding diffiəns; and in its trane nu voiciz, groping in daacnəs, rising too pashənət ləment, hovvəring, and diying əwa on the wind, til naut rimmaind but a role ov mufld thundə, long, lo, qwiət, big widh mennəs.

The Qwene tuund too Laud Jus. Shoowwəly huu ise wuu like too staaz shining in the gloome. She ced in a dround vois, "Thi pəspectivz, mi laud."

So the Laud Jus made a fiə ov suutn spiciz and huubz, and smoke rose in a thhic cloud fool ov firy spaax, widh a swete shaap smel. And he ced, "Not we, O mi Lady, lest ouə dizsiəz chete ouə cenciz. But looc dhou in mi pəspectivz throo the smoke, and sa untooh us wot dhou shalt bihhoald in the eest biyyond the unhaavistid ce."

The Qwene looct. And she ced, "I bihhoald a haabə toun and a slugghish rivvə cumming doun too the haabə throo a miyyə cet əbout widh mud flats, and a grate waist ov fen stretching inland from the ce. Inland, bi the rivvə cide, I bihhoald a

grate bluf standing əbuv the fenz. And waulz əbout the bluf, az it wuu a cittədəl. And the bluf and the wauld hoald puucht dharon ar blac like oald nite, and like throand inniqwitty citting in the place ov pouə, daakəning the descəlaishn ov dhat fen."

Jus ced, "Ar the waulz throne doun? Au iz not the grate round touə soudh-westwəd throne doun in roowin əthwaut the waulz?"

She ced, "Aul iz hole and sound az the waulz ov thine one caasl, mi laud."

Jus ced, "Tuun the cristl, O Qwene, dhat dhou mayist ce within the waulz if enny puusnz be dharin, and tel us dhae shape and ceming."

The Qwene woz cilənt fau a space, gasing uunistly in the cristl. Then she ced, "I ce a banqwit haul widh waulz ov daac grene jaspə specld widh red, and a mascy caunis baun up bi giənts thre-heddid caavd in blac suupəntine; and eche giənt iz boud binneeth the wate ov a huge crab-fish. The haul iz cevn-cidid. Too long taiblz dhae be and a cros-bench. Dhae be iən brasiyyəz in the midst ov the haul and flamboiz buuning in cilvə standz, and revvələz qwoffing at the long taiblz. Sum daac yung men blac ov brou and grate ov jau, moast soalgə-like, bruthəz mahap. Ənuthə widh them, ruddy ov countinnəns and kiandliyyə too looc on, widh long broun məstaasheyose. Ənuthə dhat warith a braizn buuny and ce-grene cuutl; an oald man he, widh spaas gra wiskəz and flabby cheex; fat and unweeldy; not a cumly oald man too looc uppon."

She ceest speking, and Jus ced, "Hoome ceyist dhou els in the banqwit haul, O Qwene?"

She ced, "The flae ov the flamboiz hidith the cros-bench. I wil tuun the cristl əghen. Nou I bihhoald too divuuting thəmcelvz widh dice at the taibl biffau the cros-bench. Wun iz wel-loocking ennuf, wel nit, ov a noabl paut, widh cuuly broun hae and biyyəd and kene ise like a salə. The uthə cemith yunʻghə in yuuz, yunʻghə dhan enny ov u, mi laudz. He iz smuidh shaivd, ov a fresh kəmplecshn and fae cuuling hae, and hiz brou iz reedhd widh a festl gaalənd. A moast big braud strong and ceemly yung man. Yet iz dhae a sumwot makith me il at ese bihhoalding him; and fau aul hiz fae countinnəns and roiəl baring he cemith displesing in mine ise.

"Dhae iz a dammməsel dhae too, wotching them wile dha pla. Showilly drest she iz, and hath sum buty. Yet scaes can I kəmend huu--" and, il at ese on a sudn, the Qwene sudnly put doun the cristl.

The i ov Laud Brandokh Daahaa twincld, but he kept ciləns. Laud Jus ced, "Mau, I entrete the, O Qwene, ae the reke be gon and the vizhn fade. If this be aul within the banqwit haul, ceyist dhou naut widhout?"

Qwene Sofonnizbə looct əghen, and in a wile ced, "Dhae iz a terrəs facing too the west undə the innə waul ov dhat fautris ov oald nite, and wauking on it in the tauchlite a man cround like a King. Verry taul he iz: lene ov boddy, and long ov lim. He warith a blac dublit biddiaznd or widh diəməndz, and hiz croun iz in the figghə ov a crab-fish, and the jooəlz dharov out-face the sun in splendə. But scaes ma I maac hiz əparrəl fau loocking on the face ov him, wich iz mau terreebl dhan the face ov enny man dhat evvə I sau. And the hole aspect ov the man iz fool ov daacnəs and pouə and

terrə and stuun kəmaand, dhat spirrits from billo uuth must trembl at and doo hiz bidding."

Jus ced, "Hevn faufend dhat this shood proove but a swete and goaldən dreme, and we wake too-morro too fiand it flone."

"Dhae waukith widh him," ced the Qwene, "in intimmət kənvuus, az ov a suuvənt tauking too hiz laud, wun widh a long blac biyyəd cuuly az the sheeps wool and gloscy az the ravnz wing. Pale he iz az the moone in dalite ouəz, slendə, widh fine-cut fechəz and grate daac ise, and hiz nose hooct like a reping-hooc; gentl-loocking and melləncolly-loocking, yet noabl."

Laud Brandokh Daahaa ced, "Ceyist dhou nun, O Qwene, in the lodgingz dhat be in the eestən galləry əbuv the innə caut ov the pallis?"

The Qwene aancəd, "I ce a lofty bed-chaimbə hung widh arrəs. It iz daac, save fau too braanching candlstix ov liats buuning biffau a grate mirrə. I ce a lady standing biffau the mirrə, cround widh a qweenz croun ov puupl ammithhists on huu depe hae dhat hath the cullə ov the tipmoast tungz ov a flame. A man cummith throo the dau bihhiand huu, paating the hevvy hangingz left and rite. A big man he iz, and loockith like a king, in hiz grate woolf-skin mantl and hiz cuutl ov ruscit velvit widh aunəments ov goald. Hiz bauld hed cet əbout widh grizld cuulz and hiz booshy biyyəd flect widh gra speke him sumthhing paast hiz prime; but the lite ov ueth buunz in hiz eghə ise and the vigghə ov ueth iz in hiz tred. She tuunith too grete him. Taul she iz, and yung she iz, and butiffəl, and proud-faist, and swete-faist, and moast gallənt-haatid too, and merry ov haat too, if huu loox billi huu not."

Qwene Sofonnizbə cuvvəd huu ise, saying, "Mi laudz, I ce no mau. The cristl cuudlz within like fome in a wuulpoole undə a hi faus in rany wethə. Mine ise gro sau widh wotching. Let us ro bac, fau the nite iz faa spent and I am wiyyəry."

But Jus stade huu and ced, "Let me dreme yet əwile. The dubl pillə ov the wuuld, dhat membə dharov wich we, bliand instroommənts ov inscrootəbl Hevn, did shattə, ristaud əghen? From this time fauth too maintane, I and he, hiz and mine, aijləs and dethlis fau evvə, fau evvə ouə hi kəntenshn wethə he au we shood be grate maastəz ov aul the uuth? If this be but fantəmz, O Qwene, dhoust tiast us too the verry haat ov bittənəs. This we cood hav mist, uncene and unnimmadgind: but not nou. Yet hou wuu it poscəbl the Godz shood rillent and the yuuz rittuun?"

But the Qwene spake, and huu vois woz like the fauling shaidz ov eevning, pulcing widh hidn splendə, az ov a cens ov wakəning staalite əlive bihhiand the fading bloo. "This King," she ced, "in the wickidnis ov hiz impiyyəs pride did ware on hiz thum the liacnəs ov dhat wuum Oorəborəs, az much az too sa hiz kingdəm shood nevvə end. Yet woz he, wen the əpointid ouə did cum, thundəd doun intoo the depths ov Hel. And if nou he be raizd əghen and hiz dase kəntinnude, tiz not fau hiz vuuchoo but fau yau sake, mi laudz, hoome the Aulmity Godz doo luv. Dhaefau I pra u pəses yau haats əwile widh humillitty biffau the moast hi Godz, and speke no unproffittəbl wuudz. Let us ro bac."

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Daun came goaldən-fin‘ghəd, but the laudz ov Demənland la əlong

əbed aaftə dhae woch in the nite. Əbout the thuud ouə
biffau noone, the prezns woz fild in the hi prezns
chaimbə, and the thre bredhrən sat uppon dhae throanz, az fau
yuuz əgo dha sat, bitwene the goaldən hippəgrifs, and biscide
them wuu throanz cet fau Qwene Sofonnizbə and Laud Brandokh
Daahaa. Aul els ov buty and splendə in Galing Caasl had the
Qwene bihheld, but not til nou this prezns chaimbə; and much
she maavld at its machləs butiz and rarittiz, the
hangingz and the caavingz on the waulz, the fae picchəz, the
lamps ov muinstone and escaabuncl celf-iffulgənt, the monstəz
on the fau-and-twenty pilləz, caavd in preshəs stoanz so
grate dhat too men mite scaes suucl them widh dhae aamz,
and the constəlaishnz buuning in dhat fuuməmənt ov lappis
lazzuli billo the goaldən cannəpy. And wen dha dranc untooh Laud
Jus the cup ov glory too be, wishing him long yuuz and joi and
graitnəs fau evvə mau, the Qwene tooc a litl cithhən
saying, "O mi laud, I wil cing a sonnit too the and too u mi
laudz and too ce-guut Demənland." So saying, she smote the
stringz, and sang in dhat cristl vois ov huuz, so troo and
dellickət dhat aul dhat wuu in dhat haul wuu ravvisht bi its
buty:

Shall I compare thee to a Summers day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:
Rough windes do shake the darling buds of Maie,
And Sommers lease hath all too short a date:
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimn'd;
And every faire from faire some-time declines,
By chance or natures changing course untrim'd;
But thy eternall Sommer shall not fade
Nor loose possession of that faire thou ow'st;

Nor shall Death brag thou wandr'st in his shade,
When in eternall lines to time thou grow'st:
So long as men can breath, or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

Wen she had dun, Laud Jus rose up verry noably and kist huu hand, saying, "O Qwene Sofonnizbə, fostərling ov the Godz, shame us not widh prasiz dhat be too hi fau mautl men. Fau wel dhou nowist wot thhing ələone mite bring us content. And tiz not too be thaut dhat dhat wich woz cene at Muinmiyyə Hed laast nite woz verry truith indede, but raathə the dreme ov a nite vizhn."

But Qwene Sofonnizbə aancəd and ced, "Mi Laud Jus, blasfeme not the bounty ov the blescid Godz, lest Dha be an'gry and widhdrau it, Hoo hav graantid untooh u ov Demənland from this da fauth ueth evvəlaasting and unwaning strength and skil in aamz, and--but haac!" she ced, fau a trumpit soundid at the gate, thre striadnt blaasts.

At the sound ov dhat trumpit blone, the laudz Goaldry and Spitfiə sprang from dhae ceets, clapping hand too saud. Laud Jus stood like a stag at gase. Laud Brandokh Daahaa sat stil in hiz goaldən chae, scaes chain'ging hiz pose ov eezfəl grace. But aul hiz frame ceemd ələite widh acshn niyyə too buuth, az the activ princəpl ov lite pulciz and grose in the ski at sunrise. He looct at the Qwene, hiz ise fild widh a wiald suumise. A suuving man, əbediyyənt too Jusciz nod, haisnd from the chaimbə.

No sound woz dhae in dhat hi prezns chaimbə in Galing til

in a minuets space the suuving man rittuund widh staatld countinnəns, and, bouwing biffau Laud Jus, ced, "Laud, it iz an Ambascədə from Wichland and hiz trane. He cravith preznt audiyyəns."

THE WUUM OORƏBORƏS

Aagumənt: widh Daits

[Daits Anno Caacese Conditti. The acshn ov the story cuvvəz igzactly fau yuuz; from the 22nd Aiprəl 399 too 22nd Aiprəl 403 A.C.C.]

Yuu A.C.C.

171. Qwene Sofonnizbə baun in Maunə Moroonə.

187. Gorice 3. et up widh manticcorz biyyond the Baavinnən.

188. Maunə Moroonə sact bi Gorice 4. Qwene Sofonnizbə lojd bi divvine agəncy in Coshtrə Billaun.

337. Gorice 7., cun'gəring in Caacy, slane bi eevl spirrits.

341. Buuth ov Seldauniyyəs.

344. Buuth ov Caucəs in Tennəmos.

353. Corrənd baun in Caacy.

354. Buuth ov Sennambriyyə, dutchis too Caucəs.

357. Buuth ov Heltəraniyyəs.

360. Vol baun at Daaclaested in Demənland.

361. Buuth ov Jalkəniəs Fostəs.

363. Buuth ov Viz at Daaclaested.

364. Gro baun in Goblinland at the caut ov Zadgy Zacculo, the fostə-bruthə ov Gazlaac the King.

Gazlaac baun in Zadgy Zacculo.

366. Laxəs, hi Admərəl ov Wichland and aaftə king ov Pixeland, baun in Estrəmərene.

367. Buuth ov Galləndəs in Butəny.

369. Sig baun at Menny Booshiz in Ammaadədale.

370. Jus baun at Galing.

371. Goaldry Blusco baun in Galing.

Deckəlagəs, eldist ov the sunz ov Caucəs, baun in Wichland.

372. Spitfiə baun in Galing.

Brandokh Daahaa baun in Crothəring.

374. La Firrese baun in Nauvasp ov Pixeland.

Goriyyəs, ceckənd ov Caucəciz sunz, baun in Wichland.

375. Kərinniyyəs baun in Caacy.

376. Prezmirə, cistə too the Prins La Firrese, ceckənd wife too Corrənd, and aaftə Qwene ov Impland, baun in Nauvasp.

379. Buuth ov Hacmən, eldist ov the sunz ov Corrənd.

Mevreən, cistə too Laud Brandokh Daahaa, baun in Crothəring.

380. Hemming baun, ceckənd ov Corrəndz sunz.

381. Daumainz baun, thuud ov Corrəndz sunz.

382. Buuth ov Vigləs, Corrəndz fauth sun, in Caacy.

Rescədau, King ov Goblinland, privvilly poiznd bi Caucəs:

Gazlaac rainz in hiz sted in Zadgy Zacculo.

Srevə, dautə too Caucəs and Sennambriyyə, baun in Caacy.

383. Aamələne, cuzn-juumən too King Gazlaac, aaftə bitroadhd and wed too Goaldry Blusco, baun in Caacy.

384. Caago, yun'ghist ov the sunz ov Corrənd, baun in Caacy.

388. Goblinland invadid bi the Guilz: the flite out ov Zadgy

Zacculo: Tennəmos buunt: the pouə ov the Guilz crusht bi Caucəs.

389. Seldauniyyəs, Heltəraniyyəs, and Jalkəniəs Fostəs cent bi Gazlaac widh an aaməmənt intoo Impland, and dhae ensaucəl.

390. The Witchiz harry in Goblinland: dhae diffete bi the help ov Demənland on Lauməron feeld: the slaying ov Gorice X. bi Brandokh Daahaa: Caucəs takən captiv and shaimd bi the Demənz: Gro, əbandəning the Goblin cauz, dwelz in exile at the caut ov Wichland.

393. La Firrese, bisceejd bi Fax Fa Faz at Lidə Nan'goonə in Outə Impland, dillivvəd bi the Demənz: Goaldry Blusco rippulst bi Caucəs biffau Haaqwəm.

395. Corrənd wedz in Nauvasp widh the Princes Prezmirə.

398. The Guilz buust fauth in unnimmadgind fəroscitty: dhae harriyying in Demənland and buuning ov Goaldrese hous at Dreppəby.

399. Holy wau ov Wichland, Demənland, Goblinland, and uthə pəlite naishnz əghenst the Guilz: Laxəs, widh the countinnəns ov hiz maastə Gorice 11. and bi the counsl ov Gro, dizzuuts widh aul hiz flete in the batl auf Caatadsə (eestən cebaud ov Demənland): the Guilz nevvəthəles ovəwelmd bi the Demənz in Caatadsə Sound, and dhae hole race ixtuuminnatid: Gorice 11. dimmaandz hommij ov Demənland, raslz widh Goaldry Blusco, and iz in dhat encountər slane. Gorice 12., rinnuwing widh happiyyə fauchoone the aatiffishl practisciz ov Gorice 7. in Caacy, taix Goaldry widh a cending madgicl: Jus and Brandokh Daahaa, paatly straut ov dhae wits, unnədvisidly go up widh Gazlaac əghenst Caacy and ar dhae clapt up: dhae dillivvəry

bi the agəncy ov La Firrese, and rittuun too dhae one cuntry: Jusciz dreme: the counsl in Crothəring: the fuust expiddishn too Impland. The Kingz rivvenj on Pixeland exiccutid bi Kərinniyyəs, and La Firrese dispəsest and drivn intoo exile: Corrəndz grate maach ovə Acrə Skəbranth, sudn irrupshn intoo Outə Impland, and conqwest ov dhat cuntry: shiprec ov the Demən flete: caanij at Salləpantə: maach ov the Demənz intoo Uppə Impland: ammərəs commuus ov Brandokh Daahaa widh the Lady ov Ishnane Nəmaatrə, hoo lase a wiyyəd uppon him: Corrənd biscegiz and capchəz Eshgraa Ogo: Jus and Brandokh Daahaa iscape əcros the Moroonə and wintə bi the Baavinnən.

400. Nuse ov Eshgraa Ogo braut too Caacy: Corrənd onnəd bi the King dhaefau widh the stile ov king ov Impland. Jus and Brandokh Daahaa cros the Siyyə Paas: fite widh the manticcor: əcent ov Coshtrə Pivraakhə, entrəns intoo Coshtrə Billaun, and entətainmənt bi Qwene Sofonnizbə: Jusciz vizhn ov Goaldry bound on Zorə: the Qweenz fuuthərəns ov dhae dizsianz: the hippəgrif hacht biscide the Lake ov Ravvəry: the faitl folly ov Mivaash: Jus in dispite ov the Qweenz admənishnz əsase Zorə Rakh on foot and cumz within a litl ov loosing hiz life. Prezmirə Qwene ov Impland and Laxəs king ov Pixeland cround in Caacy: the King cenz an expiddishn too put doun Demənland, cetting Caucəs in chefe kəmaand dharov: Laxəs diffeets Vol bi ce auf Loocking'haivn, and Caucəs Viz bi land at Crosby Outciax, Viz slane on the feeld: croowwəl and dispiatfəl polləcy ov Caucəs: discenshnz bitwixt him and Galləndəs: grate rivvuusl ov these dizzaastəz bi Spitfiə, Caucəciz aamy cut in peciz bi him on the Raips ov Bremə and the cəvivəz bisceejd in Oulzwic: diskəntent ov the aamy: Caucəs widh hiz one handz muuthəz Galləndəs in Oulzwic: tidingz braut bi Gro too Caacy: Caucəs digradid bi the King, hoo kəmishnz Kərinniyyəs az king ov Demənland too ritreve the mattə: batl ov Thremnə Hu, widh the ovəthro ov Spitfiəz pouə: Kərinniyyəs cround

in Oulzwic: ərest ov Caucəs and hiz sunz and dhae dispach home too Wichland.

401. Ridducshn ov eestən Demənland bi Kərinniyyəs, save oanly Galing wich Bremməry hoaldz widh cevnty men: Kərinniyyəs muivz west ovə the Stile: hiz incələnt dimmaandz too Mevreən: miscarrij ov Gazlaax expiddishn too the rillefe ov Crothəring, hiz diffete at Auwauth: maastəly ritrete ov Kərinniyyəs from Crothəring biffau soopiyyəriyyə numbəz: hiz ambooshing and distroiying ov Spitfiəz aamy on the shauz ov Swichwautə: faul ov Crothəring and cərendə ov Mevreən: huu iscape bi the counsl ov Gro, the help ov Corrəndz sunz, and the kənivəns ov Laxəs: huu flite too Westmaac and thens eest əghen intoo Nevvədale: Gro əbandənz the cauz ov Wichland fau dhat ov Demənland: hiz and Mevreənz meting widh Jus and Brandokh Daahaa on dhae rittuun home aaftə too yuuz: rivvoalt ov the eest and rillefe ov Galing: maastəly dispəsishnz boath bi Kərinniyyəs and bi the Demənz fau a disciciv encountər: batl ov Crothəring Cide and ixpulshn ov the Witchiz from Demənland.

402. Ceckənd expiddishn too Impland, in wich Gazlaac and La Firrese join the Demənz, landz at Muwelvə on the Diddauneən Ce: Jus, Spitfiə, Brandokh Daahaa, Gro, Sig, and Əstaa cros the Moroonə: Jusciz riding ov the hippəgrif too Zorə Rakh and dillivvərəns ov Goaldry: Laxəs cent bi the King widh an ovəwelming pouə ov ships too close Mellecafkhaz Straits əghenst the Demənz on dhae hoamwəd voiyij: batl auf Mellecafkhaz: distrucshn ov the Wichland aamaadə: Laxəs and La Firrese slane: a cin'gl cəviving ship bringz the tidingz too Caacy: Corrənd cauld captin genrəl in Caacy: gathəring ov the Wichland aamiz and dhae subgict alli: landing ov the Demənz in the soudh: paaly biffau Caacy: the Kingz wauning too Jus: implackəbl enmitty bitwene them: cianz and prognostix in the hevnz: the Kingz despərət rezsəluishn if the fite

shood go əghenst him: batl biffau Caacy: slaying ov Gro and Corrənd: diffete ov the Kingz fauciz: counsl ov wau in Caacy, Kərinniyyəs the ceckənd time captin genrəl: Caucəs, councəling cərendə, faulz graitly intoo the Kingz displezhə and iz bi him shaimd and dizmist: in dispae he cumpəciz the taking auf ov Kərinniyyəs and the sunz ov Corrənd, and unhappilly ov hiz one sun too and hiz dutchis, bi poizn, but iz himcelf slane bi Kərinniyyəs: blaasting ov the Iən Touə in the miscarrij ov the Kingz laast cunʻgəring: the Demənz entə intoo Caacy: dhae encountər dhae widh Qwene Prezmirə: huu tradgickəl end and triəmf: in aul ov wich iz kəmpletid the faul ov the empiə and kingdəm ov the hous ov Gorice in Caacy.

403. Qwene Sofonnizbə in Demənland: the maavl ov maavlz dhat ristaud the wuuld on Laud Jusciz naitl da, the thuuty-thuud yuu ov hiz life in Galing.

Bibliyyogrəfic Note on the Vuuciz

CHAPTƏ 3

The Funərəl duuj on King Gorice 11. Williyyəm Dunbaa (late 15θ cenchəry) "*Lament for the Makaris*: *quhen he wes seik*."

Lampoone on Gro Eppigram in memməry ov Williyyəm Parry, "a cappittəl tratə," exiccutid fau treezn in 1584: qwotid bi Hollinzʻhed.

CHAPTƏ 4

Proffiscy kənsuuning the laast thre Kingz ov the hous ov Gorice in Caacy ----

CHAPTƏ 7

Song in prase ov Prezmirə Tommәs Kəroo (1598-1639).

Corrəndz Song ov the Chine "An Antiddote əghenst Melləncolly" (1661).

Caucəciz "Wennae I bib the wine doun" Ənacreyontə 25.; transl. from the Greke, E. Aa. E.

Caucəciz uthə dittiz From the "Roxbərə Ballədz" (kəlectid 1774).

CHAPTƏ 9

Mivaashiz staivz on Salləpantə Herric (1591-1674), "Hespehriddese."

CHAPTƏ 15

Prezmirəz song ov Luvvəz Don (1573-1631)

Kərinniyyəciz luv ditty: "Wot an As iz he" "Merry Drolәry" (1691).

Kərinniyyəciz song on hiz Mistris Ibbid.

CHAPTƏ 16

Laxəciz Cerrənade Ənacreyontə 2.; transl. from the Greke, E. Aa. E.

CHAPTƏ 17

Maach ov Caucəciz vettərənz ----

CHAPTƏ 22

Mevreənz balləd ov the Raivnz Oald Balləd: "The Thre Raivnz."

CHAPTƏ 24

Mevreənz qwotaishn on the azbeston stone. Robbət Grene (1560-92), "Alphoncəs, King ov Arrəghən."

CHAPTƏ XXX

Grose cerrənade too Prezmirə. Suu Henry Wottun (1568-1639), vuuciz too Illizsəbəth, Qwene ov Bohemiyyə.

CHAPTƏ 31

Proffiscy kənsuuning cun‘gəring ----

CHAPTƏ 33

Lianz qwotid bi Qwene Sofonnizbə on the faul ov Wichland Webztuu (bigghinning ov 17θ cenchəry); "The Dutchis ov Malfy," Act V. v.

Qwene Sofonnizbəz Sonnit Shaixpiyyər, Sonnit 18.

The text hiyyə printid ov Wottunz powim iz dhat ov "Relliqwiy Wottonniyyəny," 1st ed., 1651, eddittid bi Isəc Woltn; ixept dhat I red (widh the uuliyyə texts) 1. 5 Moone, 1. 8 Pashnz, 1. 16 Princes, insted ov Sun, Voiciz, Mistrese ov the 1651 iddishn.

Shaixpiyyərese Sonnit iz from the Qwauto ov 1609.

The pascij from Nyaalz Saaghə in the Inducshn iz qwotid from the late Suu Jauj Dacents clascic translaishn.

[End ov The Wuum Oorəborəs, bi E. Aa. Eddisn]