

There was a clanleader called Eirík Northwind who ruled over the land north of the Great Wolf's Hackles. He was called Eirík the Victorious. His mate was Sigríd the Proud but he separated from her because of her difficult moods, for she was a very quarrelsome woman and made an issue out of everything that happened. He gave her the southern portions of his land. Their son was Olaf Northwind.

At that time, Clanleader Hakon Axehound ruled over the lands to the East and had many children, but we will just say something about one of his daughters who was called Aud. Clanleader Eirík had a daughter too who is not named. A Stormwind chieftain called Aki asked for her hand, but the clanleader didn't much rate the idea of giving away his daughter to a mere chieftain. Shortly afterwards a great warleader from Steinjotunn in the east asked for her and Eirík saw fit to give the girl to him, and she went east with him to Steinjotunn lands. A bit later, Aki came unannounced, took this warleader by surprise, killed him and carried off Eirík's daughter back home with him to Stormwind, and married her. Eight chieftains made a pact with Aki, in this plot, and they remain thus for a while under Clanleader Eirík's displeasure, as he did not want to fight with them and thereby cause great loss of life among his own people within the land. Aki and his mate had a son, who was called Eymund.

After this, Aki offered to make peace with the Clanleader for his rashness. The Clanleader was agreeable to that. And now, when this had come to pass, Eirík asks for Aud, the daughter of Hakon Axehound. The chieftain assented, although he made it known that he would have preferred not to have Eirík let his self-appointed son-in-law sit with impunity as high as himself in Stormwind's lands. Now the woman was promised and the bonding arranged, and now messages are once again exchanged between Aki and the Clanleader. And Aki invites the Clanleader to set his own terms, except for outlawry and confiscation of his lands, and they agree to that. The Clanleader now makes preparations for the bonding ritual and invites the chieftains of the land: naming Aki, his son-in-law, first, and the eight chiefs who were allied to him.

2. Of Eymund and the Killing of Aki

On the appointed day, Clanleader Hakon came from Northwind to Stormwind, and there were great multitudes of Ulven at Updals, for all the most important warriors and witches were there. There were a lot of big halls put up there since many chieftains with large followings had come, although Aki's following was the largest, excepting those of Clanleader Eirík and Clanleader Hakon. So the

second biggest hall was prepared for Aki. The Clanleader's daughter wasn't there, or their son, because Hakon's offer didn't seem trustworthy.

Now they sit at the banquet for a time with much cheer and mirth. At the beginning of the feast, Aki had kept a good look out for his own safety, but less so as the ceremony went on, till the feast was nearly done and there was just one night left. Then Clanleader Eirik takes them all by surprise and killed all eight of the chiefs who had opposed him, and Aki likewise. After this, the feast was broken up. Clanleader Hakon went to Northwind and everyone to their own homes. This plot is attributed by some to Clanleader Hakon, and some say that he himself was among the killers.

Now Hakon Axehound takes possession of all the lands and goods that those eight chiefs had owned. He brought Eymund and his mother home with him. Eymund grew up with the Clanleader, who treated him with great honour, until finally Clanleader Eirik died. Then Olaf took stewardship of the lands and treated Eymund with the same respect as his father had done.

But when Eymund was fully grown, he called to mind his loss, because he saw his lands right there before his eyes every day and he felt deprived of all honour, because the Clanleader took all the tribute from his properties. Olaf Northwind had a daughter, who was called Ingigerd. She and Eymund loved one another dearly, on account of their kinship, for she was a fine woman in all respects. Eymund was a man of great stature and strength, and the very best warrior there was.

Eymund now considers his case, and redress for his grief seemed slow in coming, and he thought it better to endure a quick death than a life of shame. When he learnt that twelve of the Clanleader's sworn warriors had gone to collect the revenues in the lands and farms his father had cared for, he has an idea. He goes with twelve men to the wood that lay in their path, and they fought there, and that was a hard fight he had with them.

That same day, Ingigerd happened to be going through those woods, and she found them all dead except for Eymund, and he was sorely wounded. She had him laid in her wagon and drove off with him and healed him in secret. But when Clanleader Olaf heard these tidings, he called an assembly and declared Eymund guilty and outlawed him from the whole of the Northern lands. And when Eymund had got well, Ingigerd secretly provided him with a ship, and he sails out raiding and does well for weapons and warriors.

3. A Truce of Clanleaders

Some years later, Clanleader Jarizleif Steinjotunn asked to marry Ingigerd. She was given to him, and she went east with him. And when Eymund heard these tidings, he goes east to Steinjotunn, and Jarizleif receives him well, as does Ingigerd, for there was at this time a serious conflict in Steinjotunn, because Burizleif, the brother of Jarizleif, was making attacks on the lands. Against him Eymund fought five battles, and in the last Burizleif was taken captive and blinded and brought to the Clanleader. Eymund won immense wealth there: well-worked armor and storied blades and many kinds of treasures and precious items. Then Ingigerd sent men to meet with Olaf Northwind, her father, and asked that he give up those lands which belonged to Eymund, and make peace with him rather than having to live with the constant threat of attack from him-- and Olaf agreed, after a fashion. At that time, Eymund was in the lands of Whiteoak, which is now Axehound, and often engaged in battles and had victory in every one and won back much tribute-land for Clanleader Jarizleif Steinjotunn. Then Eymund was eager to visit his own properties, and he has a great army, and well equipped, since they lacked for neither goods nor arms.

Now Eymund sets out from Steinjotunn, much honoured and respected by the whole people, and comes now to Northwind and takes up residence on his own land and properties, and soon gets himself a mate and is bonded to a mighty Daughter of Gaia, and they had one son, who was called Yngvar.

Word of this came to Clanleader Olaf, that Eymund had come to the country with a great host and plenty of wealth and had settled down on the land that once belonged to his father and those eight chieftains. And this seemed grave news to him, but he doesn't feel confident enough to make a move, because every day he hears much spoken of Eymund's daring and his deeds. And each sits tight now, as neither wants to bow down to the other.

Eymund stays in his land now, managing and governing it like a Clanleader would, and increases his realm, coming to rule a great many Ulven. He had a great hall built for himself and fitted out in style and dines there every day with an immense retinue, for he had many warriors and raiding ships. He lives this way in peace now.

Now Yngvar grew up at home with his father, until he was nine years old. Then Yngvar asked his father if he might go to see the Clanleader and the other chieftains of Northwind. Eymund gave him permission to go and made

preparations for him to travel in fitting style. Yngvar took his father's helm, the best he owned--it was gilded and set with gemstones--and a sword adorned with gold, and he had with him many other treasures. Yngvar went now with fourteen of his father's warriors, and all their hunters were as heavily armored as they themselves were. And they had shields and gilt helms, and all their weapons were adorned with gold and silver. And with his company thus arrayed, off he goes west through Northwind. News of his journey gets around, and chieftains from far and wide come to him and invite him to feast with them. He accepts, and they give him good gifts, and he them.

Now Yngvar's fame travels all over Northwind and comes to the ears of Clanleader Olaf. He had a son called Onund, a most promising young warrior, who was more or less the same age as Yngvar and not yet marked by the Great Wolf. He begged his father's leave to go and meet his kinsman Yngvar and welcome him with all due honours, and this was granted just as he had asked, and he went to meet Yngvar and showed him much honour, and that was a joyful meeting indeed. Then they go to see the Clanleader, and he went to meet them and welcomed them warmly, Yngvar included, and leads him into the hall and seats Yngvar next to himself and bade him stay there for a long time and be welcome and all his companions too. Yngvar says he will stop there a while.

Then he brings out those treasures which were mentioned earlier, the helm and the sword, and spoke thus: "My father sent you these gifts to strengthen peace and seal friendship."

The Clanleader received the treasures with thanks, though he said Eymund had not sent them for him. Yngvar stayed the whole winter there and was valued above all other ulven by the Clanleader. In the spring, Yngvar got ready to go home together with Onund. Then the king gave Yngvar a good coat of mail, a set of great sails, and a fine ship.

So Yngvar and Onund set off in great favour from Olaf Northwind and travel now to Eymund. And when they come to Eymund's house, he was told who had arrived, but he pretended not to hear. Now they come to the hall, and Onund wanted to announce them to the Clanleader, but Yngvar said they should enter into the hall. They do so, walking in right up to Eymund's high-seat. He greets them well and asks what is new, and, for that matter, why they have the cheek to carry on like louts and come into his hall without observing the proper respect.

Then Yngvar answered, "When I arrived at Clanleader Olaf's, he came to meet me with all his retinue and welcomed me warmly and worthily, but you will not now do any honour to his son, when he visits you. So now you know: this is why I entered into your hall without announcing myself."

Eymund sprang up then and took Onund in his arms and kissed him and set him down and said everyone inside the hall would serve him. Now Yngvar brought the gifts to his father, saying that Clanleader Olaf had sent them to him to seal the peace. That's the mail and the fine sails and ship. Eymund said that Clanleader Olaf hadn't sent them for him, though he praised him much for having given such worthy gifts to Yngvar. Onund spent the winter there.

In the spring, he got ready to leave together with Yngvar. Then Eymund gave Onund a golden coloured hawk, and they depart thus and come to Clanleader Olaf, and he welcomes them warmly and is glad at their return. Then Onund brought him the hawk and said Eymund has sent it for him.

The Clanleader blushed at this and said Eymund might have mentioned him when he gave the hawk after all, "So maybe he did have that in mind."

A little later, he calls Onund and Yngvar to him and said, "Now you must go back and bring to Eymund what I want to give him, and it is a battle-standard, because I have no more precious gifts to give him than this. It is a property of this standard, that whoever has it borne before them into battle can always count on certain victory. And this token shall be the sign and standard of the peace between us."

They go back now and brought the standard to Eymund along with the Clanleader's words of friendship. Eymund received it with thanks, the Clanleader's gift, and told them to go straight back and invite Clanleader Olaf back there to visit him, "And you shall say: 'Eymund, your thrall, invites you to a feast with good will, and will be pleased if you accept.'"

They go to Clanleader Olaf and gave him Eymund's invitation. Then Clanleader Olaf became very happy and went with a great host of Ulven. Eymund received him well and did him much honour, and they spoke together and pledged their friendship and held to it well.

Then the Clanleader went home with good gifts and Yngvar was always with him, because the Clanleader loved him no less than his own son. Yngvar was a man great in stature, handsome and strong and fair-faced, wise and well-spoken, kind and generous with his friends, but grim with his enemies, courteous and quick and alert, so that wise Daughters have likened him in accomplishments to his kinsman Styrbjorn, or to Clanleader Olaf Bonebreaker, who was the most renowned Ulven there ever was or will be in the northlands, for ever and aye, both before the Great Wolf and Gaia.

4. Yngvar Demanded Tribute

When those kinsmen, Onund and Yngvar were in the prime of their youth, there was a dispute between Clanleader Olaf and that Pack who were called Fieldsparrow, and they had not sent tribute for some time. Then Clanleader Olaf sent Onund and Yngvar with three ships to demand tribute. They reach land and call a meeting with the inhabitants, and there they demanded tribute from their chieftain. Yngvar demonstrated his great skill in speaking there, so that the chieftain and many other chiefs saw no choice but to pay the tribute which was demanded, all except three chiefs who did not want to follow the chieftain's advice and refused to send the tribute and raised an army. But when the packleader heard what they were up to, he asked Onund and Yngvar to fight them and gave them warriors. They fought, and there was great loss of life there before they put the chiefs to flight. In the route, the chief who had most opposed the paying of tribute was taken captive, and they strung him up, but the other two got away. They took much treasure there and claimed all the tributes, and, that done, they sail back to Olaf Northwind and bring him a great wealth of armor and weapons and good treasures, and Yngvar's reputation was greatly increased by this voyage, so much so that the Clanleader set him above all the other chiefs in Northwind's lands. Yngvar took himself a mistress and had a son with her, who was called Svein.

Yngvar remained with Clanleader Olaf, enjoying his favour, until he was twenty and was thrice-marked by the Great Wolf. Then he became unhappy so that he hardly spoke a word from his mouth. The Clanleader thought this a great shame and asks why.

Yngvar answers, "If you think it's a shame that I'm unhappy and you wish me as well as you say, then give me the title of Clanleader with all the dignity that entails."

The king answers, "Anything else you ask, wealth or honours, I will give. But this I cannot, for I am no wiser than my forbears, and I can do no better than my kin who came before me."

This thing became a bone of contention between them, for Yngvar was forever demanding the title of Clanleader and did not get it.

5. Of Yngvar's Levy

Then Yngvar got ready to leave the Clan's holdings to seek out a domain abroad and he selected warriors from the land and thirty ships, all fully equipped. Word of that Yngvar was preparing for a journey reached Clanleader Olaf now, and he sent hunters to meet with Yngvar and begged him to stay and accept the title of Clanleader of the Northwind. Yngvar said he would have accepted it if he'd had the chance earlier, but he was ready to sail, he said, as soon as the wind was right.

Soon afterwards, Yngvar sailed out from Northwind with thirty ships and they did not stop sailing till they came to Steinjotunn, and Clanleader Jarizleif received him well and honoured him greatly. Yngvar was there for three years and learnt to speak many ancient tongues there. He heard talk that three great rivers flowed out of the west through Steinjotunn, and the middle one was the biggest. Then Yngvar travelled widely in the west, asking if anyone knew where that river flowed from, but no one could say.

Then Yngvar got ready to leave Steinjotunn's lands and he meant to try and explore the length of this river. He had a Daughter of Gaia bless his flint and fire-axe. Four warriors are named among Yngvar's companions on the journey: Hjalmvigi and Soti, Ketil, who was called Garda-Ketil--he was of Goldenfield - and Valdimar. Anyway, after that, they set out onto the river with thirty ships, and Yngvar turned the prows to the west and made a rule that no one should go ashore without his leave. And if anyone did, they would lose a hand or a foot. Someone had to stay awake at night on every ship.

When they'd been following the river for a while, it's said that one night it fell to Ketil to keep watch, and when everyone had been asleep for a long time he felt bored, and he became curious and went ashore to have a look around and happened to go further than he intended. He stopped and listened. He saw up ahead of him a tall house and walked towards it and into the house, and there he was amazed to see a silver pot over the fire. He took the pot and ran back towards the ships. But

when he'd been going for a little while, he looked back and saw a terrible giant tearing after him. Ketil quickened his pace, but still the giant was getting closer. He pulls off the handle and drops the pot, and runs then as fast as he can, glancing back though now and then. He sees the giant stop when it comes to the pot. It walks now towards it, now away, but finally picks up the pot and goes home. And Garda-Ketil walked to the ship and broke up the handle and put it in his luggage box.

But in the morning, when the Ulven woke up and went ashore, they saw tracks leading from the ships, because there'd been a dew, and they told Yngvar. He asked Ketil if it was him, since Ketil wasn't naming anyone else, and said he wouldn't kill him if he told the truth. He did so and begged to be excused for his disobedience, and for his life to be spared, and showed him the handle. Yngvar told him not to do it again and left it at that.

They sailed then for many days and through many regions till they saw that the colours and lifestyles of the animals had changed, and from this they knew they were far from home. One evening, they saw far off what looked like a half moon standing on the earth. That night Valdimar held watch. He goes ashore in search of the place where they saw it. He came to what looked like a hill looming up before him the colour of gold, and he saw the reason: it was covered in serpents. But since they were asleep, he reached in with his spear-shaft to where a gold ring was, and pulled it out towards himself. Then a little baby snake woke up, and it instantly woke up those beside it, and they all woke their neighbours, snake after snake, till they woke Jakulus.

Valdimar raced back to the ships and told Yngvar the whole truth. Now Yngvar ordered his men to make ready for the serpent and steer the ships to another mooring-site across the river, and so they do. Then they see a dreadful-looking dragon flying towards them over the river. Many hid in fear. And when Jakulus came over the ship that was captained by two Daughters of Gaia, he spewed so much venom that both ship and Ulven were destroyed. Then he flew back across the river to his abode.

Yngvar follows the river now for many days. Then towns and buildings rose into view, and then they see a magnificent temple. It was built of white marble. As they neared the citadel, they saw great crowds of men and women. They marvelled then at the beauty which they saw there, and the grace of the people there, for many were strikingly beautiful. But one among them stood out both for dress and beauty. That fine woman signalled to Yngvar and his retainers that they should

come to meet with her. Then Yngvar stepped from the ship and met that noble lady. She asked who they were and also what they were doing, but Yngvar said nothing, because he wanted to test whether she knew how to speak other languages. And it turned out that she could speak all those secret languages which Yngvar knew.

But when Yngvar had learnt that she spoke these languages, he told her his name and enquired after hers and asked what title she held.

"I am called *Sílkísif*," she said, "and I am Clanleader of this land and realm."

Then she invited Yngvar into the town with her, together with all his company. He accepted. And the ulven there take their ships with all the rigging and carried them up off the shores. Yngvar fitted out a hall for all his men to stay in and locked it carefully, as the surrounding area was full of strange gods unlike the Great Wolf and Gaia, although they were all ulven there. Yngvar warned them not to have any dealings with the heathens and refused entry to any women apart from the Clanleader. Some of his men took little notice of his warning, and he had them killed, and after that no one dared disobey his commands.

Yngvar stayed that winter as an honoured guest, for the Clanleader sat talking to him every day along with her wise priestesses and councillors, and they told the other of many things. Yngvar was always telling her about the greatness of Gaia, who stands above all other gods and goddesses to the ulven, and it appealed to her, this faith. She loved Yngvar so much that she offered him the whole land and the title of Clanleader, and finally offered to give herself to him if he would stay there, but he explained that first he wanted to explore the length of the river and would accept after that.

When spring came, Yngvar got ready to leave, and he bade farewell to the Clanleader and her people. Yngvar continued upriver till he came to a great waterfall and a narrow ravine. There were high cliffs there, so they hauled their ships up with ropes. Then they lowered them back to the river and went on like this for some time without seeing anything of note. But one day as summer was drawing to a close, they saw many boats rowing towards them. They were all of them round with oars on every side. They steered towards them so that Yngvar had no choice but to wait there for them, because their boats went as fast as flying birds. But before they met, a man stood up on one of the boats. He was robed in the robes of a great warleader and spoke many tongues. Yngvar made no reply. Then he said a few words of the Pitiable Tongue. Yngvar understood that he was called

Jolf and was from the lands of the furthest West. And when Jolf learnt Yngvar's name and where he'd come from and where he was bound, he invited him home with him to stay the winter in his holdings. Yngvar declared that it didn't suit his plans to delay and refused. Then Jolf insisted that he accept his hospitality and stay the winter. Yngvar said they'd just have to stay then. After that they came with their company to the harbour and went ashore and up to the town. And when they looked back, they saw the townspeople carrying their ships on their shoulders right up to the walls, to where they could be locked up. They saw great idolatry on all the streets there. Yngvar told his warriors to be diligent in their adherence to Gaia and the Great Wolf. Jolf gave them a hall, and that winter Yngvar watched his Ulven retainers so closely that not one of them was lost through intercourse or guile. But when they had to go out, they went fully armed and locked the hall behind them. No one was allowed in except the warleader. He sat every day talking with Yngvar, and they told each other many things about their respective lands, past and present.

Yngvar asked Jolf if he knew where this river came from, and Jolf said he knew for sure that it flowed from the spring, "which we call Lindibelti. Another river also flows from that spring to the Burning Sea, to the great whirlpool there which is called Gapi. Between the sea and the river lies the headland of Stormjarl. The river doesn't have far to flow before it plummets over a cliff into the Burning Sea, and we consider that the ends of the earth. But on this river you've been following, there lurk malefactors in large ships which they disguise with reeds, so that travelers mistake them for islands, and they have all sorts of weapons and foul magics, and they wipe out more warriors with mystic fire than they do with their weapons."

But now the townsfolk felt that their warleader wasn't attending to their needs, being distracted by Yngvar, and threatened to drive him from the land and take for themselves another clanleader. And when Yngvar heard this, he asked the warleader to do as his people wished. Jolf did. He asked Yngvar to lend him support to fight his brother. His brother was the mightier of the two and inflicted much injustice on Jolf. Yngvar promised to lend his support when he returned.

6. Battles with Giants and Pirates

When winter was over, Yngvar sets out with all his warriors in good health from the lands of Jolf. And when they'd been going for a while, they came to a great waterfall of such ferocity they had to make for the shore. But when they reached land, they saw the footprint of a terrible giant. It was eight feet long. The cliffs were too high there for them to haul their ships up with ropes, so they steered on

alongside the cliffs to where the river curved with the current. A small gap was spotted in the cliffs there, and they went ashore there, and the ground there was flat and damp. Yngvar told them to fell trees and make tools for digging, and this they did, after which they began digging, measuring out the depth and breadth of the channel from the point where the river was to flow into it. It took some months of this before they could pass along it in their ships.

And when they'd been travelling for a long time, they saw a house and a terrifying giant beside it, so ugly they thought it was a hungering spirit made flesh. They became very afraid and prayed to Gaia to have mercy on them. Then Yngvar told Hjalmviga to sing hymns to the glory of the Gaia, since she was a good Daughter, and they promised a six day fast with prayers. Finally the giant went away from the house, in the opposite direction along the river. And when he'd gone, they went to the house and saw that it was surrounded by a stout wall. And when they went inside, they saw that the house was held up by a single pillar. It was built of mud. Then they took to chopping at the pillar all round its base, till the whole house shook with every blow. Yngvar told them to get big stones and bring them to the house. This they did. And as dusk came on, Yngvar told them to go inside the ramparts and hide in the reeds.

And late that evening they saw the giant coming, and he had many Ulven hanging under his belt. He securely locked up the outer gate and the house. Then he ate. As time passed, they went to see what he was up to, and heard his mighty snoring. Now Yngvar told them to take out the stones they'd brought, and they threw them at the pillar so that the house collapsed. The giant struggled hard, managing to get one of his feet out from under it. Yngvar and his companions came up and hacked at the foot with axes--because it was hard as a tree. And when it was done, they realised that he was dead. They dragged the foot to the ship and preserved it in white salt.

They went on till the river divided, and there they see five islands moving and coming towards them. Yngvar ordered his warriors to get ready. He had fire lit with the consecrated flint. Soon one of the islands came up and launched a shower of stones at them, but they shielded themselves and shot back. But when the pirates saw what they were up against, they began chanting with a fell purpose in the tongue that came from the East, and a great roar came forth. There was also a bronze tube attached to the prow, and a great jet of fire poured out of it, hitting one of their ships, and in a short time it all burnt to ashes. When Yngvar saw this, he grieved at his loss and told them to fetch him the tinder with the consecrated fire. Then he bent his bow and strung an arrow and had them put the tinder onto its

tip, with the consecrated fire. And this arrow flew from the bow with fire into the tube, and the fire turned on the Pitiabie Ones themselves. And in the blink of an eye, the island had all burnt up, Pitiabie Ones and ships together.

And the other islands have come up. But as soon as Yngvar hears the chant of those fell words, he shot consecrated fire and so destroyed those folk of the East with Gaia's help, so that they came to nothing but ash.

Soon afterwards Yngvar came to the source of the river. There they saw such a dragon, the like of which they'd never seen before, in terms of size, and much treasure lying under it. They landed nearby and all stepped up onto the shore and walked on till they reached the place where the dragon was wont to crawl down to the water. That path was very wide. Then Yngvar told them to sprinkle salt along the way and drag the giant's foot there, and said he expected the dragon would be held up there for a while. They kept their voices down and took cover. And when the time came for the dragon to crawl to the water, and when he came onto the path, he saw salt on the path in front of him, and he started licking. And when he came to where the giant's foot stood, he swallowed it at once. The journey took him longer than usual, because three times he turned back to drink after getting half way. Meanwhile Yngvar and his companions went to the dragon's lair, and there they saw much gold, as hot as if it had just been melted in a forge. They cut gold off the lump with their axes, and it was a great deal of wealth that they got there. Then they saw that the dragon was approaching. They made off with much treasure and hid it. There were a lot of reeds there. Yngvar ordered them to ignore the dragon. They did as he said, except for a few men who stood up and saw that the dragon was angry at his loss. He reared up on his tail and made a noise like a child whistling and span round in a circle on the gold. They told what they had seen and then fell down dead.

7. Of Yngvar and Clanleader Jolf

After all this, Yngvar and his warriors went away and explored this headland they'd come to. They found an outpost there and saw standing within it a great hall. And when they entered the hall they saw that it was richly decorated and found a great hoard of treasure and valuables there. Then Yngvar asked if anyone wanted to stay behind and spend the night there and see what he could find out. Soti said he wouldn't mind doing that. And when evening came on, Yngvar went back to the ships with his retainers, and Soti hid himself somewhere.

And when it had got late, a spirit appeared to him in the form of a man and said, "Siggeus was an ulven, both strong and mighty. He had three daughters. To them he gave much in the way of land and weapons. But when he died, he was buried there where you saw the dragon just now. After his death, the eldest grudged her sister's treasure. She killed herself. The second sister met the same fate. The third of them lived the longest and took her father's inheritance and the guardianship of this place, and not just while she lived. She named this ness and called it Siggeum. She fills the hall each night with a crowd of ghosts, and I am one of them, sent to bring tidings to you. But dragons ate the Clanleader's cadaver and the bodies of his daughters. Some believe they've turned into dragons. Know this, Soti, and tell your Clanleader, Yngvar, that Clanleader Harald Northwind came this way long ago and perished in the whirlpool of the Burning Sea together with his company, and he has now come to be the guardian here. And as proof of my tale, here is kept in this hall the standard of Harald Northwind, and Yngvar shall have that and send it to his homeland, so that they are not in ignorance concerning what became of their Clanleader. This too you shall tell Yngvar, that on this journey he will die together with a great part of his crew. But you, Soti, are unrighteous and faithless, and so you shall stay behind with us. But Yngvar will be helped by that faith which he has in Gaia."

When the spirit had said this, he was silent. There was a great din and shouting the whole night long. But when morning came, Yngvar arrived, and Soti told him what he had seen and heard. And when Soto had finished his tale, there with everyone watching he dropped down dead.

Now Yngvar takes the standard that stood in the hall, and goes with his retainers to his ships. He turns around now and gave a name to that great waterfall and called it Belgsoti. Nothing else much happened till they came to the realm of Clanleader Hromund, which was another name for Jolf.

And when they come sailing a second time to the greatest town of Jolf's land, Jolf went out to meet them with a fleet of ships and told Yngvar to lower his sails, "for now you must give me help against my brother Bjolf, who is also called Solmund, because he and his eight sons want to steal this land from me."

Then Yngvar went to the town, and they prepared for battle. Yngvar had big wheels built with sharp points and spikes fixed all round. He also had caltrops forged.

Now both warleaders gather their forces and come to the place they've decided on between them. And even when Yngvar had formed up his warriors, Bjolf had by far the most ulven. Warleader Jolf drew up his forces against his brother. And when both sides were ready, they roared the battle-cry. Yngvar and his men pushed forward the wheels, with all their specially-prepared armaments, and caused great loss of life, and the enemy ranks were broken. Then Yngvar came at them on their unprotected flank and killed all the sons of Warleader Bjolf, and Bjolf himself fled.

Clanleader Jolf then pressed home hard and pursued the fleeing host, but Yngvar ordered his warriors to stay behind and told them not to go too far from the ships, "as our enemies could take them. Better for you to get a great haul of loot from those enemies of ours that we've killed here."

They gathered treasures of many kinds and much booty and took it to the ships. Then Jolf came with his army, and strikes up the war-cry, and this took Yngvar by surprise, and he ordered his men to pull back. But as they did so, he had them throw caltrops under the feet of their foes. Without knowing what was happening, Jolf's warriors could do nothing to protect themselves. And when they felt the sharpness of the spikes, they thought they were up against weapons blessed by the gods. But Yngvar was back at the tents, and they picked out for themselves a mass of treasure there. Then they saw a great crowd of ulven who started playing beautiful music and came to the tents. But Yngvar told them to avoid these temptations as if they were the worst sort of poisonous snakes. But when evening came on and the army got ready to go to bed, these shameful ulven came to their tents, and the lady who was highest in rank picked Yngvar's bed and climbed in beside him. He got angry then and took his knife and stabbed her in the private parts. And when his warriors saw what he did, they began to push away these shameful ulven, although there were some of them who were no match for their charms and enchantments and lay with them. But when Yngvar heard of this, his joy at the plunder and pleasure in wine turned to great grief, for by morning, when they called the roll, eighteen warriors lay dead. Then Yngvar ordered them to burn the dead with all honors.

8. Yngvar's Death

Well, after this, Yngvar made ready with all haste and left with all his warriors, and they go on their way now, and travel night and day now, as fast as they can. But such a sickness begins to spread in their crew that all their best people died, and more died than lived. Yngvar took sick too, and by then they'd come to the

realm of Sílkísif. He called his warriors to him then and told them burn to those who were dead.

Then he called Garda-Ketil to him, and his other friends and said, "I've taken sick, and I see that it will be the death of me, and I'll have got then such an end I have earned. But with Gaia's mercy I hope that the Great Wolf will hear my name, because with all my heart I know my deeds ring out in His Ears, my soul and body, and I looked after these warriors as best I knew how. But this I want you to know, that by Gaia's Will we've been smitten with this plague, and this is the worse plague and enchantment that's inflicted on me, for when I am dead, then the sickness will pass. And this I ask of you, and you Ketil most of all, that you bring my body to the lands of Northwind and have me burned in a great pyre. But my wealth, that which I have here of weapons and armor and fine clothes, that I want dividing into three parts: One third I give to the Daughters of Gaia, another I give to those Ulven who might have need of them. The third part my father and sons will have. Clanleader Sílkísif for me. But for the sake of everything, I want to ask you to be at peace with one another. But if you disagree over which course to take, let Garda-Ketil decide, as he has the best memory out of all of you.

Then he bade them farewell till they met in joy beyond the forests of the Great Wolf. He was spoken of well in many respects and lived a few more days.

They prepared his body with care and laid it in a casket, then continued on their way and landed at the town of Clanleader Sílkísif. And when she recognised their ship, she went to meet them with great splendour. But when she saw them come ashore, she became downcast, and it seemed to her that much must have happened, and she couldn't see him, that man who meant more to her than any other. She asked them for tidings and questioned them carefully about the details of Yngvar's passing and where they'd put his body. They told her they'd burned it already. She said they lied and that threatened to have them killed if they didn't tell the truth. Then they told her what arrangements Yngvar had made with them for the disposal of his body and wealth. Then they gave Yngvar's body to her. She had him borne into the town with great honour and prepared for the pyre with costly unguents.

Then Sílkísif bade them farewell with the blessing of Gaia and Yngvar. "She is my creator, she who is yours. Take my greetings to Yngvar's kin when you come to Clan Northwind's holdings, and ask some of them to come here with Daughters of Gaia and educate this people, and then a shrine to Her shall be built here, on the spot where Yngvar was burned.

Ketil and the others got ready to leave and bade Clanleader Sílkísif farewell, continuing on their way now, and they had twelve ships. And when they'd been going for a while, they had a disagreement over which way to take, and they split up because no one wanted to follow anyone else. But Ketil had the right course and came to Steínjotunn, while Valdímar made it with one ship to Níghtríver. We can't say for sure where the other ships ended up, because most are thought to have perished, and of Yngvar we can say no more. And yet, we know that he performed many great deeds on this expedition, which those who guard the Lore will most likely have told in detail.

This Ketil we've spoken of, stayed the winter in Steínjotunn and went to Northwind the following summer and told tidings of what had passed on that voyage, and brought Yngvar's treasure there to his son, who was called Svein, and conveyed to him Clanleader Sílkísif's greetings and message. Svein was young in years but great in stature. He was a strong ulven and most like his father. He wanted to test himself first and started raiding. And after a few years had passed, he came with a large force east to Steínjotunn and stayed the winter there.

9. The Expedition of Svein Yngvarsson

It's said now that that winter Svein went to school and learnt to speak the many hidden tongues which were known to be used by strange peoples. Then he got thirty ships ready and said he'd go with that force to see Clanleader Sílkísif. He had many Daughters of Gaia with him. Foremost among them was a great Witch called Runa. The Daughter thrice blessed lots and cast the lots three times. And each time the lots fell, they showed that Gaia wanted her to go. The Daughter said she would go gladly.

Now Svein set out from Steínjotunn. But when they'd been gone two days along the river, Mordok took them by surprise with ninety great warriors of the sort ulven call Alphas. Without further ado, the Mordok prepare for battle, and Svein's party likewise.. But while they were donning their armour, Svein put himself in the Great Wolf's jaws and cast lots to see what his will was, whether they should fight or flee from such overwhelming odds. But the lot told them to fight, and Svein vowed to give up plundering if the Great Wolf granted him victory. After this, they began to fight, and Svein and his warriors were able to kill the Mordok at will. And in the end, the Mordok fled, but all the rest were killed. Svein's crew though suffered little loss of life, and burned many of the despoiled artifacts which the Mordok had stolen from honorable ulven.

So they went on their way till they came to the land where Ketil had got the pot-handle. Then Svein ordered the greater part of his crew to put on their armour, and they did so. And they hadn't gone far when they saw a large farmhouse and beside it a large man, and he called out in horrible voice. Then reinforcements rushed in from all sides. These sort of monsters are called Trolls. They had clubs in their hands, as big as beams. They swarmed together and had no proper weapons or protection.

Then Svein told archers to shoot at them as fast as they could, and said this was no time to stand around, "because they're as strong as the cougar and as high as a houses or woods."

They shot at them and killed many and wounded others. Then an amazing thing happened, because the strongest ones now fled. Svein forbade them to go in pursuit and said there wouldn't be any cover. Instead, they ran into the farm and made off with a fortune of furs and clothes and beautiful gemstones, then went back to their ships and continued on their way.

When they'd gone a long way, Svein saw an inlet cutting into the bank. He told them to steer the ships in that direction. This they were happy to do, since many of them were young ulven who were recently marked by the Great Wolf. And as they neared land, they saw outposts and many farms. They saw eight figures running and were amazed at their speed. One of the locals had a feather in his hand and held up the stem of the feather, and then the blade. This they took for a sign of peace. Then Svein made a sign of peace with his hand. Eventually they reached the shore and the locals crowded together under a cliff with various wares for trading. Svein ordered his retainers to step ashore, and they traded with the inhabitants, though neither party understood what the others were saying.

The next day, Svein's warpack went again to trade with the locals, and they bartered together for a while. But then a Steinjotunn warrior wanted to cancel a bargain he'd just made with one of them over some pelts. The strange peoples got angry and punched him on the nose so that blood spattered the ground. Then the Steinjotunn drew his sword and cut his foe in two. Then the natives ran away with great screaming and shouts, and next thing an immense host of them gathered. Then Svein told his warriors to put their armour on and go to meet them, and a hard and fierce battle ensued, and a great many of these strange people fell, as they had nothing to protect themselves with. And when they saw they were being overwhelmed, they ran away. Meanwhile Svein and his retainers collected a mass of valuables which the locals had left behind, and carried them to the ships.

Anyway, after this incident, Svein and his men go on, leaving that place, and praise the Great Wolf for their victory. They go on for a while now, till they saw a great herd of swine on a headland under a crag that jutted over the river, and a few ulven wanted to kill them and jumped ashore, and they did kill some pigs. But the rest then began to squeal loudly as they got away and ran up onto the land. And next thing they saw a great warpack coming down from the land to the ships, and one hunter going on somewhat ahead of the host. This hunter had three apples and threw one up in the air, and it came down at the feet of Svein, and then the next one after it--that fell in the same place.

Then Svein said he wasn't going to wait for the third apple: "There's some evil magic behind this and strong belief."

Svein put an arrow to his string and shot. The arrow hit the hunter on the nose and they heard a noise like snapping horn. She flung back her head, and they saw that she had a bird's beak. Then she screams very loud and ran back towards her warpack and they all raced back inland as fast as they could, for as long as they could be seen.

10. Battle with Mordok

After this, Svein returned to his ships, and now they go on their way. And they'd not gone far when it's said that they saw ten Mordok leading a creature behind them. It seemed rather strange to them, because they saw a great tower made of wood standing on the creature's back. Then fifty ulven went ashore, those who were most curious to know what nature of this beast was and to slay these Mordok. But when the Mordok leading the creature saw the crew, they let go the beast and hid. Svein's warriors went to the beast and tried to lead it after themselves, but it stuck its head down and wouldn't budge, even though they all tugged on the ropes that were round the creature's head. Then they thought these Mordok must have had some trick they didn't understand, by which the ten of them were able to lead the creature. So they searched for a plan, and left the creature and went to hide in the reeds, so that they could find out all about the creature. And after a bit, the Mordok stood up and went to the creature. They took hold of the reins and placed them on either side of the neck, drawing them back through a hole in a cross-beam on the tower, and so pulled up the creature's head, because there was a pulley in the hole.

When Svein's warriors saw the creature standing up, they ran to it as fast as they could. They took the creature then and led it about wherever they wanted. But

as they didn't know the nature of the creature or what it needed to eat, they stabbed it with spears till it fell dead. Then they went down to the ships and rowed off.

Next they saw a great crowd of Mordok up on the land. Svein and his crew put in to shore without delay. There was a good harbour there. When the Mordok saw them they went mad and rushed at them. Some carried no weapons, while others brought forth crude clubs and great rusted weapons. Then he set off after them and ordered all his men to arm themselves. But when Svein had drawn up his forces, they saw that the Mordok bore a blood-stained ulven before their growling hunters and had her as their standard. Then Svein took counsel with Runa, on what course he should take.

The Daughter said, "If the Mordok expect victory or fear from one of our sacrificed kin, then let us show them the ferocity of the Great Wolf. Paint upon your bodies the fangs of the Great Wolf, that they might know the fear that awaits them when they are killed and delivered into his jaws. Gaia looks fondly upon those warriors who call upon her mate to lend them strength during battle."

After this encouragement from the Daughter, they painted the Great Wolf's fangs and chanted songs of his ferocity. Then they went unafraid to meet the Mordok while the Daughters prayed. And when the forces clashed, the Mordok went blind and many panicked and quickly fled away and scattered, running hither and thither, some into the river, and some into bogs or woods. Many thousands of Mordok perished there.

And when the fleeing enemy had been pursued, Svein had them burn the bodies of those who had fallen. But when this was done, Svein told his crew to beware further ambush from the Mordok, for their numbers were great, and they would not soon forget a great loss such as this.

11. Svein Defeated the Dragon

Then Svein set out from there, and they went on till they thought they saw a half moon standing on the earth. They put in to shore there and go up onto the land. Then Ketil tells Svein what had happened when he was here with Yngvar. Svein now told his warriors to charge up from the ships to meet the dragon. So off they go and come to a great wood that stood by the dragon's lair, and hid themselves there. Then Svein sends some young hunters to spy on the dragon and

see how things stood there. They saw that the serpents were sleeping, and they were legion. But Jakulus lay in a ring around all the others. Then one of them started to reach in with his spear-shaft towards a gold ring that happened to be there. And the shaft touched a little baby snake. But when this one woke up, it woke others next to it, and next thing they were all waking up one after another until Jakulus rose up. Svein stood by a great oak and laid an arrow to his string, and tinder was put on the arrow-tip, as big as a man's head with consecrated fire from Gaia, and when Svein saw Jakulus rising aloft and making for their ships with gaping mouth, he shoots the arrow with the consecrated fire into the mouth of the worm, and it pierced all the way to its heart, so that in an instant it fell down dead. And when they saw that, they praised the Great Wolf with joy.

12. Svein takes Silkisif as a Mate

After this, Svein told them to hurry away from the stench and stink that came off it. They steer their ships quickly away then, and they all made it except for six ulven who went to look at the dragon out of curiosity, and they fell down dead. But many more ulven than that were badly affected by the stench, although no one else died of it, for the ulven are a hardy people, strong against the poison used by treacherous foes.

So Svein left that place in a hurry and he goes on till he comes to the realm of Clanleader Silkisif. She comes to meet them and shows them great honour. And as soon as Svein and his retainers step from their ships, Ketil goes on ahead of them to meet the Clanleader, but she paid no heed to him and turned to Svein and wanted to kiss him, but he pushed her away and said he didn't want to kiss her, "and why do you want to kiss me, anyway?"

She answers, "Because you alone have Yngvar's eyes, it seems to me."

Then they were received with all honour and respect. But when she learnt that a Daughter of Gaia had arrived, she was glad. Then the Daughter preached the faith to her, and she soon gained an understanding of spiritual wisdom and let herself see Gaia as the supreme mother of the ulven people. And in that same month the whole population of this land grew to understand their connection to Gaia and her position as greater than all the ancestors and minor spirits that they had worshipped.

Not long afterwards, *Sílkísif* in consultation with her people called a great council. And when a great multitude had assembled there, *Svein Yngvarsson* was robed in a fine wolf's skin and a golden helm placed upon his head, and all declared him their Clanleader. And with that *Sílkísif* allowed herself to become his mate, for she soon proved skilled in the arts of the Witch and became a Daughter in the eyes of the Ulven.

13. *Svein* Built a Shrine

After the feast of the founding of this new Clan, *Svein* travelled through his realm together with *Sílkísif* and a great following. *Runa* is there too, on the journey, and many Daughters of *Gaia*, for *Svein* is having the land blessed against the incursion of foes, and all those realms which *Sílkísif* had once ruled. And as it came round to summer, and *Gaia*'s power had so manifested itself in that land, that it had become incredibly fertile, then *Svein* and his companions wanted to make their preparations and be off home to Clan Northwind's holdings and let his kinsfolk know the truth about his journey. But when *Sílkísif* became aware of this intention, she asked him to send his crew home but that he stay here safe and sound with her.

Svein answered, "I don't want to send off my warriors on their own, because there's a lot of danger for them, of many sorts, for those who must undertake this journey, as we know from before, when there was no leader and the whole force perished or strayed in various directions."

But when *Sílkísif* heard these words and saw what he wanted to do, she said, "You shan't go in such a rush, if I may have my way, because it might be that you won't want to visit this land again, or that you'll perish on this journey which is so very dangerous, as you said yourself. And this is what would be more fitting for you: to strengthen *Gaia*'s hold and have groves and springs blessed, because first you must have a shrine built inside the town, a big and worthy one, at the site where your father's body was burned. But when three years have passed, then you shall go in peace."

Well, he does as *Sílkísif* asks. *Svein* tarries there for three years. And by the third winter the great shrine was finished in the town. Then *Sílkísif* asked *Runa* to come.

But when Runa was arrayed in her sash and the totems that she bore, she asked, "In whose name, *Sílkísif*, do you wish this shrine to be dedicated?"

She answered, "To the glory of the great Clanleader *Yngvar*, who rests here, shall this shrine be dedicated."

Runa answered, "Why so, my fellow witch? Has *Yngvar* shown that his name rings long after his death? Because we only bless shrines in this way when the spirits of great warriors have made their presence known in the arms and hearts of their fellow *ulven*."

She answered, "From your own mouth I have heard that in the eyes of the Great Wolf there is more worth in true steadfast courage and great deeds, than in the glory of stories. But in my opinion, as I saw with my own eyes, *Yngvar* was steadfast and known to the Great Wolf."

When *Sílkísif* had determined what should happen, Runa consecrated the shrine, dedicating it to the glory of *Gaia* and all the great spirits who have passed on the journey in the name of *Yngvar*. Then a new altar was cut from stone and the sword of *Yngvar* placed inside, and precious runes placed on it, inlaid with gold. Then Runa held blessings and ceremonies often to the memory of *Yngvar*, and it is said that the site is still called *Yngvar's* shrine.

14. Of the Sources

When all these things were done, *Svein* gets ready to leave and travelled north till he came to Clan Northwind's holdings. His kin welcomed him with joy and honoured him greatly. He was offered leadership of the Clan. But when he heard that, he refused at once, and said he'd come by a much better land, more temperate and more fruitful, to which he would return.

And after two years, *Svein* sails from Northwind, but *Ketil* stayed behind, and he professed to have heard it said that *Svein* spent the winter in the holdings of *Steinjotunn* and got ready to leave in the spring and sailed out from there at midsummer, and was last seen sailing along the river.

But *Ketil* went to Shattered Spear to see his kin and settled there, and he was the first to tell of all this. But we gather that some story-tellers have it that *Yngvar*

was the son of Eymund Olafsson, because they think it does him more honour to say that he was the son of a great Clanleader. But Onund would gladly have given up his land and name if he could buy back Yngvar's life, because all the chiefs in Clan Northwind's lands would have rather had him as Clanleader over them. And yet some Ulven may still ask: why wouldn't Yngvar be the son of Eymund Olafsson? But to that we would like to answer in this way: Eymund, son of Olaf, had a son who was called Onund. He was much like Yngvar in many respects and most of all in his distant travels, which are mentioned in the book called Gesta Ulvenum, and there it is written: "For it is said that Emandus, Clanleader of the Northwinds, sent his son, Onundus, over the Burning Sea, that son who ultimately came to the Pitiable Ones and was killed by them."

Some say that Yngvar and his crew went for two weeks where they saw nothing unless they lit candles, because the cliffs closed in over the river, and it was like rowing in a cave for a fortnight. But wise people think that can't be true, unless the river flowed through such a narrow gorge that the cliffs met overhead, or the woods were so dense the branches touched between the overhanging cliffs. But although this is possible, it's not very likely.

But we have heard this story and written it according to the account of that book which Lorespeaker Odd the Wise had made at the dictation of other Ulven who know the hidden wisdom. But let any who feel they know more detail, add it, where our version now seems lacking. This story, Lorespeaker Odd says, he heard first from Lorespeaker Isleif, and secondly from Lorespeaker Glum, and his third source was called Thorir. From their dictation, he took what he thought most noteworthy. And Lorespeaker Isleif said that he heard Yngvar's story from a drover, who learnt it at the great halls of the Northwinds Clan. Glum had got it from his trainer, and Thorir from Klakka Samsson, and Klakka had heard it told by older people in his pack.