



The Story of ROLF and the Viking Bow

COMPREHENSION GUIDE

THE STORY OF ROLF AND THE VIKING BOW

Comprehension Guide
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THE STORY OF ROLF AND THE VIKING BOW

How to use this Guide

This guide is intended to help you study, understand, and enjoy *The Story of Rolf and the Viking Bow*. You might ask if a guide is really necessary to read a book. Is the student not just working to improve reading skills while being taught to enjoy reading a good book? Certainly, it is the case that the more a child reads, the more he should improve his skills, but quantity is not the only issue. Once a child has received adequate phonetic training he should learn how to read a book. Most educators using this guide will be teaching children in the grammar stage, generally understood to be during the elementary years in classical education. (For a thorough understanding of classical Christian education, a reading of *Recovering the Lost Tools of Learning* by Douglas Wilson is highly recommended.) The basic goals of reading in the grammar stage are as follows:

The student should be able to:

1. Fluently read a given selection orally.
2. Show an increased desire for reading.
3. Show comprehension on a literal and inferential level.
4. Demonstrate an increased vocabulary.
5. Identify basic Biblical values in the literature being read.
6. Identify various styles (myths, poems, fantasy, fiction, nonfiction, etc.)

Answers to the questions are found in the back of the guide. The answers are not all written in complete sentences. Nor are they as detailed as you should expect from your students. Students should restate the question in their answer, and the thoughts should be in a complete sentence.

Example:

Question: Who was Hiarandi's son?

Answer: Hiarandi's son was Rolf.

Such writing practice trains the student to answer thoroughly, completely, and with proper grammar. Another reason is to encourage integration. We want students to understand that how they write something is as important as what they write.

The question of grading is one that always arises. Unless otherwise indicated you should assume that each question is worth one point.

May you and your students gain a great appreciation for this wonderful book.

THE STORY OF ROLF AND THE VIKING BOW

Vocabulary

1. beacon: a signal or guiding device such as a signal fire or lighthouse
2. carle: an Old Norse word for man
3. carline: an Old Norse word for woman, usually an old woman
4. thrall: one, such as a slave, who is held in bondage
5. crags: steeply projecting masses of rock forming part of rugged cliffs
6. melancholy: sad
7. rood: A measure of length that varies from 5 to 8 yards
8. cairn: A mound of stones erected as a memorial or marker
9. baresark: Vikings who went into battle without any armor
10. dais: a raised platform for speakers or honored guests

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Vocabulary, Page 2

1. beacon:

2. carle:

3. carline:

4. thrall:

5. crags:

6. melancholy:

7. rood:

8. cairn:

9. baresark:

10. dais:

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Vocabulary—Test

1. _____ beacon
 2. _____ carle
 3. _____ carline
 4. _____ thrall
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 7. _____ rood
 8. _____ cairn
 9. _____ baresark
 10. _____ dais
- a. A mound of stones erected as a memorial or marker
 - b. a raised platform for speakers or honored guests
 - c. Vikings who went into battle without any armor
 - d. sad
 - e. steeply projecting masses of rock forming part of rugged cliffs
 - f. a signal or guiding device such as a signal fire or lighthouse
 - g. one, such as a slave, who is held in bondage
 - h. an Old Norse word for woman, usually an old woman
 - i. a measure of length that varies from 5 to 8 yards
 - j. an Old Norse word for man

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Chapter 1—Of the Lighting of the Beacon

1. What was Hiarandi's nickname?

2. Why did Hiarandi pick Asdis for his wife?

3. What was the name of Hiarandi's son?

4. With what was Hiarandi's son particularly skilled?

5. Who was Hiarandi's rich neighbor who boasted that his son would be better at shooting the bow than Rolf?

6. What did Asdis ask Hiarandi to do on the night of the storm?

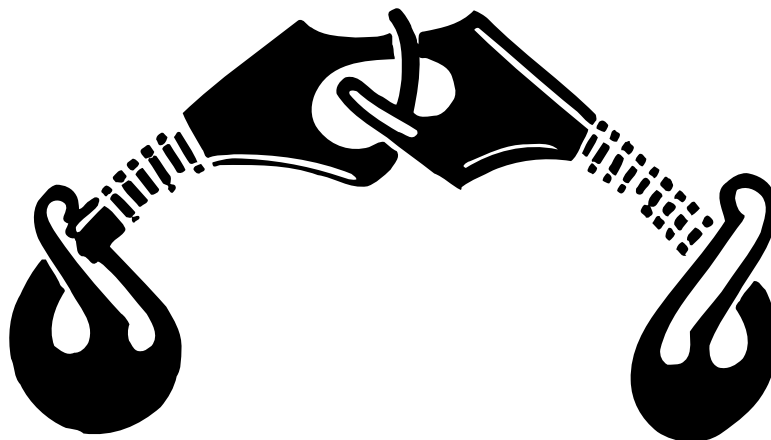


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Predictions and Foreshadowing

Summarize the predictions on the pages listed below. Then write how you think the predictions will be fulfilled.

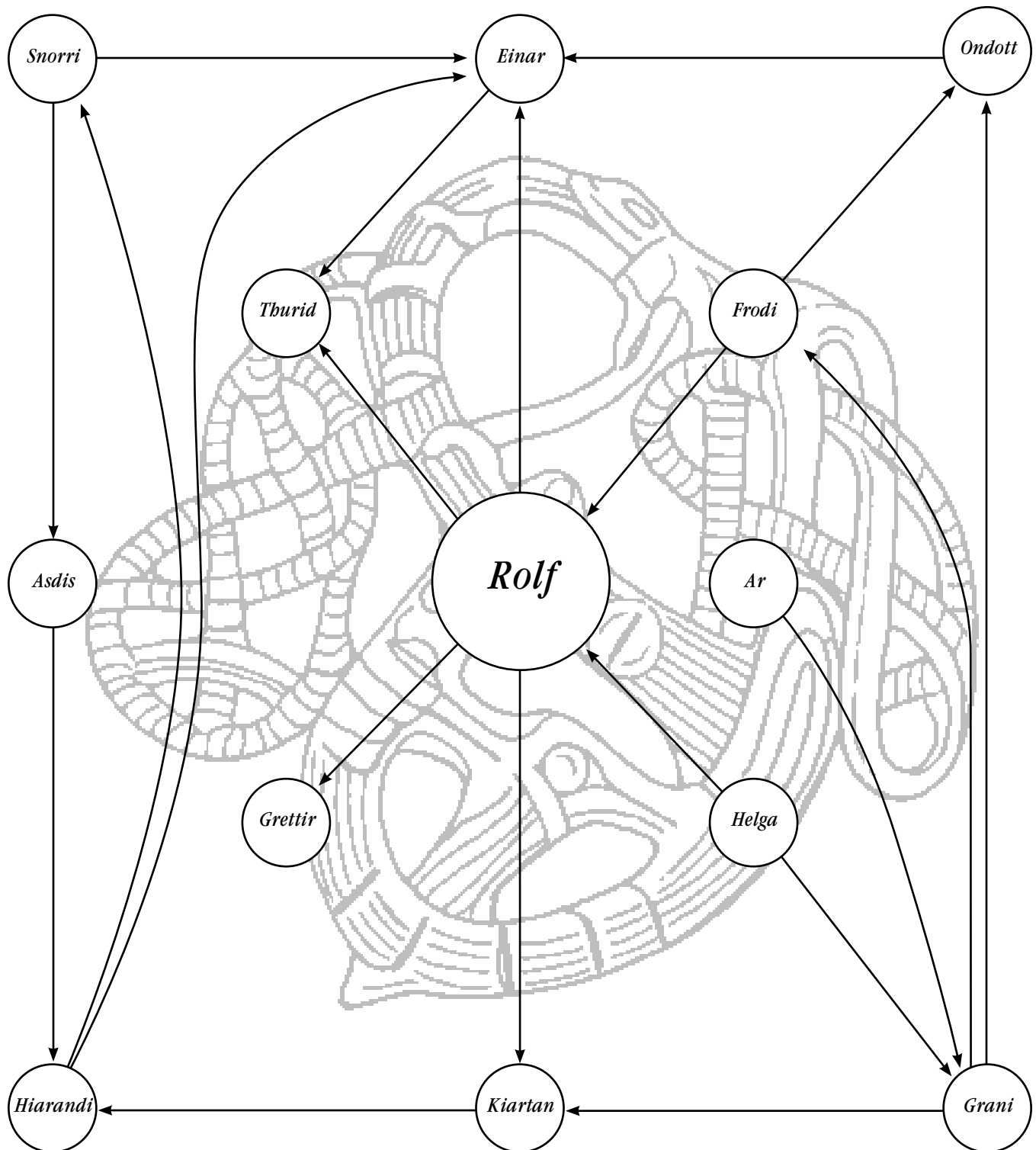
<i>Prediction</i>	<i>Possible fulfillment</i>
Pages 6-7:	
Page 10:	
Page 11:	
Page 27:	
Page 38:	
Page 46:	
Page 63:	
Page 89:	
Page 175:	
Page 176:	
Page 181:	
Page 204:	



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Chapter 2—Relationship Web

On the lines linking the characters describe the relationship between the two characters.
EXAMPLE: Ondott is Einar's advisor.

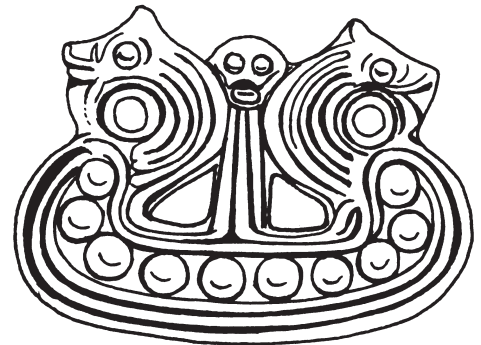


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Chapter 3—Kiartan at Cragness

1. Who was the man on the ship saved by Hiarandi's beacon?

2. What did Kiartan try unsuccessfully to convince Rolf that he should do?



3. How had Rolf determined that Kiartan was a coward?

4. How did Kiartan harm Hiarandi as Thurid had prophesied?

5. What happened when Hiarandi took his problem with Kiartan to court?


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Chapter 4—Of Einar and Ondott

1. What evil deed did Kiartan do while away?

2. What did the law require of Einar because of the murder of his kin?

3. Write a paragraph explaining Ondott's plan.

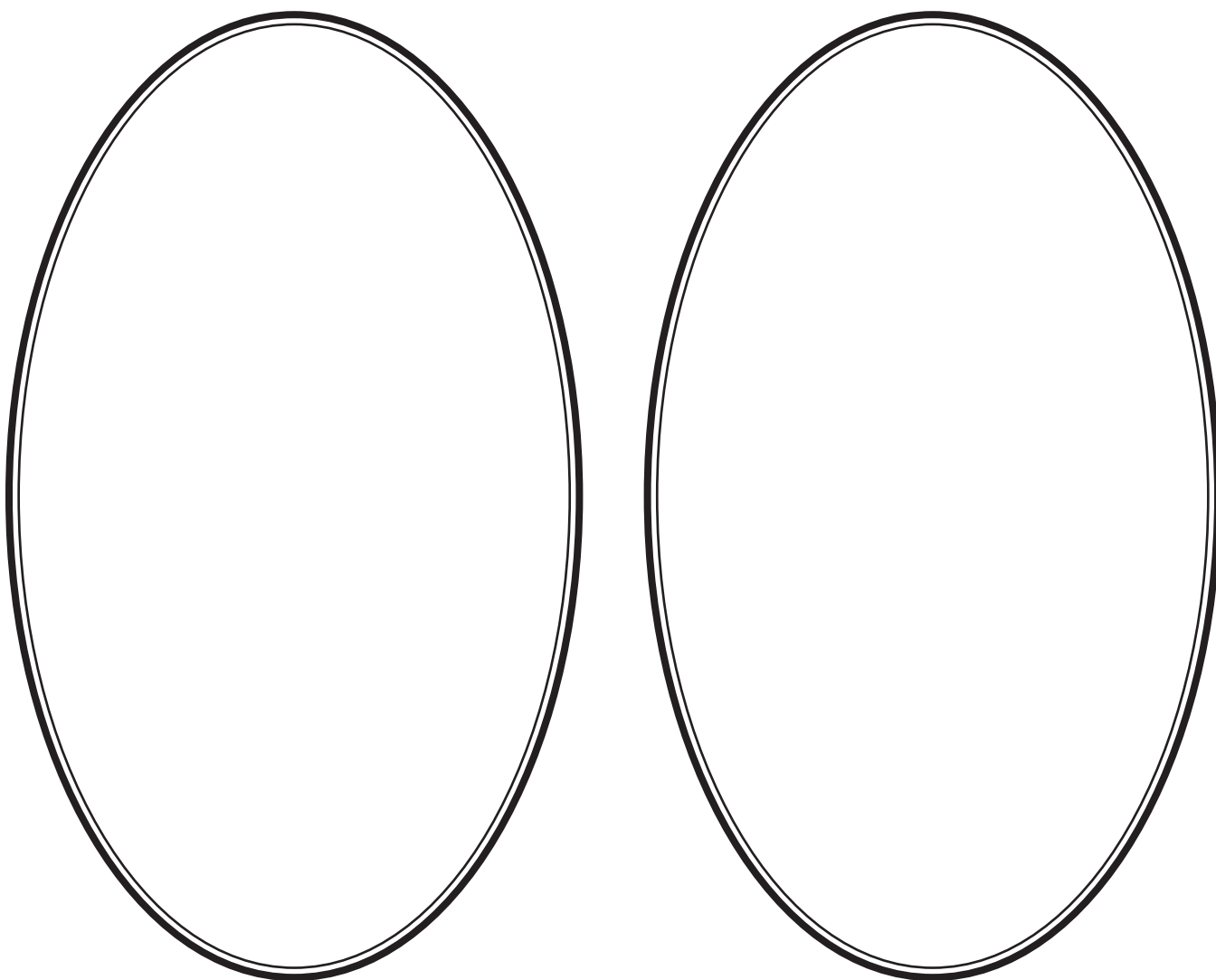


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Chapter 4, Page 2

Partners in Crime

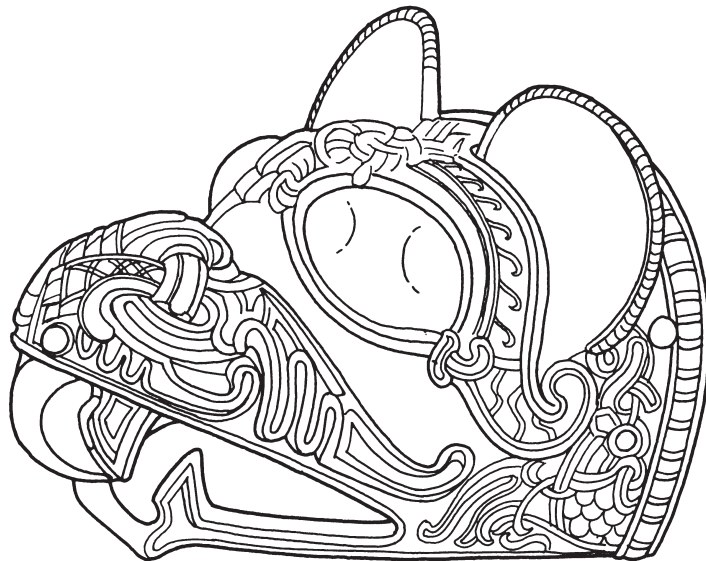
Physical descriptions of Einar and Ondott on page 25 paint interesting portraits of these two villains. Using the description given by the author, draw portraits of these two partners in crime.



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Chapter 5—The Summoning of Hiarandi

1. Write a paragraph explaining how Hiarandi came to have two suits against him.



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Chapter 7—How Hiarandi Received the Lesser Outlawry

1. Why did Hiarandi leave Snorri's booth without talking to him?

2. Who advised Hiarandi to ask for a break in the trial to seek counsel?

3. Who did Hiarandi and Einar agree should judge the suit between them?

4. What was wrong with the jury?



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