

Saxon Financial

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Anglo-Saxon Love



There isn't much for romantic love in *Beowulf*, though A-S warriors certainly had wives and families.

- Marriages may have been arranged for financial or social purposes, rather than for lovey-dovey reasons.
- Beowulf wasn't married and had no heirs... right?

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Can Beowulf "Beowulf" by Marjorie Sargent

Beowulf's father is Eowulf, a Danish king.

Beowulf's mother is Hygd, a Danish queen.

Beowulf's grandfather is Hrothgar, a Danish king.

Beowulf's great-grandfather is Scyld Scefing, a Danish king.

Beowulf's great-great-grandfather is Ingeld, a Danish king.

Beowulf's great-great-great-grandfather is Weland, a Danish king.

Beowulf's great-great-great-great-grandfather is Friga, a Danish king.

Beowulf's great-great-great-great-great-grandfather is Yggdrasil, a Danish king.

Beowulf's great-great-great-great-great-great-grandfather is Odin, a Danish king.

Beowulf's great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandfather is the gods, a Danish king.

The Wanderer

Go to the A-S page → Hrothgar → Anglo-Saxon Poets → The Wanderer

Read the 10th of the poem (lines 10-11) in a notebook and answer questions 1-4 at the end for Monday.

Anglo-Saxon Justice



A Peaceful Hall Is So Much More

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Happy warriors eat, drink, and listen to the tales and songs of a hall or scop. They enjoy each other's company and are hospitable.

A safe and happy hall represents a safe and happy village; conversely, if the hall is at risk, so is everything.

Protecting the hall = being able to protect everyone, including the soldiers' families.



Fate or 'wyrd'

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"Fate" and "wyrd" (Old English for "fate") are mentioned in parallel to God in *Beowulf*, begging the question of whether they're one and the same.

Did listeners of *Beowulf* hold Christian or pagan beliefs? Were the Christian details added later? Does it matter?

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Fun Beowulf „Beowulf“ by Marina Scott

Heavenly Grendel's Daughters are part of the Beowulf's! Not a monster family.

Along with Grendel's Daughters, they would have been the Major Hero.

Bring Beowulf to his neighbor, Hrothgar's wife, and a bit of a bit.

Hrothgar's wife is a bit of a bit, Hrothgar's wife is a bit of a bit.

Then when night engulfs the Hall And the Monster makes his call.

Beowulf with his sword, Hrothgar's wife is a bit of a bit.

The Wanderer

So to the Wanderer page - this is the Wanderer.

Read the "10" of the poem and go to the 10th and answer questions 1-10 at the end of the Wanderer.

Anglo-Saxon Justice

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BeoHusband/BeoDad
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This and other essays are available at
BeoHusband/BeoDad. The casesolutions.com
website is a place where you can find
many more essays and more information
about Beowulf and other Anglo-Saxon literature.

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- The end makes it clear that Beowulf had no heir, but does that mean he was single or celibate?
- Perhaps mention of a wife or child would muddy the focus, which was to be on Beowulf's honor, courage, and bravery.



Financial Justice

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STEAL or demand PAYMENT to make things even, as material wealth showed strength

- men of different ranks had different values, with noblemen and priests high up and slaves being practically worthless.

The more you have, the more you took from the people you conquered

King = "ring-giver"

Vengeful



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- REVENGE or PAYBACK to make things even; life is taken for life

There was a ritual of revenge present:

- Grendel kills - Beowulf kills him -
Grendel's mother kills/steals -
Beowulf kills her, etc.

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Fun Beowulf: "Beowulf" by Maurice Sagoff

Monster Grendel's tastes are plainish.
Breakfast? Just a couple Danish.

King of Danes is frantic, very.
Wait! Here comes the Malmo" ferry

Bring Beowulf, his neighbor,
Mighty swinger with a saber!

Hrothgar's warriors hail the Swede,
Knocking back a lot of mead;

Then, when night engulfs the Hall
And the Monster makes his call,

Beowulf, with body-slam
Wrenches off his arm, Shazam!

Monster's mother finds him slain,
Grabs and eats another Dane!

Down her lair our hero jumps,
Gives old Grendel's dam her lumps.

Later on, as king of Geats
He performed prodigious feats

Till he met a foe too tough
(Non-Biodegradable stuff)

And that scaly-armored dragon
Scooped him up and fixed his wagon.

Sorrow-stricken, half the nation
Flocked to Beowulf's cremation;
Round his pyre, with drums a-muffle
Did a Nordic soft-shoe shuffle.