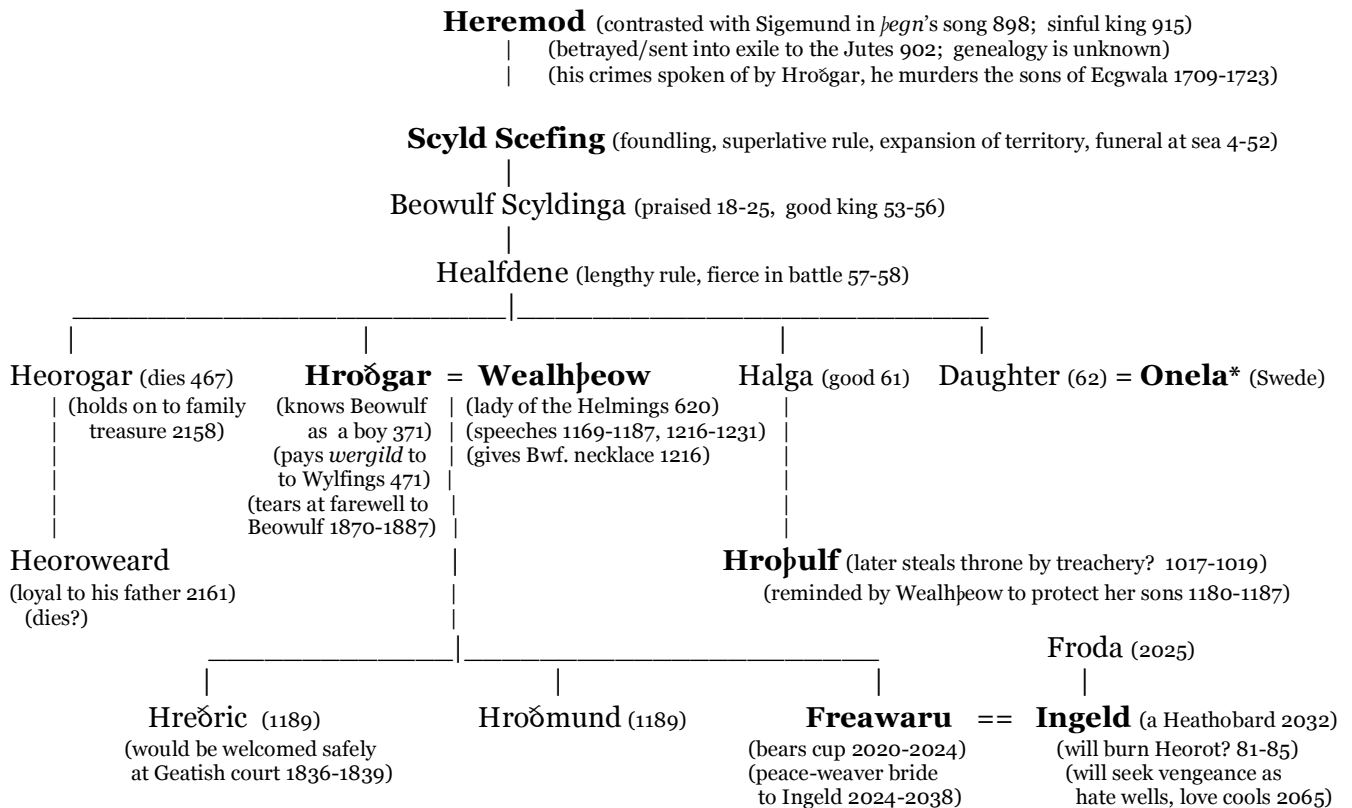
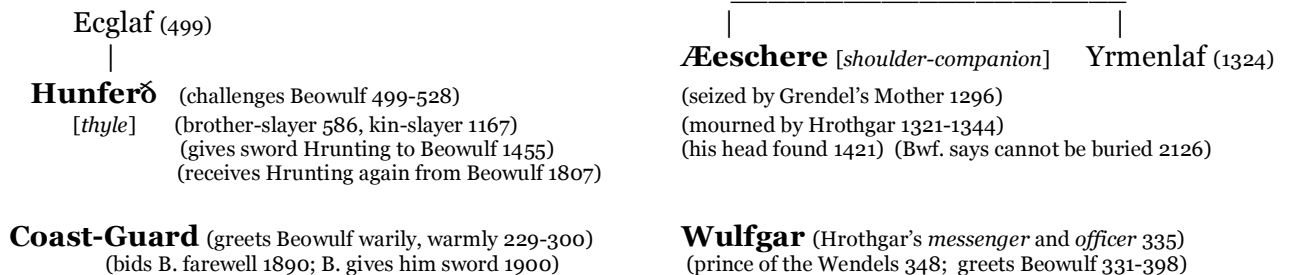


Who's Who and Backstory in *Beowulf*

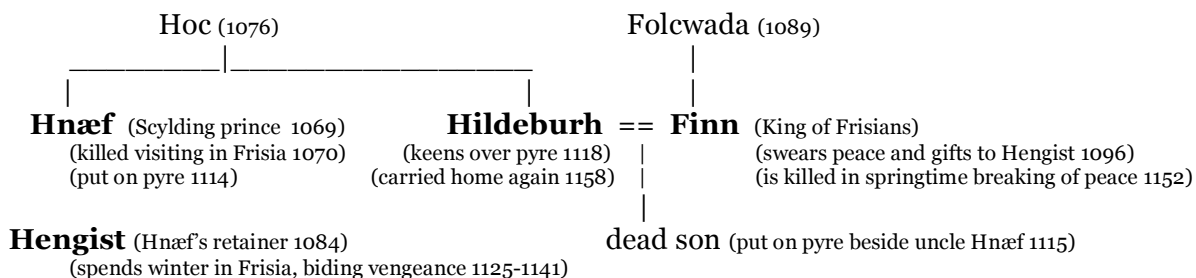
1. The Spear-Danes (Scyldings)



1A. Secondary Danes

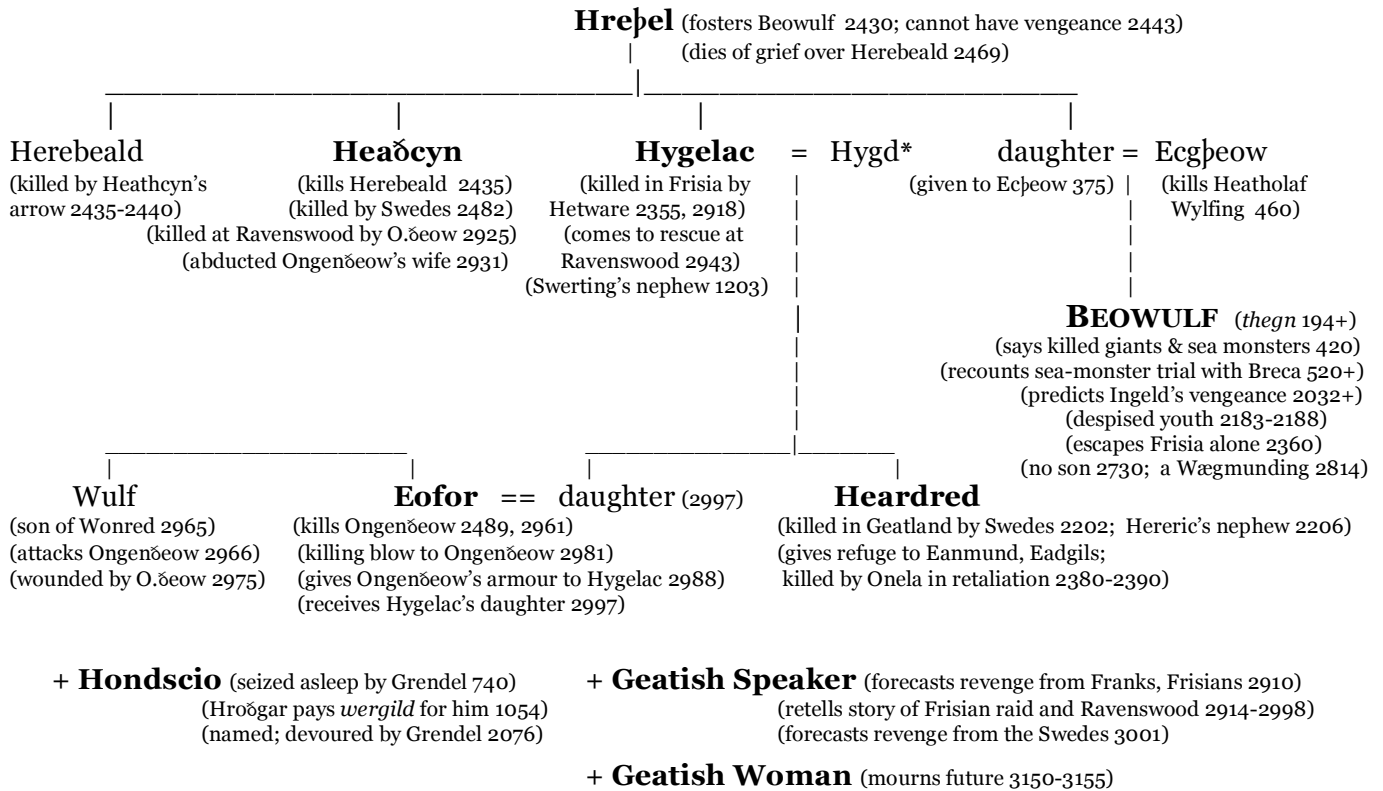


1B. The Fight at Finnsburh

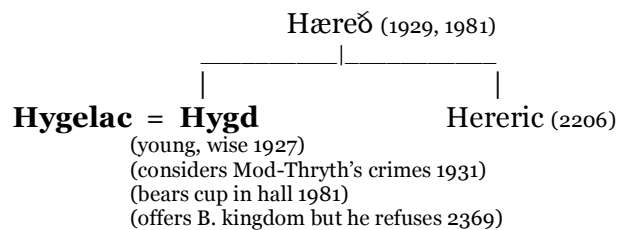


Who's Who and Backstory in *Beowulf*

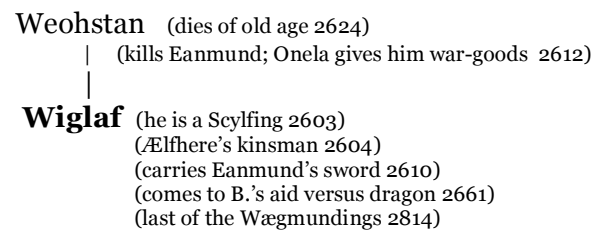
2. The Weder-Geats (Hreþlings)



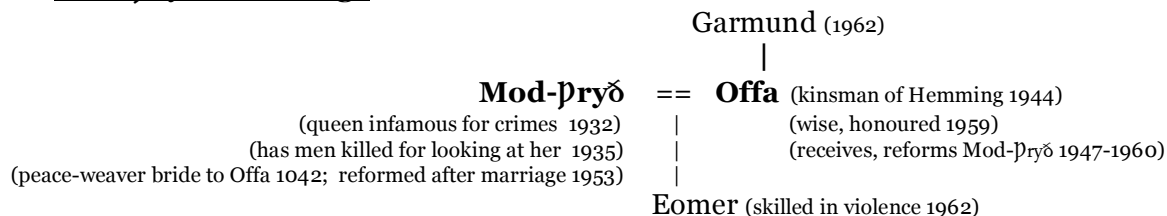
2A. Hygd's Family



2B. Wægmundings



2C. Mod-þryð's Marriage

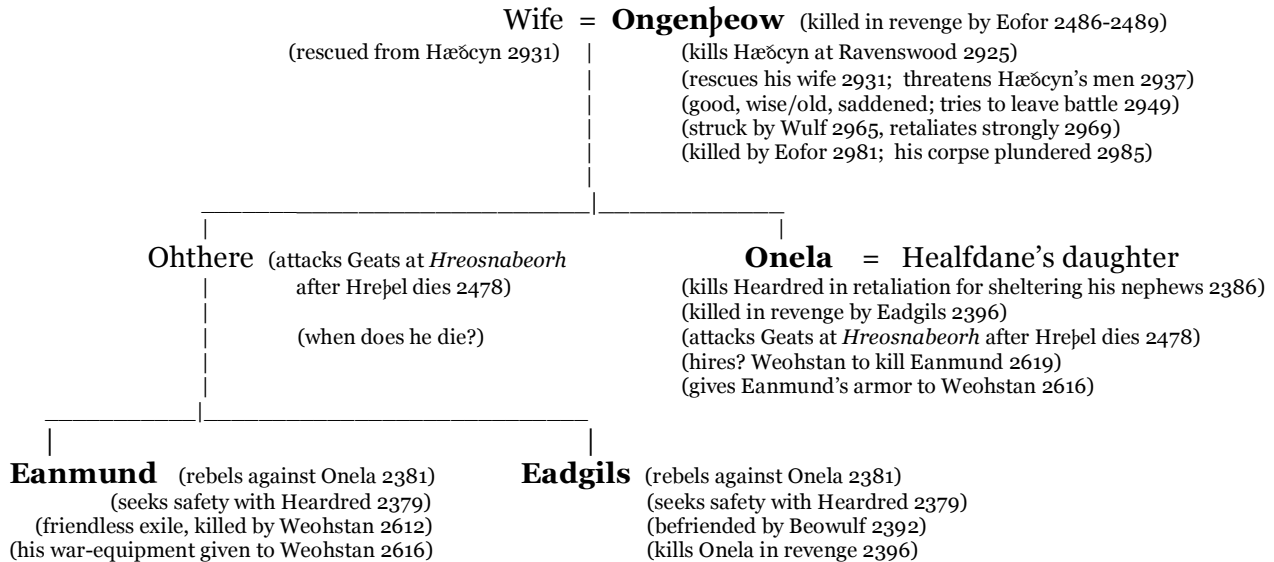


2D. Continental Tribes

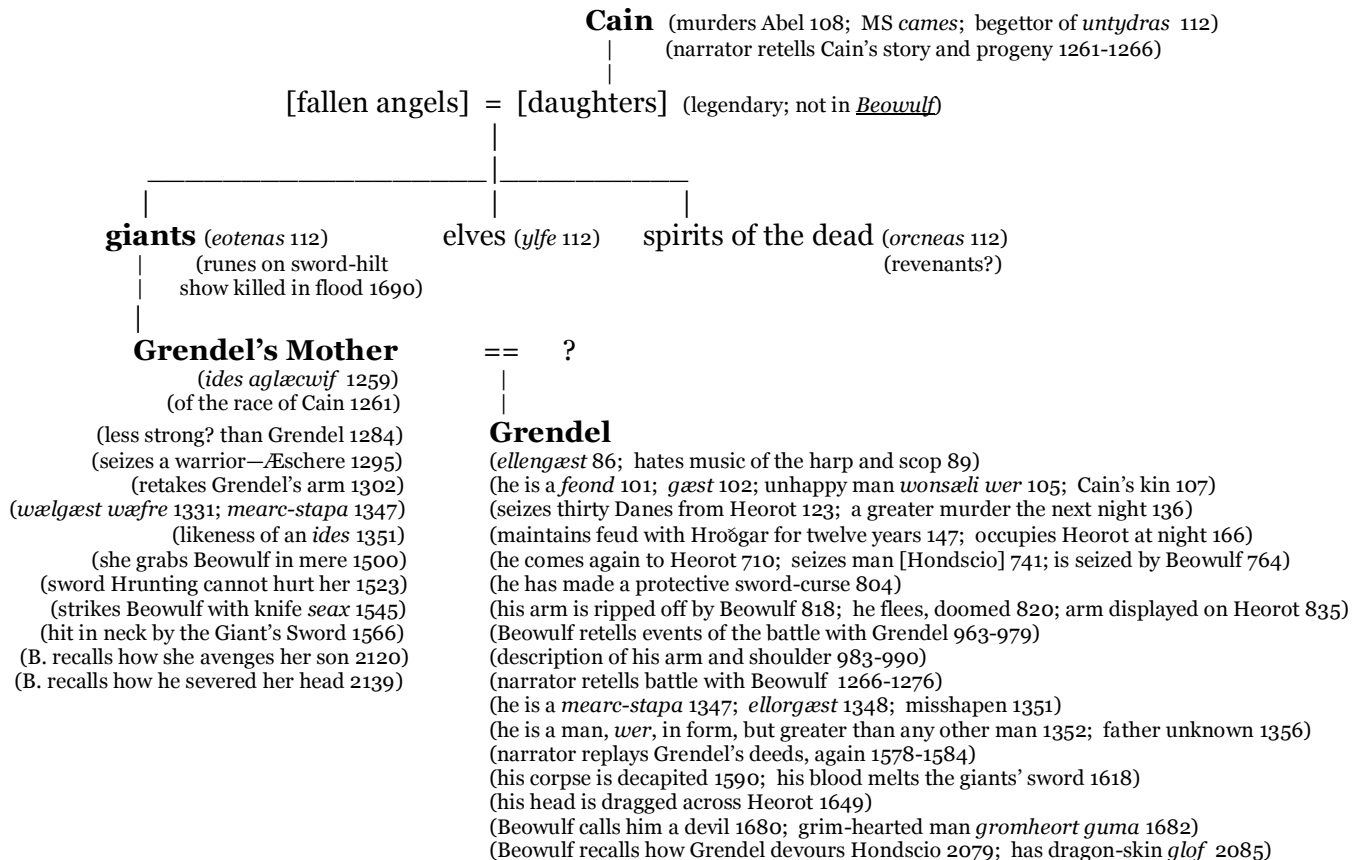
- Hetware** (Frankish tribe; fail to kill Beowulf in Frisia 2363; defeat Hygelac in Frisia 2916)
- Hugas** (the Franks 2502; presumably allied to Frisians; strife with Hygelac in Frisia 2914)
- Dæghrefn** (Frankish warrior 2502; crushed to death by **Beowulf** 2501; will not live to give treasure to Frisian king 2503)
- Merovingians** (refuse goodwill to the Geats after the Frisian raid 2920)

Who's Who and Backstory in *Beowulf*

3. The Swedes (War-Scylfings)

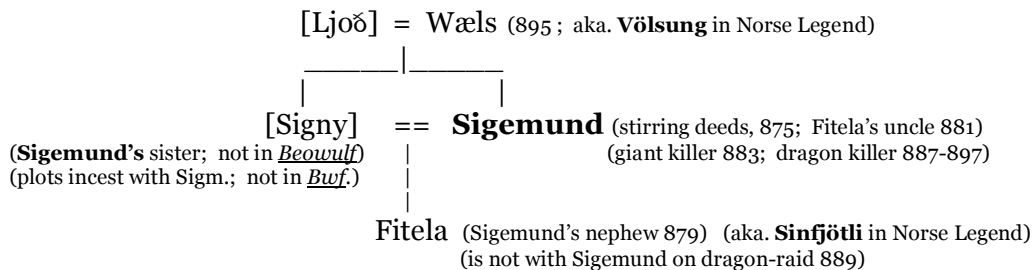


4. Cain's Progeny: the *Untydras* and *Geosceaft-gastas*



Who's Who and Backstory in *Beowulf*

6. The Lay of Sigemund



- 6a. **Weland** metal-smith of Norse myth
made Beowulf's *beaduscruða betst* 455

7. The Dragon

(emerges from barrow, angered by theft 2210-2220)
 ('old beast of the dawn' *eald uhtsceaða*, finds barrow-hoard, sits on it 2270-2277)
 (*nacod niðdraca* 2273; barrow shepherd enraged *beorges hyrda gebolgen* 2304)
 (*gæst* 2312; hateful flier *lað lyftloga* 2315; *wyrm* 2316; monstrous *unheore* 2413)
 (episode of thief and dragon 2287-2302)
 (attacks Geatland at night 2312-2323)
 (hears Beowulf's bellow 2554; comes out seeking combat 2562)
 (makes first attack 2569; sword Nægling is useless against it 2578)
 (Beowulf retreats briefly in battle, then re-engages 2586-2592)
 (advances a second time 2669; advances a third time 2687)
 (struck in belly by Wiglaf 2699; then struck by Beowulf with *wællseax* 2705)
 (dragon dispatched by Wiglaf and Beowulf together 2706)
 (will no longer rule his hoard, no longer soar in the sky, etc. 2826-2836)
 (dragon's dead body, fifty feet long 3038-3046)
 (dragon's body is pushed into the sea 3131)

+ **Lay of the Last Survivor** 2231b-2277

What's What and Backstory in *Beowulf*

1. Heirloom Swords & Weapons

Hrunting	(given by Hunferth to Beowulf 1455) (Beowulf pledges it back to Hunferth should he die 1487) (fails in underwater battle with Grendel's mother 1525, 1660) (Beowulf returns it to Hunferth, praises it 1807-1812)
Giant-Slayer	(Beowulf sees it in fight with Grendel's mother 1557) (B. uses it to decapitate Grendel's mother 1566) (blade melts after B. decapitates Grendel 1605-1618) (sword passes into Hrothgar's hands 1677-1686) (runes on the hilt tell of Flood and of its making 1687-1698)
Nægling	(drawn in dragon battle 2563) (fails in dragon fight 2577, 2585, 2680) (shatters on the dragon's skull 2680-2687)
Misc. Swords	Beowulf gives a <i>bunden golde</i> sword to Coast Guard (1903) Hrethel's sword given to Beowulf (no better in rank of swords 2191) is this Nægling? Eofor's giant's sword (<i>ealdsweord eotonisc</i> , deals fatal blow to Ongentheow 2979) Beowulf's <i>wællseax</i> (carves dragon's midsection 2703) <i>Seax</i> Grendel's Mother uses (1545) Eanmund's Sword (giant-work, given to Weohstan by Onela 2616; inherited by Wiglaf and used in Dragon fight)

2. Shields and Armour

Beowulf's Corselet Beowulf's Armour Beowulf's Iron Shield	<i>beaduscruda betst</i> (heirloom of Hrethel, work of Weland 453) for the mere-fight (1445); it protects him (1504, 1548-1552) for the dragon fight (2337-2341)
Ongentheow's Armour	iron-byrnie, hilted sword, <i>entisc</i> helmet, pillaged from his corpse, taken to Hygelac (2979-2986)

3. Jewelry, Precious Items & Treasure

Necklace	Beowulf receives from Hrothgar/Wealtheow (<i>healsbeaga mæst</i> 1195) compared with Brosinga Necklace <i>men</i> , which Hama steals from Eormanric (1198-1199) Hygelac is wearing it on Frisian raid (1203) taken as spoil by the Franks (1211) cannot be taken from Beowulf by Dæghrefn in battle at Frisia ? (2504) given to Wiglaf by dying Beowulf ? (2809)
Hrothgar's Gifts	Beowulf receives Healfdene's <i>brand</i> , a golden war standard <i>segn gylden</i> helmet and byrnie, <i>maðumsweord</i> (1020-1023); eight horses and precious saddle (1035-1038) twelve great treasures given to Beowulf at parting (1867)
Beowulf's Gifts	<i>heals hring gylden</i> , <i>goldfah helm</i> , <i>beah</i> and <i>byrnie</i> given to Wiglaf at B.'s death (2809-2812)

4. Dragon's Hoard

	origin (2232-2246); Lay of the Last Survivor (2247-2266) Beowulf wishes to see it before dying (2750) Wiglaf sees the hoard in close description (2756-2777) Golden Ensign/Standard (<i>segn eallgylden</i> 2767) should not be used by the Geats but buried with Beowulf (3010) treasure laying on the shore, rusty, enchanted by curse (<i>galdre bewunden</i> 3047-3057) still remains just as useless to men now as then (<i>unnyt</i> 3168)
Stolen Cup	(<i>sincfæt</i> 2231; gold-plated <i>fæted wæge</i> 2281) (costly drinking cup <i>drincfæt dryre</i> 2306; illustrious treasure-cup <i>maðumfæt mære</i> 2404)