

SCRIPT

Village scene with villagers and warriors doing crafts or training, Jarl Thorgier and his Huscarls are gambling on the outcome of a wrestling match or cat fight.

As the match or cat fight ends three men arrive at the village, two are Jarl Thorgier's Huscarls returning with the news that his offer to become the fourth husband of the fair, but dangerous, Jorunn Havskilepadde has been accepted and the wedding is to be held at her father's village.

The third man is a Norse trader who is shown the village's trade goods (sacks of wool and a slave) by the head freeman.

Jarl Thorgier and his Huscarls leave for the wedding followed shortly by the trader and his new slave ①. The trader meets a band of Vikings and to save his life and goods he tells them of the village with its best warriors away.

Village life continues peacefully but is rudely interrupted by the Vikings. The village warriors are driven out, some of their women are captured by the raiders but not all, the village is burned. The battle continues and the villagers are driven further away from the village but continue to resist ②.

Just as it seems that the villagers will be defeated Jarl Thorgier and Jorunn arrive with their Huscarls and Shieldmaidens ③ and attack the Vikings in the flank. The Viking raiders give ground and are driven back towards the village.

Exhausted by their efforts the two sides separate for a rest. The leaders of the two sides negotiate, the Vikings ask for Danegeld in return for peace, Thorgier refuses to pay and suggests a battle of champions. The bodies of the dead and wounded are removed and the duel commences ④.

After the battle of champions the battle continues, this time to the finish.

① The trader and slave join the Vikings.

② Some warriors are selected to be casualties and lie as if dead or wounded until the battle of champions.

③ All female warriors are in Jorunn's retinue.

④ The dead and wounded warriors are dragged off and while the battle of champions distracts the audience they rejoin their sides.