

Binding of Youtl

In the days now long since pas-sed
Reigned a lord by Gods beknighted
In the times of by-gone legends
Ruled a king of light and darkness

When the sun spat out its ire
Spat the flares* of its hot fire
Scorched the land and boiled the seas
Scoured the lands of all its beings

Did king Youtl throw his cloak
Blanketing the world in dark
Covering the sky in blackness
Concealing the land from fire

For a decade** Youtl reigned
Saving us from sun's rage
Cloaked by Youtl's velvet garb
Safe from heaven's deadly wrath

For a decade Youtl reigned
For his labor he was praised
Even in the halls of Gods
Youtl would be praised in songs

Decades turned and became more
Youtl still upon his throne
Longing for his glory days
Yearning for his nightly praise

Picking up his cloak so fine
The velvet garb pristine, divine
Donning it by broach of steel***
The sun he would once more conceal

With his power, strength and might
Turned the daylight into night
All the land became a shade
Youtl's mind became unmade

Gods and creatures of the sea
Can live without sunlight's gleam
Men and creatures of the land
Without sunlight will be damned

Growing deaf to people's cries
Youtl reigned the darkened skies
Crying to their Gods for aid
Alla'su's kindness him betrayed

In the secret, in the shade
A pact was forged, a deal was made
Goddess taught them, men obeyed
Forged the shackles for their liege

Binding him with cunning ploys
From his palace in the skies
Shackled was the king nocturnal
Prisoner of ice eternal****

Youtl's passing cleared the skies
Averted was mankind's demise
But one alone she did not cheer
Men did gods***** now need to fear

* Footnote 1: Significant solar flare activity has been recorded in Selenian deep ice core samples, giving some validity to an ancient solar event this poem may allude to.

** Footnote 2: Use of word 'decade' may not correspond to standardized unit of measurement, but be closer to colloquial term 'age'

*** Footnote 3: Ancient Selenian culture preferred bronze weapons and viewed steel as too violent. Fighting with bronze was only until victory or defeat. Fighting with steel was until annihilation.

****Footnote 4: Ancient ruins have been uncovered in the polar regions of Selen, often crude in appearance but ornately decorated in wards. The poem lends credence that if Youtl ever existed, he would have been entombed in the permanent ice caps near Zainab. Further research in the matter is required.

***** Footnote 5: The Selenian word for 'god' had been capitalized until this point and was thought to be in error, but after reviewing the original manuscript the lessening in importance seems to have been a conscious choice by the author, perhaps alluding to the latter poems in the Selenian Edda.