

The Swords of Wayland

There were a time, o! long ago
When a man's work were his mark.
He'd no need of fancy schoolin'
In the cloistered scribe's dry art.

And in this time afore the writ
The world were young and free
There lived a mastersmith at forge
By Wayland named be he.

Maimed were he, by a woman's guile,
But at the forge a king.
No other man could work a blade
So fierce as old Mimming.

Nor half so bold as Naegling
That Beowulf held so high
'Gainst the mam of Grenael
In the place where demons lie.

And in this world so ancient
There walked the demon king.
By many names in many tongues
Great Lucifer did sing.

Golden-faced and fair of voice
The fallen angel roamed
Across the breadth of many lands;
Behind him Chaos foamed.

Til finally the gods themselves
Were forced by bitter fate
To capture golden Lucifer
And bind him 'hind a gate.

A cage of magic built for one
It lacked ought but a key.
To Wayland turned the gods then
And seven swords forged he.

Words of power 'scribed the blades
Unspoken throughout time.
The Cauldron cried out to their king
"Lord, freedom shall be thine!"

And so the sworás were scattered
For Wayland knew the cost
'Twere the key assembled
To darkness all'd be lost.

Morax dwelt below the ground
Embraced by a pagan king.
Good Orias was carried forth
In Jerusalem to ring.

Beleth crouched beneath the spot
Where fairies danced and whirled.
Flaures hid so cunningly
Where the god of surf unfurled.

Solas rode into the fray
And was lost on foreign soil.
And Elidor did stay at home
To watch o'er the smithy's toil.

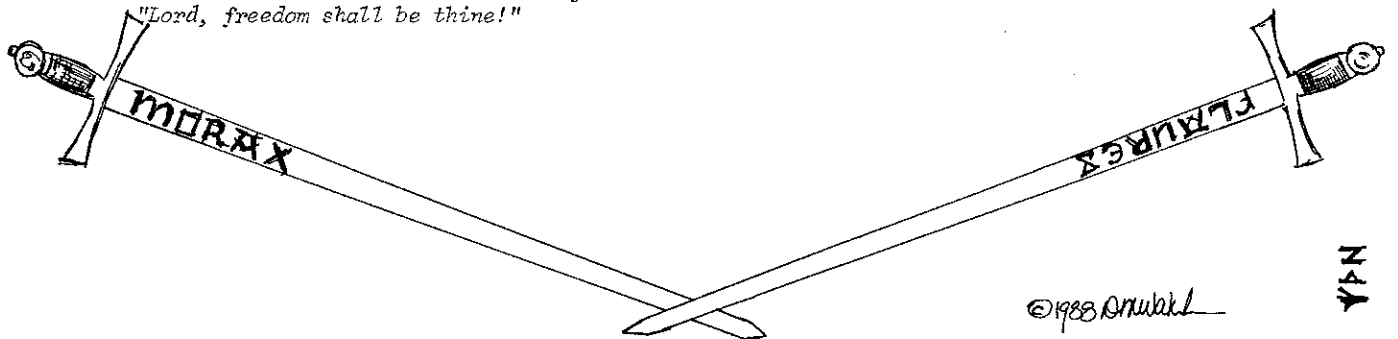
And Albion, of light and dark
Remained in the forest glade.
At Herne's right hand was he
The finest that Wayland made.

Apart for many years now,
Of great power each they be,
For unite the swords of Wayland
Great Lucifer to see.

The Cauldron searches fiercely
The swords they'll yet procure
To release their demon master
Will cost many lives and more.

The battle yet continues
Tho six o' the swords be lost
For thus the swords were scattered
For Wayland knew the cost.

-- Deborah M. Walsh



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