

# Anglo Saxon Works

Beowulf

↳

Herot - mead hall

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Hrothgar - King of the Danish  
- Healfdane's son

Wulfgar - a noble

Kenning  
↳

Grendel - monster, demon

- mankind's enemy

- hell-forged hand

- Shepherd of evil

- Shadow of death

- Guardian of crime

- infamous killer

Wethow - Hrothgar's gold-ripped queen

- mighty protector of men

Beowulf - Higelac's follower

- greatest of the Geats

- believes in fate "Fate will unwind as it must"

- Ecgtheow's brave son

Desire for Fame - ultra important to A.S. people

Allegiance & loyalty to the king - important, too.

Beowulf spans both throughout the poem.

Grendel is given no reason for his hatred of men - simply hates the Danes and their happiness in the mead hall and so... kills them.

Between the "Battle w/ Grendel" and...

- Beowulf battles a new foe while w/ the Danes:  
Grendel's mother (yes, I know it sounds funny)
- Beowulf fights her in an underwater lair  
& kills her w/ an ancient sword he finds  
in her lair.
- Beowulf returns to Geatland & is made an  
Earl by his king.
- Several years later Beowulf becomes king  
himself.

- Beowulf rules for 50 years.
- A dragon terrorizes the land & Beowulf  
frees it himself
- He dies killing it → a true hero to the end!

... "The Burning of Beowulf's Body"

- alliteration cont.
- his burned pyre (fire) & barrow (grave site)  
size shows the respect he had as  
king & as a man.

