

Chapter 1 : Popular Asatru Books

Hjuka's "Germanic Heathenry" is a must read for any and all folk interested in Asatru. Before it happened anywhere else, it happened between the Danube and the Rhine.

We will not ever use them in any offensive way, but neither will we be ashamed to use the sacred symbols of our people. Much to the dismay of our detractors, we who are revitalizing our folk ways after such a maligned period of historical miseducation, we have continued to struggle to "rehabilitate" and maintain the true, honest use of our ancestral symbology. Some symbols have only been misconstrued over the last sixty years when they were used with the most vigor. It is a disgrace that some modern day individuals and groups continue the misinformation campaign against our symbolism and equating it with malicious purposes. It is a matter of time, until those folk will wake up to its much more encompassing passions and how it should affect internal change and external pride rather than external change and internal pride. Our symbols have existed for many millenia free from any connotations of fear and racial hatred. Unfortunately, there presently exists multiple groups of people and government sponsored organizations who believe it is their job to save the world from racists. For these groups to survive they must continually find more racists to justify their own existence. In the past few years these groups have focused on our ancient ancestral religion; Asatru. Some of these groups have gone out of their way to bring dishonor to our people and our religion. To further their goals these organizations lie to law enforcement officials, they lie to the media, and they lie to many of the people that they represent. These lies have been proven to be false time and time again. It offends everyone who is Asatru. Our sacred symbols represent that which is best in each and every one of us and what our people are, they are our strength, and our protection which empowers our us as a people to have the willingness to stand, no matter what the odds are because in the end we will overcome ALL detriments placed before us. Listing any of our sacred symbols in this manner is absolutely unacceptable, trying to list it, as heathen symbols co-opted by racists is an attempt by The Anti-Defamation League to discriminate against Heathens since Christian, Moslem, and Jewish holy symbols are all used by their own racists such as the Christian KKK , the Jewish Kach Movement , and the Muslim Nation of Islam , among many other groups but are not included on their lists. Asatru is not a religion based upon fear or hate, and we have an in-defiable right to use ALL of our ancient sacred symbols without being associated with fear and racial prejudice. These are OUR symbols, and only we will dictate how they will be displayed and how they are going to be used. We will also live with those consequences and take that responsibility. We are a diverse people; we exist in all walks of life. We honour the laws in the lands where we exist and we honour a person right to believe in whatever religion they choose. We honour our the Germanic Gods and Goddesses as our ancient kin, the gods of the various Germanic Tribes and live our lives by the Nine Noble Virtues. We look to peacefully live our lives by our own morals and build our religion for our future generations. The objects the Germanic peoples used in their religious ceremonies and in everyday life are usually very rich in spiritual symbolism, often incorporating motifs of celestial importance. Throughout the many millenia of their existance, our holy symbols have manifested and appeared in a great many variations, often appearing very stylized and at times somewhat cryptic. The ancient Germanic tribes lived in harmony with nature, and as their spiritual beliefs are based very much on the natural world, both wild and domestic beasts are highly revered. It was sensed that certain animals have special unique energies and elements of their nature and being that brought them into association with that of the various Gods and Goddesses whom they came to represent. These totem animals are often seen in dreams and visions as symbolic bearers of wisdom and might. The Bear is considered the greatest of all beasts, and are held sacred to Thor. Bears are considered to be similar in personality and temperament to humans as they are intelligent, curious, highly adaptable, brazen and persistent creatures, with an innate awareness of fairness and honour. A common favorite of berserkers and shape shifters, the Bear is often the totem spirit of those who are extraordinarily strong of body, mind, and soul. Linked to both Freyr and Freyja, the boar is traditionally associated with protection from harm. The Wild Boar is the mightiest of the totem animals of the Vanir. The Boar first taught mankind the arts of agriculture by showing us how to plough the

Earth before "sowing" seeds by rooting up the ground with his tusks. Agression and strength were highly valued virtues to the Warrior Germanic tribes, Qualities associated with their most potent animal totem symbols. The untamed bull was venerated in all parts of Europe settled by the Germanic peoples, although its warlike connotations were tempered by its symbolic link to fertility and agricultural plenty that was associated with its counterpart the Ox. The mighty Dragon is the dweller of the burial mound, and the physical and psychic embodiment of the Earth's natural powers of fertility. Representative of natural electromagnetic Earth energy, pictured as slithering across the skin of the earth, As the great serpent guardian of gold, the Dragon has been closely associated with unseen power, fertility, protection and esoteric wisdom. The Eagle is considered the greatest of all birds, and is held sacred to Odin. The Sacred Horse is a potent symbol of intelligence, speed, grace, strength, virality, and fertility. Its flowing mane representing the brilliant rays of the sun as the Horse is the beast which carries the wagons of the Sun and the Moon across the sky. Images of Horses appear on many early Bronze Age rock carvings depicting ancient scenes of fertility rites. The Stallion is held especially sacred to Freyr and Wotan, who would sometimes take residence in the body of one of the Horses kept at their temples. These Horses contained cosmic wisdom and were consulted by priests who would decipher their neighs and snorts in divinity rites. As her totem animal the rabbit became a potent fertility symbol in ancient times due to the rabbit's well known ability to multiply rapidly. The Raven is most closely associated with Odin, and as such, are birds of cunning, swift moving intelligence, esoteric wisdom, victory, war and death. Shamanically, they represent the mind of the seer, flying silently through the 9 worlds of the universe, gathering hidden knowledge, gaining in wisdom, insight and inspiration. As birds of omens, the flight of ravens were used in predicting the future, while their harsh cries foretold the outcome of battles. Carrion birds associated with death, ravens will accompany the souls of the dead to the various afterworlds, and as such are blessed with the clear vision of the mysteries of life, death and rebirth. Under the raven banners, the Viking invaders were said to be invincible against the English armies. The symbol of the Stag went beyond its obvious Maleness and aggressive qualities; the splayed antlers associated with the king of the forest because of the similarity to branch growth. And, like the deciduous species of trees, the annual shedding of antlers in spring and autumn made the Stag the embodiment of the cyclical growth-decay-growth of nature. Along with the Wild Boar, the Stag was the most prized quarry of hunters. The Wolf is the traditional totem spirit and symbol of the hunter, warrior and magician. As such, the Wolf presents to us its dual nature of nurturing and destruction. On one side, the Wolf is the living embodiment of fury, chaos, and brute wildness. In contrast, the symbol of the wolf also represents one of the most intelligent, loyal, and sociable of animals, living and hunting in a co-operative family based pack. Idunna is the Goddess of eternal spring, immortal youth and vitality, and the guardian of the Golden Apples of Immortality, she alone is allowed to pick these sacred apples which represent fertility, youthful vigour and vibrant life force. Idunna shares her magical apples with the Gods and Goddesses everyday to bestow immortal youth and beauty upon all who ate them. Idunna carefully guards her golden apples in her magic basket as they are considered the most prized treasures of Asgard, and no matter how many she withdraws from her basket, the same number always remains for distribution at the feasts of the Gods. Found on very early bronze age rock carvings, the symbol of the bare footprint is associated most often with the cult of the Vanir, and it is a mighty symbol of the presence of the Gods, bringing fruitfulness to the land and people. The Fylfot meaning "four footed" is Mankind's oldest and mightiest power symbol, appears nearly world wide in some form. There are thousands of variants of this mighty symbol in the Germanic Heathen tradition and is commonly swirling in both clockwise and counterclockwise forms without any change in meaning. Originally a stylized representation of the female genitalia, this ancient symbol of the heart is the sign of the blessings of love, life, fertility, and spiritually creative energies from the mighty Earth Goddess Freyja. A variation of the valknut, many believe this to represent the three cauldrons in which the sacred mead Odroerir is kept. An ancient Teutonic symbol with shamanic roots, which shows the 3 cauldrons in which is brewed the mead of poetry called Odroerir meaning "frenzy stirrer" made from the fermented blood of the wisest of the ancient Gods, KVASIR. Holy to both the Asir and the Vanir, whomever drank of this magical mead received the gift of divine inspiration, great wisdom, esoteric knowledge and poetic eloquence of speech. The unbroken hoop is an ancient and potent

symbol of the eternal nature of the Earth Goddess and the fertility and fruitfulness she embodies. In ancient art she is often depicted as wearing a neckring. As such the ring has been known to be used to swear sacred oaths upon in Germanic heathen religious rites. This tradition is still widely continued today with the tradition of the Wedding ring, and the sacred Oath Ring. Runes are the symbolic expressions of the cosmic mysteries of the universe, discovered by Odin during his shamanic initiation. Rune magic developed and evolved, naturally, and uniquely among the various Teutonic tribes since the late Bronze Age. Runes were widely used in divination and have been inscribed on amulets, such talismans were primarily concerned with healing, protection, victory, fertility and growth. The ship is commonly seen in rock carvings as far back as BCE. It is later seen on funeral stones, in graves, and is held to be one of the vehicles to reach the afterlife. To the Teutonic peoples, the ship was not just a means of transport, but played an overwhelming part of their spiritual and cultural development. The symbolic use of the Ship as the means of otherworldly travel is defined by its association with life, death, rebirth, and fertility. The Sheildknot and its variants are a powerful symbol of protection. This symbol is still in use today in Scandinavian countries to mark off protected sites of archeological importance and ancient cultural heritage. This cross within a circle is one of the many symbols of the sun, and one of the oldest spiritual symbols of the Germanic peoples. It is representative of the seasonal cycles of the year, the cycles of agricultural success in the field, and the cycles of human events within the year. It invokes the vital cosmic powers of life, fertility, peace and plenty from the fire of the heavens. The Earth is represented to this day by the sunwheel in scientific communities. It is the symbol of Terra Firma, our planet - the very center of all magical and other worldly culminations from all nine worlds. In ancient times small sunwheels made of wheat were set on fire and rolled down the fjords into the bay in Scandinavian rituals at Midsummer. The Hammer is primarily a symbol and an instrument of hallowing or "making sacred. The hammer of Thor has come to represent the whole of the Asatru religion. The ancient symbol of the triskel shows the swirling might emanating from the three great levels of being: This represents the unification of balanced opposites to create directional force attuned to ones will, setting goals into motion, bringing them into being and empowering them in all realms. The wagon is often found linked to the god Freyr, His image was carried around in a wagon in Sweden until late in the Heathen Era. The wagon like the ship, is associated with the mysteries of fertility, life, death, and rebirth. Appearing in ancient sacred images associated with Odin. The "knot of the slain" is the symbolic sign of the coming together of the powers from the 9 worlds of the universe. This is the symbol of Odin, showing his power to bind or loosen the minds and souls of man, subtly affecting the knotted web of fate as he lays bonds upon them, so that they become helpless in battle, or he could loosen the grip of fear by his gifts of intoxicating battle-madness and divine inspiration. Yggdrasil is the "World tree", a gigantic tree and central pillar that binds connects binds the 9 worlds of the Universe together. Also know as The name Yggdrasil translates as: Thus it represents a cosmic balance, order, personal power, spiritual creativity, growth, and hidden knowlage.

Chapter 2 : /asatru/ - Book / PDF Thread

Germanic Heathenry has 37 ratings and 5 reviews. Matt said: Coulter has written a book filled with some useful ideas and perspectives. He's taken much of.

Other than possible place names in Denmark Ashliman , Ostara is unknown in those more northern climes, at least under that name. However, given how close Bede was in time to living and openly practiced English Heathenism, this seems unlikely in the view of many scholars Branston, , and I personally agree with that conclusion, while making the note that this ongoing debate, due to the length of time which has elapsed and the paucity of surviving records, will almost certainly never be definitively settled. Some have also pronounced similar caveats about the works of Snorri Sturluson, especially the Prose Edda. They can serve as a source of inspiration and new ideas, although not IMHO as a scholarly source. Others identify her as a local form or hypostasis of either Frigg McNallen, v. Finally, of course, all of these could be completely separate Goddesses. While all these options are possible, none of them is proven or perhaps even provable. She was remembered in several German place-names Grimm, Within the Germanic world itself, a cognate of the name is present in the name of the Austriahenae matrones, a group of Goddesses to whom over dedicatory inscriptions survive in Morken-Harff. Ostara is well-known in the larger Pagan community, mostly due to the fact that the late Gerald Gardner borrowed her name for the Wiccan Spring Equinox holiday. Why this should be the case I have no idea, except that when all is said and done, Gardner was still an Englishman, not a Celt! For instance, we know absolutely nothing about the rites by which Eostre was honored in England Wilson, From the time of her traditional rites comes the notion of Ostara as a Goddess of Spring, or perhaps more specifically of the Spring Equinox. Bonfires were lit at Easter-tide in Frankish and Saxon areas where as elsewhere in Germany they were lit at Midsummer Grimm, Note that both of these tribes, especially the latter, were involved in the settlement of England. Water drawn on Easter morning was said to have healing properties. Maidens clothed in white and seen in clefts of big rock formations and on mountains may be echoes of the Goddess Ostara Grimm, From folklore survivals unattested in extant lore, it appears that there may have also been a play or ritual representing the battle between the seasons. Hence, Ostara can be and is often seen as a Goddess of Springtime Grimm, Cakes shaped, among other things, like lunar crescents were baked at this time Grimm, Hot cross buns might also be appropriate at this time, with the marks on top of them being re-? Heathenized as the Rune Gebo or a Sunwheel Wodening, These early, delicate, fragrant, and very white blossoms to me recall the previously mentioned maidens in white. In these same Hessian areas, games and sporting events also continued to be held on Easter Day and were evidently survivals of Heathen custom Post, In addition to the hares and rabbits rather similar creatures, the main difference being that newborn hares are fully furred and have their eyes open , the squirrel may also be an animal associated with Ostara. In certain Hartz mountain villages the people engaged in a sort of ritual squirrel hunt with sticks and stones on Easter day Grimm, ; Gundarsson, Our Troth, It would be more than a little cruel and would also constitute game poaching or killing of protected songbirds! Another fascinating old folk custom for Ostara-tide is the Easter egg fight. Since one Heathen descended from Lake Ladoga Russians, from an area originally settled from Sweden, recalls this same custom in his family, who knows how far this rite may go back Gundarsson, Our Troth, Ostara-eggs are seen by some as having magical powers to bring strength, health and for children, good growth in the coming year Gundarsson, Our Troth, There were bonfires and burning sun-wheels as well. The ashes were then spread on the fields to make them fertile, and burnt sticks were kept to protect against hail, fire, and lightning. By the way, the custom of decorating eggs at this time of year is evidently known only in Germanic and Slavic areas; even today it is not seen in Celtic or mostly-Celtic places like Ireland and Scotland Gundarsson, Teutonic Religion, After the coming of Christianity, the old Gods and their Heathen followers were made out by followers of the new faith to be very wicked wights. In Germany however, their season was Walpurgisnacht, May 1st. At least one prominent and very knowledgeable modern Heathen, Winifred Hodge Rose, believes that the Goddess worshipped on Walpurgisnacht was also Ostara Wodening, The first seems especially problematical. The Moon in Germanic

languages has masculine grammatical gender and as an at least semi-personified Deity is also male. Thus, if looking for feminine lunar energy manifested discretely in a Germanic mythological context, Ostara might be one Goddess where this would show up. More academic scholarship of Germanic religion would support this association as well Simek, However, she is not the only Goddess worshipped at that time. Heathens working very strictly within a Viking Age Scandinavian framework typically do not honor Goddesses such as Ostara and Nerthus, since there is no evidence that they were worshipped at that place and in that time period. Hail the Sons of Day! Hail Night and the Daughter of Night! Gaze on us with gracious eyes, Award us victory, we who wait. Hail Earth who gives to all! Wisdom and fair speech give to us And healing hands while we live. In assembling and annotating the large book-ward you are about to read, I noted that the same information from these two authors tends to recur over and over. Not everyone will hear her whisper the same things, but those things which many different worshippers keep hearing are deserving of special attention as this process continues to unfold. May Ostara bring you her timeless gifts of light, joy, health, abundance, and renewal of life! Annotated Book-Ward This especially large bibliography is presented in the hopes that it will help stimulate the ongoing study of Anglo-Saxon and Continental Germanic Heathenry in The Troth. Located online at www. Professor Ashliman now retired also has web pages for other Heathen Gods and Goddesses as well [http](http://): A bit pretentious perhaps from a Heathen perspective, but nicely done anyway. Ecclesiastical History of the English People. Originally written in Latin. The Lost Gods of England. Oxford University Press, Slightly dated scholarship but still mostly valid. Very readable and enjoyable and well-illustrated in black and white. One of my all-time personal favorites anyway! Out of print, but one copy is on amazon. Interlibrary loan is also a good source. Heathenry with a continental German emphasis. Overall quite good but a hard read at times due to the extensive use of Old High German terminology, including usually reconstructed OHG terms familiar to most Heathens in their Old Norse forms. Fortunately, there are glossaries in the back of the book. Collected in the 19th century by one of the Brothers Grimm of fairy-tale fame, this four-volume work preserves much folklore still extant in that era, a good deal of which deals with the Gods and Goddesses. It provides some useful continuity between the old-time Heathens and ourselves. However, both the author and translator fail to translate or even transliterate quotes and citations in a bewildering array of languages and dialects. Please note that the four volumes maintain continuous pagination throughout. The Ring of Troth, A page masterpiece of modern Heathen scholarship. A revised edition is in preparation. Most of the current out of print edition is available online at [http](http://): I believe that it can also be purchased there as a paper copy for an additional charge. Looking for the Lost Gods of England. Hockwold-cum-Wilton UK, of course: This is a chapbook of around 60 pp. Stations of the Sun. His other works are also recommended. A Comparison of Seven Different Systems. Self-published, probably issued around based on internal evidence Our Troth already published and mentioned. An interesting and informative, if somewhat dated, one-page handout. Capall Bann Publishing, I have not yet read this book in detail, and it gets mixed reviews among Heathens. Nevertheless, it comes mostly from a Heathen perspective. World Tree Publications, Uses an eight festival cycle, ultimately derived from Wicca, which ultimately pieced it together, roughly speaking, from the agricultural year of the Northern Temperate Zone. Rites and Religions of the Anglo-Saxons. Barnes and Nobles, Originally published in , this book covers both the Germanic Heathenism and the Catholic Christianity practiced by the early English. First and Limited Edition. Folks, when this becomes available to the general public, you are in for a real treat: Sheil, Thor and Audrey. The Road to Bifrost Volume V: Part of a unique, unpretentious, well-written, and unfortunately long out of print six-volume Heathen series. Highly useful, especially for hands-on work with our Gods and Goddesses. Dictionary of Northern Mythology. My favorite mythological dictionary.

Chapter 3 : Germanic Heathenry: A Practical Guide by James Hjuka Coulter | LibraryThing

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Heathenry: A Practical Guide. Coulter's book contains practical information that can be read, used, and enjoyed by anyone with the will and desire to learn and.

Chapter 5 : Pocket Havamal vs Practical Heathen's Guide to Asatru (a question) : asatru

Taken from, "Germanic Heathenry, A Practical Guide: Somersunnawendi Sunnawendá literally translates as (the) sun's wending, or the sun's turning, signifying the summer solstice -the pivotal point at.

Chapter 6 : Asatru Alliance - Wikipedia

James Hjuka Coulter's Germanic Heathenry: A Practical Guide. Eisner. reads: "German man is the supreme example of demoniac man. and enjoyed by anyone with the will and desire to learn and understand.

Chapter 7 : Germanic Heathenry: A Practical Guide : James Hjuka Coulter :

A Practical Heathen's Guide to Asatru The Hárfærjavamáfærj: With Selections from Other Poems of The Edda, Illustrating the Wisdom of the North in Heathen Times (English and Old Norse Edition) Essential Asatru: Walking the Path of Norse Paganism Hearth and Field: A Heathen Prayer Book.

Chapter 8 : Germanic Heathenry: A Practical Guide by James Hjuka Coulter

James Hjuka Coulter is the author of Germanic Heathenry: A Practical Guide (; ISBN), a book on Germanic neopaganism (called "Irminism" by Coulter). He is also the author of a treatise on Heathen Timekeeping and he has issued his own translation of the Havamal, a classic text of Irminism, Odinism, and Asatru.

Chapter 9 : Top james hjuka coulter germanic heathenry a practical guide deals at mySimon | Prices

A Practical Heathens Guide is a beginners style book, and all beginners books suck, without exception. This one just sucks less than the others, which is high praise, to be honest. It'll give you a decent overview of heathenry from a broad perspective and it'll do it in modern terms.