

Chapter 1 : Norse Mythology – Myths and Legends

Norse mythology is the body of myths of the North Germanic peoples stemming from Norse paganism and continuing after the Christianization of Scandinavia and into the Scandinavian folklore of the modern period.

Terminology[edit] The historical religion of the Norse people is commonly referred to as Norse mythology. In certain literature the terms Scandinavian mythology [1] [2] [3] or Nordic mythology have been used. The majority of these Old Norse texts were created in Iceland , where the oral tradition stemming from the pre-Christian inhabitants of the island was collected and recorded in manuscripts. This occurred primarily in the 13th century. These texts include the Prose Edda , composed in the 13th century by Snorri Sturluson , and the Poetic Edda , a collection of poems from earlier traditional material anonymously compiled in the 13th century. Originally composed and transmitted orally, skaldic poetry utilizes alliterative verse , kennings , and various metrical forms. The Prose Edda presents numerous examples of works by various skalds from before and after the Christianization process and also frequently refers back to the poems found in the Poetic Edda. The Poetic Edda consists almost entirely of poems, with some prose narrative added, and this poetry – Eddic poetry – utilizes fewer kennings. In comparison to skaldic poetry, Eddic poetry is relatively unadorned. The saga corpus consists of thousands of tales recorded in Old Norse ranging from Icelandic family histories Sagas of Icelanders to Migration period tales mentioning historic figures such as Attila the Hun legendary sagas. Numerous gods are mentioned in the source texts. One-eyed, wolf and raven -flanked, and spear in hand, Odin pursues knowledge throughout the worlds. In an act of self-sacrifice, Odin is described as having hanged himself on the cosmological tree Yggdrasil to gain knowledge of the runic alphabet, which he passed on to humanity, and is associated closely with death, wisdom, and poetry. Odin has a strong association with death; Odin is portrayed as the ruler of Valhalla , where valkyries carry half of those slain in battle. After a series of dreams had by Baldr of his impending death, his death is engineered by Loki , and Baldr thereafter resides in Hel , a realm ruled over by a goddess of the same name. While the Aesir and the Vanir retain distinct identification, they came together as the result of the Aesir – Vanir War. For a list of these deities, see List of Germanic deities. Elves and dwarfs are commonly mentioned and appear to be connected, but their attributes are vague and the relation between the two is ambiguous. Elves are described as radiant and beautiful, whereas dwarfs often act as earthen smiths. These beings may either aid, deter, or take their place among the gods. While their functions and roles may overlap and differ, all are collective female beings associated with fate. Dollman The cosmology of the worlds in which all beings inhabit – nine in total – centers around a cosmological tree, Yggdrasil. The gods inhabit the heavenly realm of Asgard whereas humanity inhabits Midgard , a region in the center of the cosmos. Travel between the worlds is frequently recounted in the myths, where the gods and other beings may interact directly with humanity. The tree itself has three major roots, and at the base of one of these roots live a trio of Norns. From this two humankind are foretold to repopulate the new, green earth. The Prose Edda also describes the afterlife for humans, with honorable warriors feasting and battling endlessly in Valhalla, while those who died dishonorably or out of battle were sent to Niffelheim. Influence on the popular culture[edit] See also: Germanic mythology and Germanic neopaganism With the widespread publication of Norse myths and legends at this time, references to the Norse gods and heroes spread into European literary culture, especially in Scandinavia, Germany, and Britain. In the later 20th century, references to Norse mythology became common in science fiction and fantasy literature, role-playing games , and eventually other cultural products such as comic books and Japanese animation. Traces of the religion can also be found in music and has its own genre, viking metal. Further reading[edit] General secondary works[edit] Abram, Christopher Myths of the Pagan North: A Piece of Horse Liver:

Chapter 2 : Vikings Myths and Legends by K.E. Sullivan

Instead, the Vikings seem to have been much more concerned with how much the myths spoke to their hearts and imaginations, as well as the degree to which the myths reflected and made sense of the world as they experienced it.

WikiPaintings The Vikings were a seafaring people from the late eighth to early 11th century who established a name for themselves as traders, explorers and warriors. They discovered the Americas long before Columbus and could be found as far east as the distant reaches of Russia. While these people are often attributed as savages raiding the more civilized nations for treasure and women, the motives and culture of the Viking people are much more diverse. These raiders also facilitated many changes throughout the lands from economics to warfare. The Viking Age Many historians commonly associate the term "Viking" to the Scandinavian term *vikingr*, a word for "pirate. During this time, the reach of the Scandinavian people extended to all corners of northern Europe, and many other nations found Vikings raiding their coasts. The farthest reported records of Vikings were in Baghdad for the trading of goods like fur, tusks and seal fat. A Viking raid on the monks of Lindisfarne, a small island located off the northeast coast of England, marked the start of the Viking migration from Scandinavia in This location was a well-known abbey of learning, famous throughout the continent for the knowledgeable monks and its extensive library. During this raid, monks were killed, thrown into the sea or taken as slaves along with many treasures of the church, and the library itself razed. This single event set the stage for how Vikings would be perceived throughout the Viking Age: In the years that followed the initial raid, coastal villages, monasteries and even cities found themselves besieged by these sea-based foreign intruders. Due to the frequency of sea attacks, many developments were made in developing fortifications in the forms of walled-in harbors and sea-facing stone walls, defenses that proved to be quite effective at deterring raids. The reason behind these attacks is a topic of debate among academics, though the reasons often stem from such things as the Christian persecution and forced baptism of pagans to reduced agricultural outputs in the Scandinavian region. Many more documented reasons might have prompted these people to leave their cold and harsh homes to seek out the means to survive elsewhere. Yet, despite how unforgiving their homeland may have been, most Vikings still returned to their homeland at the end of each season with treasure, slaves and goods to survive yet another winter. The Viking ship At the heart of the Viking culture lies the Viking ship. These extraordinary vessels – longships in particular – shaped the lives of the sea-faring Norse and changed the course of European history. Honed for more than 10 centuries, the ship-building skills of the Norse led to a variety of vessels – from small fishing boats and big-bellied cargo vessels to the famous lightning-fast longships used for raiding. But no matter the size, most of the ships were designed to be narrow in shape with short drafts vertical distance between waterline and bottom of ship , features that gave them high adaptability for use in the ocean and rivers. The keel, along with the addition of a large mast and sail, would ultimately allow the Norsemen to make long journeys across the North Atlantic. These vessels are now looked back upon as revolutionary in design and a technological miracle. To begin the ship-building process, the Vikings would drive wedges into freshly-cut trees until the wood split along the grain. Up to 20 great oaks might be cut down for a ship. The wood was shaped and arranged so that the planks fit together perfectly in a clinker construction, overlapping like a fan. In clinker shipbuilding, the outside is started first, and then the frame is put inside it, according to the living history site Regia Anglorum. The ship was coated with a watertight mixture of tar-soaked animal hair, wool or moss and stabilized with iron rivets. The end result was an incredibly fast and flexible longship that nothing could catch. The men rowed with a series of oars, supplemented with a large sail most likely made of wool. Rather than a rudder, the longships had a steerboard fastened to the right-hand side of the ship at the stern, according to Royal Museums Greenwich. Norse villages and communities came together to build ships with the intention of improving their lives through the business of raiding. In , Vikings ruthlessly attacked Nantes on the French coast, and because of their ability to maneuver up rivers, they went on to raid towns as far inland as Paris, Limoges, Orleans, Tours and Nimes, according to History. The Vikings paid as much attention to art as to craft. The longships were usually adorned with carved dragon heads at the bow, which were believed to keep evil spirits away. The

dragon head coupled with a large square, red-striped sail would come to be known as the signature of the Vikings. The sight would strike fear into the hearts of Europeans for three centuries. The Viking sagas tell of journeys they undertook from these Greenland colonies to the New World. They mention places named "Helluland" widely believed to be Baffin Island, "Markland" widely believed to be Labrador and "Vinland" a more mysterious location which some archaeologists believe could be Newfoundland. That site was excavated in the 1980s. Additionally there are three possible Viking sites that archaeologists have recently excavated in Canada. Two of the possible sites are located in Newfoundland while a third site is located on Baffin Island in the Canadian Arctic. One possible Viking site is located at Point Rosee in southern Newfoundland; at the site, archaeologists found a possible bog iron roasting hearth beside a structure made with turf. These pitfalls are arranged in a straight line, and archaeologists believe that the Vikings could have driven the animals toward these pitfalls where the animals could have been trapped and killed. At the third possible Viking site, located at Nanook on Baffin Island, researchers found artifacts that may have been used in metal production and the remains of a structure that may have been built by the Vikings.

Viking myths Many modern perceptions of Vikings found their origins through Catholic propaganda. Upon the sacking of multiple Christian facilities and the loss of countless relics and treasures, the Catholic ministry sought to dehumanize them. During the 19th and 20th centuries, perceptions changed to the point where Vikings were glamorized as noble savages with horned helmets, a proud culture and a feared prowess in battle. With regards to the more popular Viking myths created through these misperceptions, the following are proven to be clearly false according to historical record: Vikings wore horned helmets Vikings traditionally went bareheaded or wore simple leather and metal-frame helmets with the occasional face guard. They were filthy and unkempt Archaeologists find evidence on a regular basis of combs, spoons and other grooming utensils that indicate the Viking people were very keen on maintaining personal hygiene. A Viking longhouse on the coast of Norway. Tyler Olson Shutterstock They spent all their time raiding and warring While raiding proved an excellent source of income, many of the Vikings held farms back in their homeland that their wives maintained during Viking season. When the men returned home from a raid, they resumed their normal routine of farming. Vikings were a unified army Due to the difficult geographic location, the Scandinavian people were very spread out to conserve limited farmland. In addition, the penetration of Christianity caused many great divisions among the people still worshipping the traditional Nordic pantheon, further emphasizing the divided nature of the people. They were large and heavily muscled Due to the short summer seasons, growing crops was difficult and resources were always scarce. As a result, many of the Scandinavian people were much smaller than commonly depicted due to limited food sources. While the living conditions in Scandinavian regions were certainly harsh and made a hard people, many Vikings suffered from the scarcity of resources and the people set up their homes over great distances with no real unified leadership. During the Viking Age, the Scandinavian people were able to make a stronger push to the outside worlds and create a reputation for themselves beyond simple barbarism. While some Vikings were driven with the lust for riches, many sought more peaceful economic relationships with the surrounding nations. Indeed, as Forte et al wrote, there was no dramatic end to the Viking Age. The authors contend that the Scandinavian kingdoms were slowly acculturated and integrated into the "wider body politic of European Christendom."

Chapter 3 : Vikings – Myths and Legends

The tale of Ragnar Lodbrok, legendary Viking king and main character of the History Channel series "Vikings" and the many women in his life you absolutely do not want to mess with. It contains Viking battles, murder, betrayal, and heartbreak, uncommonly-ugly peasants, and, of course, a dragon fight.

A wolf of remarkable size and strength, Fenrir has one major story recorded in the Norse sagas, yet this singular story paints a picture of bravery for one god and an omen of death for the rest of them. Fenrir, however, posed a much more dangerous problem. Three different types of fetters, or bindings, were created before the gods were successful in confining the wolf. The first was called Leyding. It did not last long as one sharp kick from Fenrir snapped the chain apart. The second attempted fetter was twice as strong as Leyding and was known as Dromi; though it took Fenrir longer to break, it did meet the same fate as the first. By the third attempt the gods knew they needed skill beyond their own. These dark dwarves lived underground and were ill-natured for the most part, but they nonetheless agreed to craft a chain powerful enough to prevent the giant wolf from escaping. The dwarves soon presented Odin with Gleipnir, a shackle made of six mythical ingredients: With these six ingredients – supposedly no longer in existence today due to this procedure – the resulting chain was as smooth as ribbon, but as strong as iron would be to mortals. When the fetter was to be placed upon Fenrir on the island of Lyngvi, even the wolf doubted his ability to escape. And when the gods goaded him into trying to break free, Fenrir demanded a show of good faith before allowing it to be put upon him. Every attempt the wolf made to be freed turned out to be futile. Then and only then would Fenrir see freedom. The shaking of the earth and the uprooting of mountains would tear Gleipnir apart, unleashing the wolf on Odin, enabling him to swallow the chief of the gods whole. The wolf spent his life sealed away on an island far from other beings, kept in confinement until the fates of the gods could no longer be prevented. His story is an important one to be told, however, as his role is most poignant of those of his fellow family members. But it is Fenrir who will slay the chieftain of the gods himself, and for that, Fenrir will always be remembered. Public Domain Featured image: Public Domain Bibliography Abram, Christopher. *Myths of the Pagan North: Nordic Gods and Heroes* Dover Publications: Lee Hollander University of Texas Press:

Chapter 4 : Thor, God of Thunder: Viking Norse Myth Legend :Norse Mythology, Lady Gryphon's Mythical

The Vikings were a seafaring people from the late eighth to early 11th century who established a name for themselves as traders, explorers and warriors.

Yggdrasill is revitalized each day as they nourish it with special waters and smear it with clay from the spring to preserve it. Its waters fall upon the earth as dew. It is to them Odin traded his eye for wisdom. On one occasion, he hanged himself to a tree, on another he fasted for 40 days and nights and one other he gave his right eye to the guardian Mimir to drink from a horn filled from the well in hopes of gaining cosmic knowledge. Thor, the god of Thunder The Mighty Thor, who was known primarily as the thunder god was also the Norse god of war and agriculture. He was worshipped as Thunor, or Thonar in ancient England. It was the most potent weapon against the Frost Giants, Fire Trolls and other enemies. When Thor put on his magic belt his enormous strength was doubled and he could grow to gigantic size. The creators of these marvels, the Dwarfs were a class of clever supernatural beings not unlike elves and fairies, noted for skill at metalworking and serving the gods. He was apparently more widely worshipped than any other god by the ancient Norsemen. He was the king of the Fire Trolls or Demons or Giants as they were called. The gigantic warrior kept a vigil in the lava pits of the volcanoes on the outlying regions to defend the land against intruders. He carried a massive glowing enchanted sword, hot as molten embers and his fingers could turn into deadly serpents. He had many children ranging from huge and grotesque to normal sized and beautiful. Some sources say Loki, the god of fire and mischief was one of his descendants. Some say Surtur melted the ice to reveal Audhumla the cow and to create the first frost giant Ymir in the creation saga. These believe Sartur is both the beginning and the end of all life. In the epic carnage all the gods will die along with the giants, Fenris Wolf and the Midgard Serpent. At the end, Surtr is the one to kill Freyr. The last gods standing will be Loki and Heimdall who will slay one another. Then straightway shall Surtr cast fire over the earth and burn all the world. She was the only one who could sit with Odin on his throne, Hlidskjalf located in Valaskjalf, and look down on everything that transpired in the universe. She was a prophetess who spun the clouds. The weekday Friday is named for her. One morning, she awoke from a hideous nightmare. She had seen Hel, the Goddess who rules the underworld, take Baldur into her realm. Baldur had also been tormented by frightful dreams foretelling his doom. So Odin called the ancient prophetess, Wala, from her grave to divine what was behind the dreams. Odin decreed that every creature in heaven and on earth must swear an oath to never harm Baldur. Fire and water, dwarfs, giants, and elves, humankind, and all plants and animals swore it, everything save little mistletoe which she perceived was too young to be a threat, and Baldur was rendered invulnerable.

Chapter 5 : Viking History: Facts & Myths

Reading Level: Young Adult. This excellent little coloring book is chock-full of line drawings of Viking Age art and artifacts, carefully selected to accompany the brief text retellings of the Norse myths by a noted scholar of the Viking Age.

I would like to encourage you to check out many of the other posts about the Vikings on this website. The Vikings built the best ships during the Viking age, which is the main reason that they were able to so travel far and wide, in a very short time. Some absolutely amazing jewelry has been found all over Scandinavia and at former Viking settlements. The Vikings were giants 14 The Vikings were around cm shorter, then what we are today. The skeletons, that the archaeologists have found reveals that the men were around cm tall, and the women were around cm tall. They were all blonde 13 Genetic studies have proven that the majority of the Vikings in West Scandinavia and therefore Denmark, was red-haired. In the North Eastern Scandinavia around Stockholm, it was mostly blonde hair that was dominant. When the men went away for raiding or trade, the women did not just have the responsibility of the household but also the harvest and thus the survival of the family. Women had no rights 11 Written sources present Viking women as independent and having more rights and freedoms than any other women anywhere else in the Viking age. The women had, for instance, the right to divorce if the man became violent towards her, but also the right to get married again. Women in the Viking age had the freedom to become rich and powerful. The most valuable burial that ever has been found, was at Oseberg in Norway. It was a female and she was either a Nobel or a Queen. The word Viking was a verb used to describe when someone went on a raid. Some of these raids could last months or even years, which made some people both rich and famous. The Vikings were dirty and smelled badly 9 The Vikings were in fact very clean and took good care of their hygiene. The day Saturday in old Nordic was called Laugardagur which means washing day. The Vikings actually had their own little hygiene set with could include items such as an ear spoon, comb or even a razor. The Vikings drank from skulls 8 This myth goes back to Runer seu Danica literatura antiquissima by Ole Worm that was published in and reprinted in Here you will find the phrase saying that the Danes drink from the curved branches of skulls that is from horns. This was translated into Latin as ex craniis eorum quos ceciderunt from the skulls of those whom they had slain. Vikings preferred weapon was an axe 7 It is true that the Vikings used axes in battle, but the most common weapons that have been found in Viking dig sites are spears. The Vikings also used knives, swords, round shields, bows, and arrows. The Vikings used primitive weapons 6 The Vikings are often shown with primitive weapons such as axes and spears. But the Vikings had actually very skilled weaponsmiths. They used a method called pattern welding, where the Vikings could make swords that were both extremely sharp and flexible. The rarest and exceptional weapon made by the Vikings was the sword Ulfberht. The sword is of such high quality, that all attempts to make a replica in modern day by using the method the Vikings did has failed. But with a lack of fertile land and a growing population, the Vikings started to explore and create new settlements in many places throughout Europe, even as far away as to Newfoundland in North America. The Vikings were a nation 4 The Vikings were not one nation but many small different groups of people lead by their own chieftain. Neither Norway, Denmark or Sweden was even a kingdom before the end of the Viking age. Some of these small kingdoms did, however, work together when they went on big raids in foreign lands. The Vikings were barbarians 3 Many books and movies depict the Vikings as some bloodthirsty barbarians that only seek to kill and destroy. While the Viking raids were indeed very violent, it is important to remember it was also a violent age. But was the Viking armies really more violent than non-Viking armies? If we take a look at Charlemagne who was the King of the Franks in the Viking age. He ordered the beheading of 4, Saxons in Verden. It does seem that the Vikings loved to destroy items of religious value, such as Christian monasteries and holy sites. They even killed the monks, which earned them quite a bit of hatred. The Vikings probably enjoyed the reputation they had, people were so scared of the Vikings that they often fled from their cities instead of defending them when they saw a Viking ship coming near. Irish Gael attack a viking raiding party by Angus McBride The Vikings only pillaged, raped and murdered 2 Even though the Vikings did raid plenty of cities

throughout Europe including their own neighbors, it was actually only a very small percentage that was warriors. The majority of the Vikings was farmers, traders, craftsmen, and merchants. For the Vikings that did set sail to raid and explore new lands for riches, it was not just in the search of silver and women. Many Vikings settled more or less peacefully in places such as England and France, but also in new and unexplored lands like Iceland and Greenland. The Vikings also loved to explore for new trade routes and traded with almost every country of the then known world, and in their search for new lands, the Vikings even crossed the Atlantic and reached America years before Columbus. Did the Vikings wear helmets with horns? All depictions of Viking helmets in the Viking age, show helmets with no horns and the only authentic Viking helmet that has ever been found does not have them either. So where did this myth about the Viking horned helmets come from? An explanation could be that the Christians in Europe during the Viking age added this detail to make the Vikings look even more like a wild barbarian, by adding the horns of the devil on their head. It should be said that the God Odin wears a helmet with wings on it, which may look somewhat similar to horns. And you are somewhat right, there have been found helmets with horns, but they are from the bronze age.

Chapter 6 : Norse myths and legends | Hurtigruten

TOP 15 Myths and Misconceptions about the Vikings. There are many myths and false facts about the Vikings going around in these years, so I made a top 15 list on which of the Viking myths, that I think are the most widespread ones.

His shaggy head and his beard quivered as he, the first-born of Mother-Earth reached around for it. His first words were: I have suffered a loss beyond perception. My hammer has been stolen! Thrym, the King of the Thurse, [The Thurse were a race of giants] was sitting on a mound, pleating golden halters for his hounds and smoothing the manes of his mares. And no one can get it from me unless he brings Freyja here to be my bride. Thor met him in the central courtyard, and he said: What good news do you have to report? Have your efforts been rewarded? Tell me, even before you light, what you have learned. A sitting person is often forgetful, and a lying person lies. Thrym, the King of the Thurse, has your hammer. But no one can get it from him unless he brings him Freyja to be his bride. The two of us are going to the land of the giants. The entire hall shook with her fury. The necklace of the Brisings [The necklace of the Brisings is also mentioned in Beowulf] broke apart. Heimdall, the fairest of the gods and one of the prophetic Vanir, foretold the future: The giants will soon take over Asgard if you do not retrieve your hammer from them. Then Loki, the son of Laufey, said: The mountains burst and the earth broke into flames as the son of Odin rode to the land of the giants. Then Thrym, the King of the Thurse, said: I have never seen a bride bite more broadly, nor have I ever seen a maiden drink more mead. They seem to be aglow with fire! Instead of shillings she received blows and instead of rings, a hammer hit.

Chapter 7 : Norse Myths Archives - Storynory

The Vikings believed in many gods and goddesses. They believed in monsters. They believed their alphabet letters, called runes, had magical powers.

The sea resembles a mountain, and, persistently asks it again The impulse of my heart to visit distant lands. To start a new journey on faraway seas Exter Book The poem is read as it makes sense, i. It is written in this form to comply with the original, because this is the way they wrote in ancient Norse language. On the other hand, the myths and legends on which their culture is based upon have a so heroic, warrior like character and filled with great adventure, that for an "exoteric" type of reading, they obviously push toward adventure and conquest: There is no doubt that their myths, filled with such an extraordinary heroic and warrior like character, had to be understood in an esoteric form, as the path of the warrior in his fight against himself. But as it happens these very degenerate days, only a few were capable of reading the occult message. However, each time more and more historians agree that the Viking people were cultivated and knew and loved to listen to these myths, there was something of high value in them, as well poetry and mystery Because they were transmitted orally from generation to generation, any data that current science assigns to them involving centuries VIII or IX is only mere speculation. Today, in the light of Gnosis, we can say that their origin is immersed in the frightening night of the centuries, their roots come from the North Sacred Island, the mysterious Thule, situated in the place where today lies the Arctic Pole, from a remote past, that the Hyperborean Race lived in. Since then, the wisdom of those occult Gods passed in the form of myths and legends from race to race, from generation to generation, until they reached the current epoch. Around the tenth century, Irish monks, who moved to Iceland to seek solitude and recollection, come into contact with the Vikings, who begin to establish colonies in Iceland, and reap in written some of the heathen poems which circulated among the Vikings. Thus, almost all that exists currently about Norse mythology comes from Iceland. This material is divided into two groups: Edda consists of two manuscripts: The first, called "Codex Regius", consisting of 29 complete or fragmented poems and are kept in Copenhagen Denmark until , when it was returned to Iceland. The second, consisting of seven poems, one of which is not included in the Codex Regius. These poems include religious myths, stories of old heroes and tips for everyday life. The Skaldic poems such as "The Sailor", shown above, on the contrary include historical events, stories of daily life, the succession of kings, battles, etc. Last but not least, are "saga" stories in prose, most of them associated to a Governor and thirteenth century Icelandic poet called Snorri Sturluson, which grouped in the so-called "saga", among others, clarifications and explanations about Edda poems which were very helpful to better understand these myths. When one studies the Edda, realizes that the esoteric tradition of The Norsemen was deep and very rich, but, unfortunately, much has been lost. Some poems with esoteric content are incomplete and mixed with many pieces unrelated to divinity. However, what has arrived to us is enough for our thirsty of wisdom soul to be able to enjoy "The Words of the Almighty". The world has started with a golden era, I still remember the giants born at the beginning of time, Which gave me life in those distant times, Nine Worlds I remember, nine roots of the tree of power he was referring to Yggdrasil, the cosmic tree That sustained the worlds, and also the worlds from the depths of the Earth. At the beginning of time there was nothing; No sand, nor sea, nor cold waves, There was no land, nor the high heavens, Just a big void; rose from nothing, Until the sons of Bur Gods raised the lands, And created the Middle Land physical world , an unparalleled place. From South did the Sun glisten above a world of stones. Grass started growing and fields became green. The Aesirii one of the nations of Gods gathered in Idavoll had risen haughty temples and shrines, and established forges for making precious treasures, also invented pliers and tools to work in forges. At the dawn of existence, flames of fire from the kingdom of MUSPELL fall over the blocks of ice, forming giant clouds of steam coming out of the great void, forming the elements, space and a large ocean and the land, initially frozen we see here the fire fertilizing the waters, origins of the worlds, beasts, men and Gods. She begins to lick and to melt the ice, freeing the giant BUR, then from the droplets of melted ice formed the giant YMIR made of ice Divine androgynous beings, which appear from the absolute in the dawn of creation , which she feeds with

four rivers of milk that come out of her udder. These worlds were sustained by its branches and three of its roots communicated. This is the tree of Kabbalah with its Sephiroth and Worlds of Hell. From this point on, there are two versions: But the giant Ymir himself bears the seeds of evil ego and his descendants will be "ice giants", the incarnation of evil, of the Ego, of the angelic fall, starting from that moment on a life and death struggle between the Gods and ice giants which will be the center of any Norse epic until the final outcome of the RAGNAROK. So far, in summary form, Creation is presented. From here on poems continue, as I said, with the struggle between Gods and giants of ice, the incarnation of evil. We can see certain parallels between these stories, related to Creation and the biblical genesis, and to the Jewish Kabbalah or the Mesopotamian stories of creation that is realized through fire and water, pointing us towards the same truth that emanates from the Norse stories, namely: They lived happily and ate "apples of youth", cultivated and guarded by Goddess IDUN, and thanks to them always remained young and full of vitality. But in Asgard were many lands and there were two types of Gods, among which conflicts came to be born; although, after all, they live in harmony with each other: The Norse epic foreground is rather occupied by the Aesiri than the Vaniri, very clearly indicating that Norse mythology is an esoteric teaching of the Direct Path Valhalla was his residence and from his throne the nine worlds could be contemplated. Two birds Ravens accompanied him and informed him of everything that was going on in the nine worlds. He was also the wisest of the Gods, but it was not easy for him to obtain wisdom. In many engravings he is represented with a single eye. Since he was born he wanted to achieve Wisdom, and looking for it, he found that beneath the roots of the sacred tree Yggdrasil there was a well whose water gave Wisdom. By going down this well, beneath the roots of the great tree i. He discovers ineffable things and obtains Wisdom Mastery , but he needs more: I know I was hanging from that tree in the wind, I had swayed over nine long nights, wounded by my own sword edge, shedding my blood for Odin, myself being an offering to myself: Nobody gave me anything to eat, nobody gave me anything to drink. I contemplated the deep abyss until the Runes came up. With a cry of anger I got a hang of them, and then I fell fainted.

Chapter 8 : Norse Myths and Legends

The Vikings Gods and Myths. For a very long time, the Vikings believed in many gods and goddesses. These gods were called the Norse gods, or gods of the north. The.

Norse mythology is an incredibly rich and deep lore, full of many great stories and poems of the Nordic culture, from Scandinavia and the Germanic countries. Norse mythology which is also known as Germanic mythology is a not just a myth, it is a religion and it was practiced by the Vikings who lived in the Scandinavian countries in the Viking age, but it was also practiced by the Germanic people. What the Vikings called their religion or if it even had a name like other religions has, no one knows. Many people have even been inspired in the late 20th century, and references to Norse mythology became more common in literature and in movies such as lord of the rings , The 13th warrior and in series such as The Vikings. In culture has even spread into the gaming industry there has also been many games, one of them which is among my favorite is a role-playing game called Skyrim , which clearly has a Nordic touch. One of my favorite cartoons from called Valhalla, always brings me back happy memories from when I was a child. Which is a cartoon I clearly can recommend and it is fun for both children and adults. You may have heard some of the Gods or Goddesses beforeâ€¦ Odin who is the chief of the Aesir, married with Frigg who is the Queen of Asgard. Or what about Thor the God of thunder and the protector of Midgard the world of man! And who can forget about Loki â€¦ ahhh Loki so many great stories about him, always up to some new tricks to annoy the Aesir. And there are many many more.. The Vikings came from Denmark, Norway, and Sweden in Scandinavia, some of the Vikings loved to explore, and since they had the most advanced technology in shipbuilding at their time, they could travel faster and further than anyone else before them. Their history and culture have only been passed down orally through stories also called sagas and poems. This means a lot of the lore from the Vikings has been lost in time since the Viking age â€¦ But then an Icelandic historian, poet, and politician Snorri Sturluson decided to gather as much as he could and write it all down into a book he called The Prose Edda. Just as the Christians demonized the Vikings in the Viking age , the media today is not that much better. The Vikings were far more than just some bloodthirsty warmongering warriors from the north. The Vikings were not just explorers and warriors, but also farmers, traders, poets, and musicians. They were very creative, and made beautiful art and had superior shipbuilding skills compared to the rest of the world. The rebirth of a religion? Norse mythology which is a real religion to many people across the world, is not just some myths or stories to them. There are many names for this religion depending on where you live you might have stumbled upon different names for the same religion, and no Norse mythology is not one of those names. The reason why I choose to use that name, is because that is the name people are searching for. It should also be said that even to the Vikings, there were variations in the faith depending on where you lived. Some of the Vikings began converting to Christianity after exploring and raiding the coast of England and France, and towards the end of the Viking age, almost everyone in Scandinavia was a Christian.

Chapter 9 : TOP 15 Myths and Misconceptions about the Vikings - Norse Mythology

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