



THE ELDER RUNES
ORACLE CARDS

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Preface

The creation of “The Elder Runes Oracle Cards” was a journey that spanned almost seven years. Unlike my experience designing a Tarot deck, which took me only a few months, this project required a deep exploration of the meanings and symbolism of each rune. As I worked with the runes over time, my understanding of their nuances and power evolved, influencing the designs I was creating.

I started with hand-drawn illustrations and paintings and moved to digital paintings, refining them over the years with more realism and photographic elements. With the latest advances in A.I. imagery, I was able to combine more stylistic and realistic elements to the cards while keeping the original “mythical” feel of the cards.

This process of developing a relationship with the runes and refining their meanings was not only a creative challenge, but also a personal one. As I delved deeper into the mysteries of the runes, I discovered new insights about myself and the world around me. I learned to listen closely to the guidance of the runes, allowing them to shape my work and my life.

Now, as I share “The Elder Runes Oracle Cards” with others, I hope that they too will find meaning and inspiration in these ancient symbols. Whether you are a seasoned practitioner or new to the world of runes, these cards can offer guidance, clarity, and a deep connection to the wisdom of the ages.

Introduction

Welcome to the world of the Elder Runes Oracle Cards, a powerful tool for connecting with the ancient wisdom and magic of the runes. This deck of 24 oracle cards is based on the Elder Futhark runes, the oldest version of the runic alphabets that originated in Scandinavia around the first century. The runes were originally used for language and communication, and also carved as symbols of power and used for magic and divination.

The runes are divided into three groups, or aetts, each containing eight runes. These aetts represent the different stages of personal and spiritual development, and are associated with different realms of existence. The first aett represents the material world and physical reality, the second aett represents the emotional and mental realms, and the third aett represents the spiritual and divine realms.

As you explore this deck, you will discover a rich tapestry of symbolism and mythology inspired by the Nordic gods and goddesses, as well as the energies and themes associated with each rune. Each card features an illustration that brings to life the essence of the rune, along with an affirmation that can help you tap into its power and wisdom.

Whether you are a seasoned practitioner or new to the world of runes, these cards can offer guidance, clarity, and a deep connection to the wisdom of the ages. So take a deep breath, shuffle the deck, and let the runes guide you on your journey of self-discovery and transformation.

Chapter 1: The Runes : A Brief history

The word rune comes from the old Norse word “rún,” which means secret, mystery, or whisper. It has been associated with “council” or a meeting where wise people were discussing matters in secret.

Runes are a set of letters that forms runic alphabets that emerged around the First Century and were used to write early Germanic languages. The oldest form of this runic alphabet is called the Elder Futhark. Its name comes from the sound of the first six runes: “F - U - Þ (th) - A - R - K” and contains 24 runes that were used until around 700 AD. A shorter version consisting of 16 runes called the Younger Futhark, also known as the Scandinavian runes emerged during the 7th Century and was used until the 12th Century.

There is much debate about where the runes originated from, but a likely hypothesis is they came from Germanic tribes that came in contact with Roman culture during the early 1st Century in Northern Europe and spread around to the neighboring countries. There is no consensus among runologists as to which alphabet could have been the forerunner of the runes, with some linking their origin towards a Greek or North Italic/ Etruscan alphabet.

Runes have traditionally been carved onto hard surfaces such as metal, stone, wood, bone. They can be found in many objects such as weapons, jewelry, amulets, tools, and runestones, but around only 400 arti-facts can be indebted to the Elder Futhark’s early period.

Besides their uses for writing and communication, runes were used for magic and divination. The first mention of the possibility of the runes being used for divinatory and magical purposes comes from the Roman historian Tacitus in the First Century. In his book Germania, he describes ancient practices of Germanic people and how

they used symbols carved into small pieces of wood that were randomly thrown onto a white cloth to reveal a message. It is unclear if it was the Elder Futhark runes Tacitus referred to though.

Runes are heavily linked with the Viking Age (793–1066 AD) but Vikings used the Younger Futhark runes and not the Elder Futhark. Nonetheless, it is in that period that we can gain most insights into the magical use of the runes as they left behind the most runic inscriptions during their time and travel.

Around the 5th Century to 1000 AD another revised version of the runes emerged called the Anglo-Saxon Futhorc and was developed by the Anglo-Saxons and Frisians. This rune system consisted of 33 runes and was in use until the 12th Century. In Scandinavia, around the late 10th century, the Younger Futhark was gradually adapted into the Medieval Futhork that was fully formed in the 13th Century.

Elder Futhark (around 160-700 AD)

Younger Futhark (700AD -1200 AD)

Anglo-Saxon Futhorc (500AD- 1000 AD)

Medieval Futhork (1000AD - fully formed 13th century AD)

Alongside those later set of runes were poems that were meant to help memorize the names of the runes called the Old Norwegian, Old Icelandic, and Anglo-Saxons rune poems. Because there were no records found from the time of the Elder Futhark's runes that could give infos into their name or spiritual meaning, it was only through the collection of those later poems that their possible meanings were extracted.

Chapter 2: Understanding the Esoteric Meaning of the Runes

The meaning of the runes' spiritual and esoteric interpretations comes mainly from the Scandinavian, Icelandic, and Anglo-Saxon poems. However, these poems are not without problems, as they were created many centuries after the Elder Futhark, during the Middle Ages, and influenced by Christianity. Some of the poems have many runes with different interpretations. This inconsistency presents a challenge to anyone seeking spiritual guidance from the runes.

However, modern rune practitioners have agreed on a common meaning for each rune. Therefore, the meaning of the runes that the spiritual community has established may be different from the original meanings. It is up to each practitioner to establish their own relationship with the runes, find new meanings and symbolism, and imbue the runic symbols with positive and inclusive energy.

Spiritual authors have drawn inspiration from other spiritual traditions such as Tarot, I-ching, The Kaballah, and Alchemy, among others. They have created their own systems of reading with the runes. For example, the Armanen runes created by occultist Guido Von List in 1908 was a popular runic system based on the Younger Futhark that reconstructed the structure of the runes by using 18 runes instead of 24. Popular authors like Ralph Blum added an extra "Wyrð" rune (blank rune), rearranged the order of the Futhark, and gave meanings that were influenced by the I-ching.

While some may criticize these adaptations for inaccurately interpreting the runes to fit a spiritual agenda, the fact remains that a symbol's power is in the meaning attributed to it. The runes have a history of being appropriated as symbols to represent extremist groups' ideology. Nonetheless, the meaning of the runes that the present spiritual community has acquired is part of our symbolic and spiritual vocabulary, and it is up to us to imbue the runic symbols with more positive and inclusive energy.

In conclusion, while the poems have their shortcomings, it is the meaning that modern practitioners agree upon that matters most. It is up to us to establish our own relationship with the runes and to find new meanings and symbolism to them.

Chapter 3: Runes in Magic and the Eddas

Evidence of runic magic has been found in many different artifacts and sites such as amulets, weapons, jewelry, piece of bones, or runestones. One example is seeing the rune Ansuz and Tiwaz known to be associated with the god Tyr and Odin carved repeatedly as if to invoke the gods for protection. The word ALU (Ansuz, Laguz, Uruz) is also seen carved repeatedly with some interpreting it as some sort of spell for protection and others connecting it with the word “ale” (beer) which played a very important role in ancient Norse culture during ceremonies and rituals such as childbirth, sacrificial rites, funerals, etc.

Other runic inscriptions have been found inside graves whose purpose was to guide the spirit of the dead in the afterlife and others to prevent the ghosts from haunting places. Many large runestones have also been found in Sweden’s grave fields with curses written on them and directed at whoever attempts to destroy them.

Runes were likely combined with other forms of magic like Seidr, Galdr, and Spà. Seidr was Shamanistic magic that involved rituals and visions to not only foresee events but also influence them. Galdr was the incantation of magic spells in the form of chants and Spà was the art of divination, and prophecy as incarnated by the three Norns goddesses, the weaver of Fate from the Nordic myths.

To better understand the runes and their magical use we cannot disassociate them from two of the major source of literary knowledge about the Norse myths and gods, called the Poetic Edda and the Prose Edda.

The Prose Edda is a collection of Old Norse writings written by Snorri Sturluson during the early 13th Century and The Poetic Edda is a collection of 34 Icelandic anonymous poems written during the Viking Age (793–1066 AD)

In the Poetic Edda, a poem called the Hávamál that translates as “The Sayings of the High One,” Odin (the High One) and chief of the Norse Gods shares his wisdom on many subjects about life and also shares a list of 18 runic spells for incantation called Galdar (singular galdr). Those spells protected against fire, swords, arrows, and storms, or could conjure up the dead to speak to them.

The Sigrdrífumálh is another very important section from the Poetic Edda that contains information on rune magic. It follows the hero Sigurd that wakes the Valkyrie Sigrdrífa (or Brünhild) from a deep sleep spell from the god Odin. In return, she gives him many pieces of advice concerning rune magic and its different uses. She explains that malrúnar are speech runes, hugrúnar memory runes, sigrúnar victory runes, brimrúnar sea runes, and limrúnar are limb/healing runes.

Even though we may speculate as to what those different categories of runes may refer to, there is no specific mention in the Eddas as to which runes constitute malrúnar, hugrúnar, or sigrúnar runes. However, the verses give us an idea of the purpose of certain runes. For example, the victory runes are likely associated with Tiwaz, as it is linked with the god Tyr and victory. The speech runes could be associated with Ansuz, which is linked with speech and communication. The healing runes could be associated with Bekana, which is linked with growth and rejuvenation.

Chapter 4: Working with the deck

The Elder Runes Oracle Cards is a tool for self-discovery and personal growth. While spreads used similarly to Tarot can be useful, it is important to remember that the heart of the oracle is the simplicity of asking one question and receiving one answer through the card that is given.

To work with the deck, start by centering yourself and focusing on the question you wish to ask. This question should be specific and focused on your own life and experiences. The more specific your question, the more specific and relevant your answer will be.

Shuffle the deck, visualize the situation and when you feel ready, draw a card. Take a moment to study the card and its image, and reflect on what it means to you. Trust your intuition and the guidance of the card, even if it seems unfamiliar or unexpected.

Remember, the oracle is not merely about predicting the future, but about offering insight and guidance for the present moment. Use the message of the card to reflect on your current situation, and consider how you can use this insight to make positive changes in your life.

As you work with the deck, it is important to cultivate a sense of openness and curiosity. Be willing to explore new ideas and perspectives, and allow the oracle to guide you towards greater understanding and self-awareness.

Ultimately, the Elder Runes Oracle Cards is a tool for self-discovery and personal growth. By working with the deck, you can gain valuable insights and guidance that can help you navigate the challenges and opportunities of life with greater clarity, purpose, and wisdom.

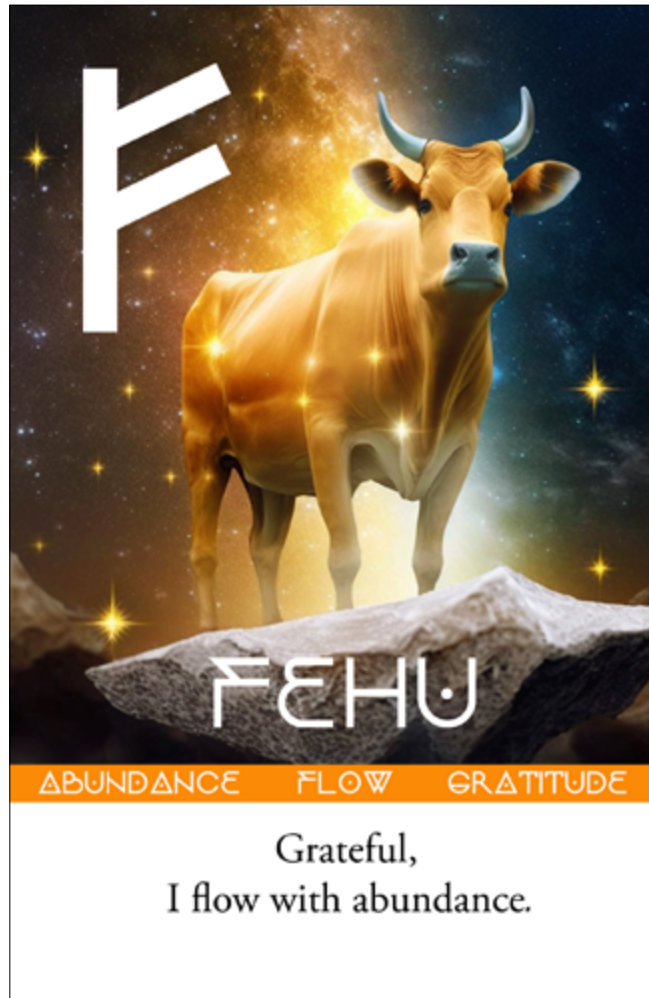
THE FIRST AETT

19. Beech-runes are there, birth-runes are there,
And all the runes of ale. And the magic
runes of might;
Who knows them rightly and reads them
true,
Has them himself to help;
Ever they aid, till the gods are gone.

From Sigrdrífumál, Stanza 19 Bellows
(1936)

The First Aett is traditionally linked with the Vanir god Freyr, god of peace and prosperity. He is associated with good harvest. Freyr's Aett consists of the runes Fehu, Uruz, Thurisaz, Ansuz, Raidho, Kenaz, Gebo, and Wunjo.

“Wealth is a comfort to all; yet must everyone bestow it freely, if they wish to gain honour in the sight of the Lord.” - Old English Rune Poem



FEHU

Wealth

Grateful, I flow with abundance

Key concepts : Flow, wealth, abundance, gratitude, manifestation.

Fehu means “cattle”. It is the rune-card of wealth, abundance and manifestation. It is represented with Audumla, the sacred cow, that emerged from the primordial void, known as Ginnungagap. She was said to have licked the salty ice blocks until she uncovered the first god, Buri, who then went on to father Odin, Vili, and Ve. Audumbla’s actions were crucial to the creation of the gods and, by extension, the entire universe.

The rune Fehu is associated with wealth, abundance, and prosperity in Norse mythology. It represents the power of wealth to create positive change in our lives and the world around us. The rune Fehu is often seen as a symbol of the energy and resources that flow freely throughout the universe, allowing us to achieve our goals and dreams.

When we affirm “Grateful, I flow with abundance,” we are acknowledging the power of abundance to transform our lives and the world around us. We are expressing our gratitude for the wealth and resources that flow freely throughout the universe, and we are affirming our belief in our ability to access this wealth and create positive change in our lives.

Just as Audumbla’s actions were crucial to the creation of the gods and the universe, the energy of abundance and prosperity is essential to our own growth and development. By embracing the power of abundance and expressing our gratitude for its presence in our lives, we can tap into the same creative energy that gave rise to the universe itself. With this energy at our disposal, we can achieve our goals, realize our dreams, and create a better world for ourselves and others.

“The aurochs is proud and has great horns;
it is a very savage beast and fights with its horns;
a great ranger of the moors, it is a creature of
mettle.”

- Old English Rune Poem



URUZ

Auroch

Grounded, I am full of energy.

Key concepts : Strength, energy, earth, power, stamina, instinct, grounding.

Uruz is a rune that represents strength, vitality, and primal energy. It is often associated with the aurochs, a powerful wild ox that once roamed the forests of Europe and Asia. The aurochs was a symbol of strength and vitality in ancient cultures, and its power and majesty continue to inspire us today.

When we affirm “Grounded, I am full of energy,” we are acknowledging our connection to the primal energy of the universe. We are expressing our belief in our own strength and vitality, and we are affirming our commitment to living life to the fullest.

The aurochs, with its massive size and imposing presence, was a symbol of the raw power that lies within us all. By embracing the energy of Uruz and connecting with the spirit of the aurochs, we can tap into this primal energy and use it to achieve our goals and dreams.

At the same time, Uruz is also a symbol of grounding and stability. The rune represents our connection to the earth and our ability to draw strength from the natural world. When we are grounded, we are able to stay centered and focused, even in the face of adversity. We are able to channel our energy in positive and productive ways, rather than allowing it to scatter and dissipate.

By affirming “Grounded, I am full of energy,” we are expressing our commitment to staying grounded and centered, even as we tap into our own primal energy and strength. We are acknowledging the importance of balance in our lives, and we are affirming our belief in our own ability to find that balance and use it to achieve our goals and dreams.

“The thorn is exceedingly sharp,
an evil thing for any thegn to touch,
uncommonly severe on all who sit among them.”
- Old English Rune Poem



THURISAZ

Thorns

Through contrasts, I bring my desire into focus.

Key concepts : Contrast, control, choice, focus, caution, force, desire.

Thurisaz is a rune that represents the power of chaos and disruption. It is often associated with the giants of Norse mythology, who were seen as forces of chaos and disorder in the world. The word “thurs” itself means “giant” or “thorn,” suggesting the prickly, disruptive nature of these beings.

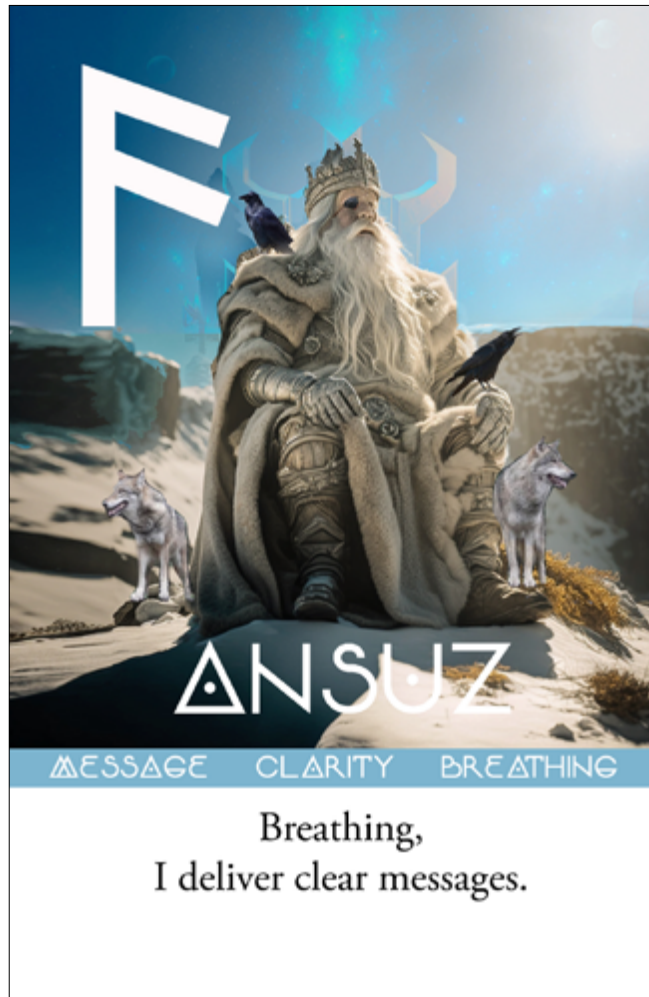
Thurisaz is also closely associated with the hammer of Thor, Mjolnir. The hammer was a symbol of Thor’s power and strength, and it was said to be capable of crushing mountains and defeating giants. The hammer was also seen as a symbol of protection and justice, as Thor used it to defend the gods and humanity against the forces of chaos and disorder.

The affirmation “Through contrast, I bring my desire into focus” speaks to the idea that chaos and disruption can be powerful tools for clarity and focus. When we encounter obstacles or challenges in our lives, they can help us to clarify our desires and intentions, and to focus our energy more clearly on what we truly want.

Thurisaz, with its connection to chaos and disruption, can help us to see the contrast between what we want and what we don’t want in our lives. By embracing this contrast and using it to clarify our desires, we can bring our goals and dreams into sharper focus, and move more powerfully towards them.

Just as Thor used his hammer to protect and defend the gods and humanity, we too can use the energy of Thurisaz to protect and defend our own desires and intentions. By embracing the power of contrast and disruption, and using it to clarify our goals and desires, we can create a life that is more aligned with our true purpose and passions.

“The mouth is the source of all language,
a pillar of wisdom and a comfort to wise
men,
a blessing and a joy to every knight.”
- Old English Rune Poem



ANSUZ

A god

Breathing, I deliver clear messages.

Key concepts : Communication, clarity, knowledge, message, breath, stability.

Ansuz means “a god”. It is a rune that represents the power of communication and divine inspiration. It is often associated with the god Odin, who was seen as the god of wisdom, poetry, and inspiration in Norse mythology. Odin was known for his ability to communicate with the spirits and receive divine knowledge and wisdom. He was often depicted with two ravens, Huginn and Muninn, by his side, who represented thought and memory.

The affirmation “Breathing, I deliver clear messages” speaks to the idea that clear communication is essential to creating positive change in our lives and in the world. When we communicate clearly and effectively, we are better able to connect with others, share our ideas and intentions, and achieve our goals.

By connecting with the energy of Ansuz and the wisdom of Odin, we too can tap into our own inner wisdom and inspiration, and use it to deliver clear and powerful messages to the world around us. We can cultivate our ability to listen deeply, to receive guidance and insight from the universe, and to share our ideas and intentions with clarity and conviction.

Breathing, with its connection to the flow of air and energy in the body, can help us to stay centered and focused as we communicate. With the two ravens by his side, Huginn and Muninn, Odin represented thought and memory, reminding us of the importance of tapping into our own inner wisdom and intuition as we communicate. By cultivating a deep, steady breath, we can tap into the energy of Ansuz and deliver clear messages with ease and confidence.

“Riding seems easy to every warrior while he is indoors and very courageous to him who traverses the high-roads on the back of a stout horse.” - Old English Rune Poem



RAIDHO

Ride

As I expand, I gain more willpower.

Key concepts : Momentum, will, travel, change, journey, growth, expansion.

Raidho is a rune that represents the power of movement and journeying. It is often associated with travel, both physical and spiritual, and with the idea of embarking on a journey towards a greater understanding of the world and ourselves.

The god Dagr, whose name means “day” in Old Norse, was associated with the journey of the sun across the sky. He was often depicted riding his horse, Skinfaxi, whose mane was said to light up the sky and the earth as he galloped across the heavens. This image of Dagr and his horse riding across the sky symbolizes the power of movement and journeying, and the importance of expanding our horizons in order to gain greater insight and understanding.

The affirmation “As I expand, I gain more willpower” speaks to the idea that growth and expansion are essential to our personal and spiritual development. As we journey through life and explore new horizons, we gain greater insight and understanding, and we develop a stronger sense of willpower and determination.

By connecting with the energy of Raidho and the image of Dagr riding his horse Skinfaxi, we too can tap into the power of movement and journeying in our own lives. We can embrace new experiences, explore new horizons, and expand our understanding of the world and ourselves. As we do so, we gain greater willpower and determination, and we are better able to achieve our goals and manifest our desires.

Just as Dagr’s horse Skinfaxi lights up the sky and the earth with his mane, we too can bring light and illumination to our own lives and the world around us, as we expand our horizons and tap into the power of movement and journeying.

“The torch is known to every living man by its pale, bright flame; it always burns where princes sit within.”
- Old English Rune Poem



KAUNA

Torch

With fire, I fulfill my vision.

Key concepts : Vision, fire, creativity, action, guidance, manifestation, purpose.

Kauna is a rune that represents the power of illumination and transformation. It is often associated with the torch, which symbolizes the light of knowledge and insight that illuminates our path through life.

The star Sirius, also known as Lokabrenna or “Loki’s torch” in Norse mythology, was seen as a powerful symbol of illumination and transformation. Its bright light was said to represent the transformative power of fire and the knowledge that comes with enlightenment.

The affirmation “With fire, I fulfill my vision” speaks to the idea that fire, with its power of illumination and transformation, can help us to realize our dreams and manifest our desires. When we tap into the energy of fire and use it to fuel our vision, we are able to achieve great things and transform our lives in profound ways.

By connecting with the energy of Kauna and the power of Sirius, we too can tap into the transformative power of fire and use it to fulfill our vision. We can illuminate the path ahead of us, gaining insight and knowledge that allows us to move forward with clarity and confidence.

Just as the torch illuminates the darkness and reveals hidden truths, we too can use the power of fire to shed light on our own inner wisdom and intuition, and to bring our deepest desires and dreams into manifestation. With fire as our ally, we are able to create a life that is aligned with our highest vision and purpose.

“Generosity brings credit and honour, which support one’s dignity; it furnishes help and subsistence to all broken men who are devoid of aught else.” - Old English Rune Poem



GEBO

Gift

Giving myself fully, I create magic.

Key concepts : Gift, exchange, generosity, ritual, magic, receiving, alchemy.

Gebo is a rune that represents the power of generosity and exchange. It is often associated with the idea of creating harmonious relationships through the exchange of gifts and kindness.

The magical necklace Brisingamen, which is associated with the goddess Freyja in Norse mythology, is a powerful symbol of the exchange of gifts and the creation of harmonious relationships. The necklace was said to be imbued with magical powers and to bring great fortune and prosperity to those who possessed it.

The story of the theft and return of Brisingamen also speaks to the power of generosity and exchange. When the necklace was stolen by the mischievous god Loki, it created disharmony and strife among the gods. But when the god Heimdall returned the necklace to Freyja, it restored balance and harmony to the world.

The affirmation “Giving myself fully, I create magic” speaks to the idea that true generosity and exchange require us to give of ourselves fully and completely. When we do so, we create a powerful energy of magic and transformation that can bring great blessings into our lives and the lives of those around us.

By connecting with the energy of Gebo and the symbolism of Brisingamen, we too can tap into the power of generosity and exchange in our own lives. We can give freely of ourselves, trusting that our gifts will be received with gratitude and that they will create a powerful energy of transformation and magic in the world.

As we give of ourselves fully and completely, we open ourselves up to the infinite possibilities of the universe, and we create a life that is rich in abundance, joy, and fulfillment. With Gebo as our guide and Brisingamen as our symbol, we can create a world of harmony and prosperity through the power of generosity and exchange.

“Who uses it knows no pain,
sorrow nor anxiety, and he himself has
prosperity and bliss, and also enough shelter.”
- Old English Rune Poem



WUNJO *Joy*

Following my joy, I am blissful.

Key concepts : Joy, pleasure, celebration, happiness, appreciation, success, dance.

Wunjo is a rune that represents the power of joy, celebration, and pleasure. It is often associated with the goddess Freya in Norse mythology, who was seen as the embodiment of beauty, love, and sensuality.

As the goddess of love and pleasure, Freya was known for her ability to bring joy and happiness into the lives of those around her. She was often depicted as a radiant and joyful presence, surrounded by beauty and abundance.

The affirmation “Following my joy, I am blissful” speaks to the idea that joy and happiness are essential to our well-being and spiritual growth. When we follow our joy and do the things that bring us pleasure and fulfillment, we are able to tap into a powerful energy of bliss and contentment.

By connecting with the energy of Wunjo and the goddess Freya, we too can tap into the power of joy and pleasure in our own lives. We can celebrate our own beauty and sensuality, and embrace the things that bring us joy and happiness.

As we follow our joy and allow ourselves to experience the fullness of life, we create a powerful energy of bliss and contentment that radiates out into the world around us. With Wunjo as our guide and Freya as our symbol, we can create a life that is rich in joy, celebration, and pleasure, and experience the fullness of our own divine nature.

THE SECOND AETT

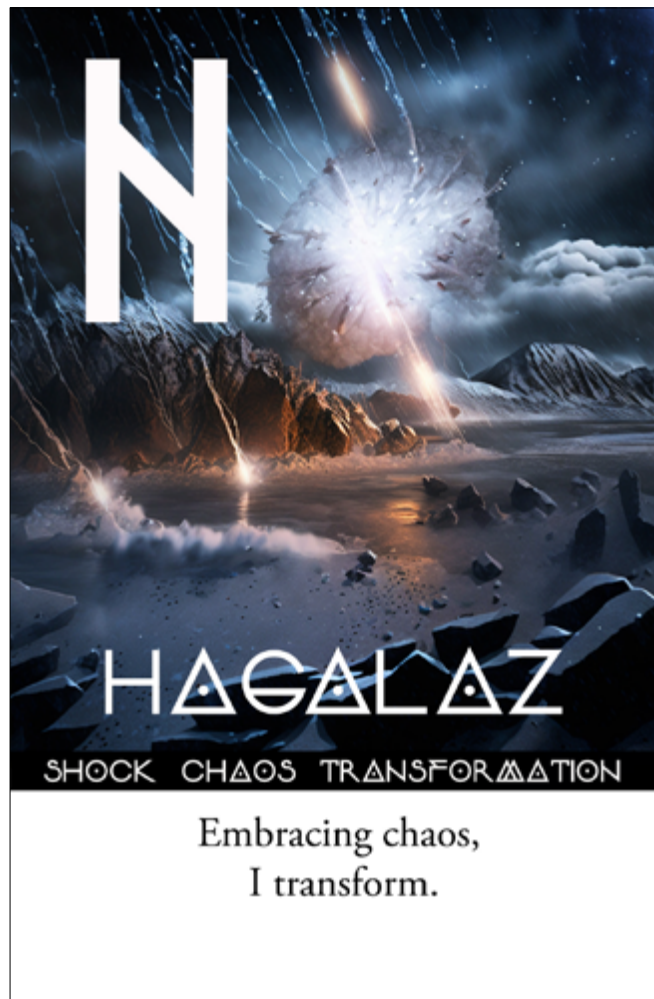
I know that I hung on a windy tree
nine long nights,
wounded with a spear, dedicated to
Odin,
myself to myself,
on that tree of which no man knows
from where its roots run.

No bread did they give me nor a
drink from a horn,
downwards I peered;
I took up the runes,
screaming I took them,
then I fell back from there.

From Rúnatal or Óðins Rune Song,
stanzas 139 and 140 (Larrington, Car-
olyne Trans.)

The second Aett is traditionally linked with the god Heim-
dall, protector of the Bifrost bridge that separates Asgard
the realm of the Aesir (gods), and other lower realms. It
consists of the runes Hagalaz, Nauthiz, Isa, Jera, Ihwaz,
Perthro, Algiz, Sowilo.

“Hail is the whitest of grain;
it is whirled from the vault of heaven
and is tossed about by gusts of wind
and then it melts into water.”
- Old English Rune Poem



HAGALAZ

Hail

Embracing chaos, I transform.

Key concepts : Crisis, shock, destruction, transformation.

Hagalaz is a rune that represents the power of storms, shocks, and crises. It is often associated with the concept of chaos and the idea that sometimes we must experience destruction and upheaval in order to create transformation and growth.

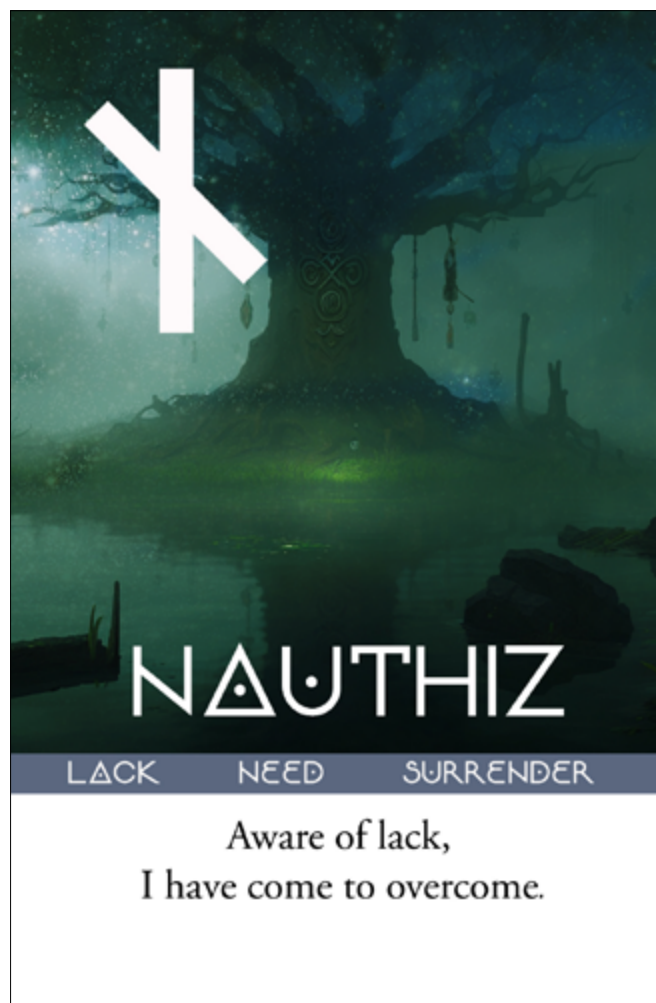
The cataclysmic events of Ragnarök, which were said to signal the end of the Aesir gods in Norse mythology, are a powerful symbol of the transformative power of chaos and destruction. The world was said to be consumed by fire and water, and the gods were forced to confront their own mortality and the impermanence of all things.

The affirmation “Embracing chaos, I transform” speaks to the idea that sometimes we must be willing to embrace chaos and destruction in order to create transformation and growth in our lives. When we face our fears and confront the unknown, we are able to tap into a powerful energy of transformation that can help us to overcome our limitations and achieve our highest potential.

By connecting with the energy of Hagalaz and the symbolism of Ragnarök, we too can tap into the power of chaos and transformation in our own lives. We can embrace the storms and crises that come our way, trusting that they are serving a greater purpose in our spiritual journey.

As we embrace chaos and destruction, we create a powerful energy of transformation that can help us to release old patterns and beliefs, and to step into a new and more empowered version of ourselves. With Hagalaz as our guide and Ragnarök as our symbol, we can create a life that is rich in growth, transformation, and spiritual evolution.

“Trouble is oppressive to the heart;
yet often it proves a source of help and salvation
to the children of men, to everyone who heeds
it betimes.” - Old English Rune Poem



NAUTHIZ

Need

Aware of lack, I have come to overcome

Key concepts : Need, struggle, lack, sacrifice, effort, resistance.

Nauthiz is a rune that represents the power of necessity and sacrifice. It is often associated with the concept of lack and the idea that sometimes we must make sacrifices in order to achieve our goals and overcome our challenges.

The Yggdrasil tree, which was seen as a powerful symbol of the universe in Norse mythology, is a powerful symbol of the power of sacrifice and the journey of personal transformation. The tree was said to connect the nine realms of the universe, and to be sustained by the wisdom and sacrifices of the gods.

The god Odin, who hung from the branches of the Yggdrasil tree for nine days and nights, sacrificing his right eye in exchange for the power of the runes, is a powerful symbol of the transformative power of sacrifice and the journey of personal growth and evolution.

The affirmation “Aware of lack, I have come to overcome” speaks to the idea that sometimes we must face our own limitations and embrace the power of sacrifice in order to achieve our goals and overcome our challenges. When we are aware of our own lack and embrace the power of necessity, we are able to tap into a powerful energy of transformation and personal growth.

By connecting with the energy of Nauthiz and the symbolism of the Yggdrasil tree and Odin, we too can tap into the power of sacrifice and necessity in our own lives. We can embrace the challenges and obstacles that come our way, knowing that they are serving a greater purpose in our spiritual journey.

As we face our own limitations and embrace the power of sacrifice, we create a powerful energy of transformation that can help us to overcome our challenges and achieve our highest potential. With Nauthiz as our guide and the Yggdrasil tree and Odin as our symbols, we can create a life that is rich in personal growth, transformation, and spiritual evolution.

“Ice is very cold and immeasurably slippery; it glistens as clear as glass and most like to gems; it is a floor wrought by the frost, fair to look upon.” - Old English Rune Poem



ISA *Cold*

In retreat, I find my true self.

Key concepts : Stillness ,retreat, silence, ending, cold, distance, death.

Isa is a rune that represents the power of stillness and retreat. It is often associated with the concept of being frozen in time, and with the idea that sometimes we must retreat from the world in order to find our true selves.

The Viking ship in a barren, icy landscape is a powerful symbol of the journey of self-discovery and the importance of retreat in the process of personal growth. The ship, in search of new horizons and new experiences, has found itself in a barren, frozen land, where it is forced to rest and reflect on its journey.

The affirmation “In retreat, I find my true self” speaks to the idea that sometimes we must step back from the world and retreat into stillness in order to find our true nature and purpose. When we take the time to be still and reflect on our journey, we are able to tap into a powerful energy of self-discovery and personal growth.

By connecting with the energy of Isa and the symbolism of the Viking ship in a barren, icy landscape, we too can tap into the power of stillness and retreat in our own lives. We can take the time to step back from the world and reflect on our journey, knowing that in retreat we can find our true selves and connect with our inner wisdom and intuition.

As we embrace the power of stillness and retreat, we create a powerful energy of self-discovery and personal growth that can help us to overcome our limitations and achieve our highest potential. With Isa as our guide and the Viking ship in a barren, icy landscape as our symbol, we can create a life that is rich in personal growth, self-discovery, and spiritual evolution.

“Good harvest is the profit of all men, and a good summer, and a ripened field.” - Old Icelandic Rune Poem



JERA *Year*

With patience, I harvest the fruit of my labor

Key concepts : Cycles, time, harvest, patience, rhythm, balance, temperance.

Jera is a rune that represents the power of natural cycles and the cycles of growth and harvest. It is often associated with the changing seasons and the idea that everything in life has its own natural rhythm and flow.

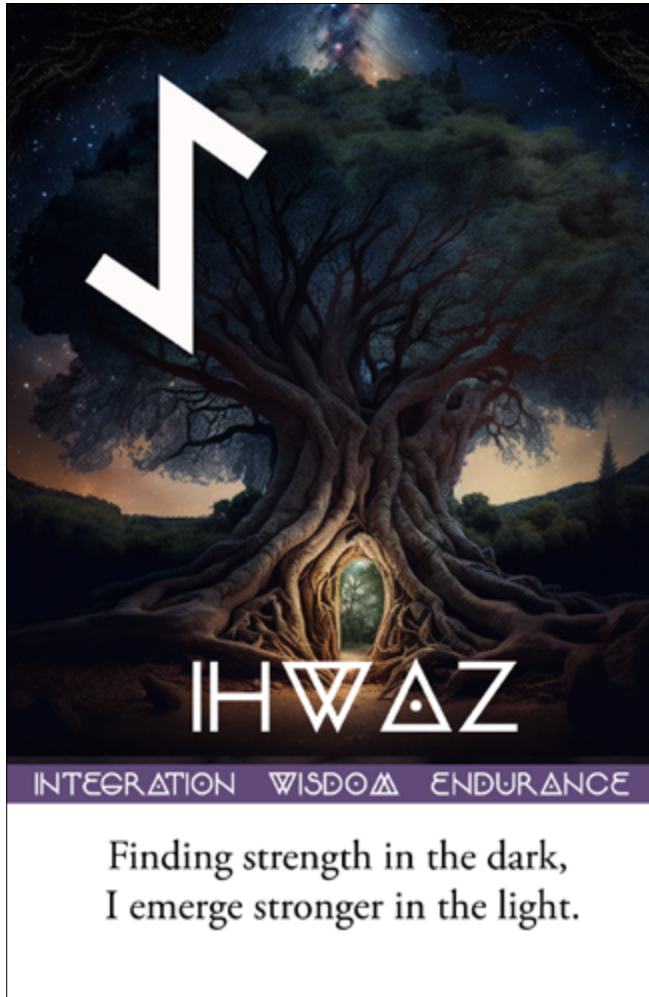
The field of wheat and the birds hovering above it are powerful symbols of the cycles of growth and harvest. The wheat represents the fruits of our labor, while the birds represent the power of nature and the cycle of life.

The affirmation “With patience, I harvest the fruit of my labor” speaks to the idea that we must be patient and persistent in order to achieve our goals and reap the rewards of our efforts. When we trust in the natural cycles of life and allow ourselves to be guided by them, we are able to tap into a powerful energy of growth and transformation.

By connecting with the energy of Jera and the symbolism of the field of wheat and the birds, we too can tap into the power of natural cycles and the cycles of growth and harvest in our own lives. We can trust in the natural rhythms and cycles of life, knowing that everything has its own time and place.

As we cultivate patience and persistence in our own lives, we create a powerful energy of growth and transformation that can help us to achieve our goals and reap the rewards of our efforts. With Jera as our guide and the field of wheat and birds as our symbol, we can create a life that is rich in abundance, growth, and transformation.

“The yew is a tree with rough bark,
hard and fast in the earth, supported by its roots, a
guardian of flame and a joy on native land.”
- Old English Rune Poem



IHWAZ

Yew

Finding strength in the dark, I emerge stronger in the light.

Key concepts : Endurance, perseverance, strength, transformation.

Ihwaz is a rune that represents the power of strength and endurance. It is often associated with the concept of the yew tree, which is seen as a symbol of eternal life and spiritual transformation.

The giant yew tree with an entrance carved in its trunk represents a powerful portal to another realm, and is a symbol of the journey of spiritual transformation and personal growth. The tree represents the power of the unconscious and the hidden aspects of ourselves that must be explored and embraced in order to achieve our full potential.

The affirmation “Finding strength in the dark, I emerge stronger in the light” speaks to the idea that sometimes we must face our fears and explore the unknown in order to find our inner strength and power. When we are willing to embrace the darkness and the unknown, we are able to tap into a powerful energy of transformation and personal growth.

By connecting with the energy of Ihwaz and the symbolism of the giant yew tree, we too can tap into the power of strength and endurance in our own lives. We can explore the hidden aspects of ourselves, trusting that the journey will ultimately lead us to a greater understanding of ourselves and our place in the world.

As we find strength in the dark and emerge stronger in the light, we create a powerful energy of transformation and personal growth that can help us to overcome our limitations and achieve our highest potential. With Ihwaz as our guide and the giant yew tree as our symbol, we can create a life that is rich in spiritual transformation, personal growth, and spiritual evolution.

“Peorð is a source of recreation and amusement to the great, where warriors sit happily together in the beerhall.”
- Old English Rune Poem



PERTHRO

A game

Trusting the unknown, I remain playful.

Key concepts : Fate, unknown, destiny, hidden forces, divination, luck.

Perthro is a rune that represents the power of destiny and the unknown. It is often associated with the concept of fate and the idea that our lives are guided by forces beyond our control.

The Three Norns, who are important figures in Norse mythology, are powerful symbols of the power of destiny and the unknown. They are associated with weaving the threads of fate and destiny, and are seen as powerful guides who help to shape our lives.

The aurora borealis, which is often associated with magic and the unknown, is a powerful symbol of the mysterious and unpredictable forces that shape our lives.

The affirmation “Trusting the unknown, I remain playful” speaks to the idea that sometimes we must trust in the unknown and embrace the playful, spontaneous side of ourselves in order to navigate the twists and turns of our lives. When we are willing to let go of our need for control and certainty, we are able to tap into a powerful energy of creativity and possibility.

By connecting with the energy of Perthro and the symbolism of the Three Norns and the aurora borealis, we too can tap into the power of destiny and the unknown in our own lives. We can trust in the mysterious and unpredictable forces that shape our lives, knowing that they are ultimately guiding us towards our highest potential.

As we embrace the unknown and remain playful, we create a powerful energy of creativity and possibility that can help us to overcome our limitations and achieve our highest potential. With Perthro as our guide and the Three Norns and aurora borealis as our symbols, we can create a life that is rich in magic, creativity, and spiritual evolution.

“The Elk-sedge usually lives in the fen,
growing in the water. It wounds severely,
staining with blood any man who makes a grab at it.”
- Old English Rune Poem



ALGIZ

Elk

Guided at all times, I feel secure.

Key concepts : Protection, security, spirit-guide, guidance, teacher.

Algiz is a rune that represents the power of protection and guidance. It is often associated with the concept of the elk, which is seen as a symbol of strength, endurance, and protection.

The goddess Freya, who is often associated with war and magic, is a powerful symbol of the protective and guiding energy of Algiz. She is seen as a powerful guide who helps to navigate the challenges and obstacles of life, and is often interpreted as a symbol of spiritual connection and guidance.

The affirmation “Guided at all times, I feel secure” speaks to the idea that we are never alone on our journey, and that we are always guided and protected by powerful forces beyond ourselves. When we trust in these forces and connect with our inner wisdom and intuition, we are able to tap into a powerful energy of security and protection.

By connecting with the energy of Algiz and the symbolism of the goddess Freya, we too can tap into the power of protection and guidance in our own lives. We can trust in the guidance and protection of the universe, knowing that we are always being guided towards our highest good.

As we remain open and receptive to the protective and guiding energy of Algiz, we create a powerful energy of security and protection that can help us to overcome our challenges and achieve our highest potential. With Algiz as our guide and the goddess Freya as our symbol, we can create a life that is rich in spiritual connection, guidance, and protection.

“The sun is ever a joy in the hopes of seafarers when they journey away over the fishes’ bath, until the courser of the deep bears them to land.” - Old English Rune Poem



SOWILO

The sun

Feeling everything, I am love.

Key concepts : Light, Love, heart, sun, soul, strength, success.

Sowilo means “sun”; it is the rune of light and love. The goddess Sól also known as Sunna is the Goddess of the sun and sister to the moon God Mani.

According to Norse mythology, Sunna gave birth to a daughter who inherited her powers just before Sunna fell and was eaten by the wolf Sköll during the Ragnarok event. Despite the chaos and destruction of the Ragnarok, the birth of Sunna’s daughter represents the continuity of life and the unending cycle of growth and transformation, symbolizing resurrection and new beginnings rising from the ashes of destruction.

The daughter of Sunna is a symbol of hope, renewal, and rebirth, inheriting her mother’s powers and continuing the cycle of life even in the midst of chaos.

The affirmation “Feeling everything, I am love” speaks to the idea that when we connect with the full spectrum of our emotions, we tap into the powerful energy of love and connection, ultimately becoming more fully present and open to the world around us.

By connecting with the energy of Sowilo and the symbolism of the goddess Sunna and her daughter, we too can tap into the power of light and love in our own lives, experiencing personal transformation and rising from the ashes of our past to embrace the fullness of life and the power of love.

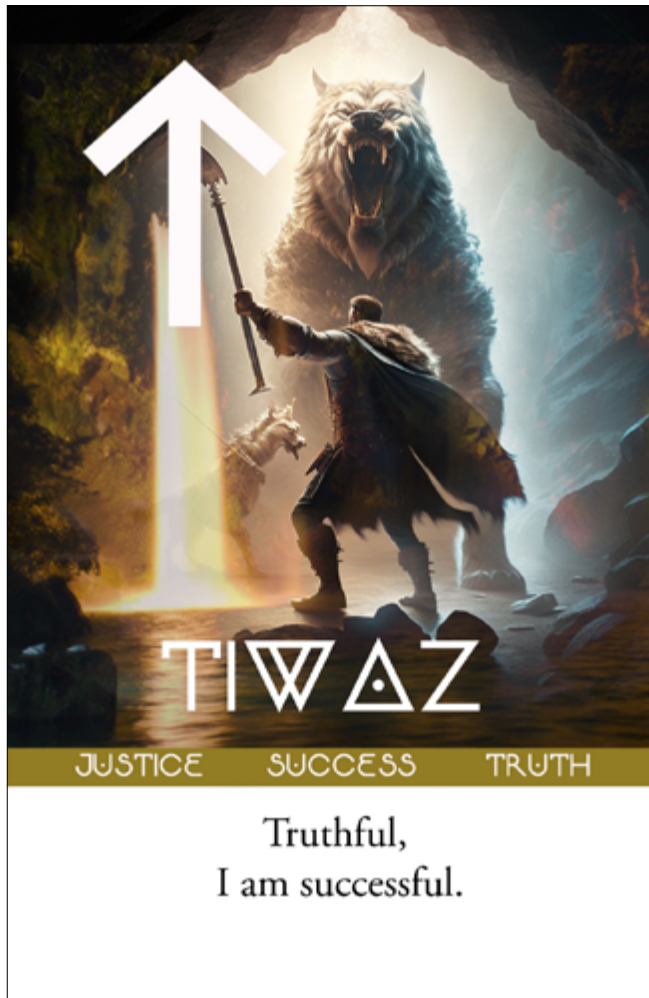
THE THIRD AETT

“Victory runes you must know
if you will have victory,
and carve them on the sword’s hilt,
some on the grasp
and some on the inlay,
and name Tyr twice.”

From Sigrdrífumál, Poetic Edda, Stanza 6

The Third Aett is traditionally linked with Tyr, god of truth, war and justice. It consists of the runes: Tiwaz, Berkana, Ehwaz, Mannaz, Laguz, Ingwaz, Dagaz, Othala.

“Tyr is a one-handed god;
often has the smith to blow”
- Old Norwegian Poem



TIWAZ *The god Tyr*

Truthful, I am successful.

Key concepts : Justice, victory, truth, success, achievement, self-esteem.

Tiwaz is the rune named after the Nordic god of war and justice, Tyr. In Norse mythology, Tyr offered his hand as a sacrifice to the giant wolf Fenrir to keep him from harming the other Aesir gods who had tricked the wolf into imprisonment.

The sacrifice of his hand represents the courage and selflessness needed to maintain justice and order, even at great personal cost. Tyr is a powerful symbol of the energy of Tiwaz, representing the strength and honor required to face difficult situations with integrity and fairness.

The affirmation “Truthful, I am successful” speaks to the idea that when we live our lives with honesty and integrity, we create a foundation of success that cannot be shaken. By embodying the energy of Tiwaz and the example of the god Tyr, we can find the strength and courage to face even the most challenging situations with honor and integrity.

By connecting with the energy of Tiwaz, we can tap into our own inner strength and find the courage to pursue justice and fairness in our lives. Whether we face personal struggles or larger societal issues, the energy of Tiwaz can guide us towards success and a life lived with honor and integrity.

“Birch has the greenest leaves of any shrub;
Loki was fortunate in his deceit.”
- Old Norwegian Rune Poem



BERKANA

Birch tree

With nature, I nurture beauty.

Key concepts : Nurture, healing, mother, nature, beauty, feminine, sensuality.

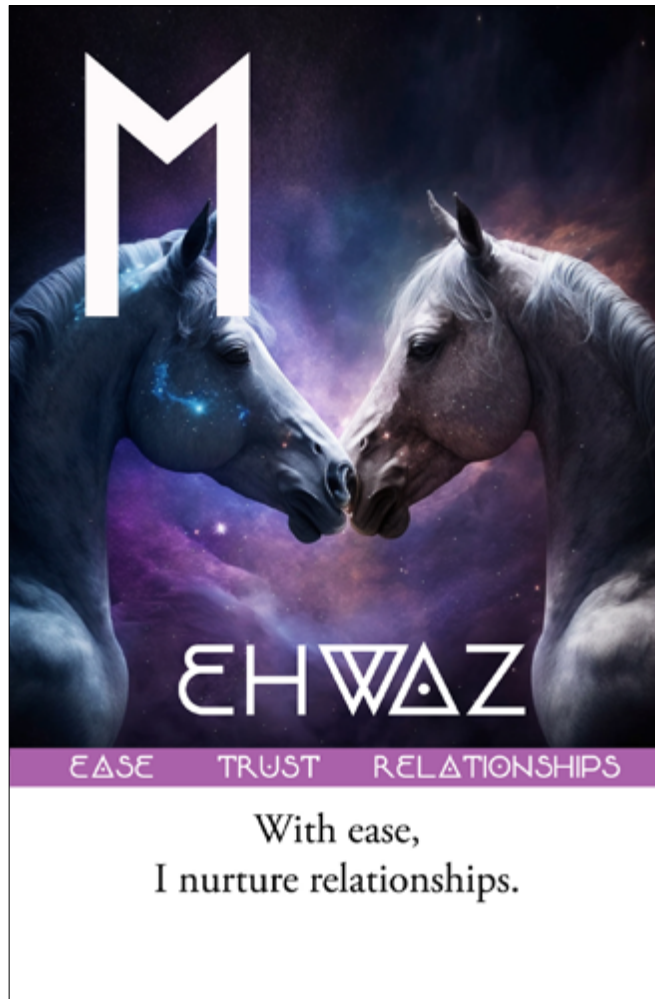
Berkana means “birch tree”. It is a rune associated with nature and the nurturing of health and well-being. Sitting in meditation among the birch trees, Berkana is represented by Frigg, the wife of Odin and the mother of Baldr. Frigg is often associated with motherhood, domesticity, fertility, and wisdom. In the Anglo-Saxon Futhorc runic tradition, Berkana is also known as Beorc, representing new beginnings.

The birch tree is a symbol of renewal and growth, with its delicate leaves and resilient bark. The energy of Berkana encourages us to connect with nature and to nurture ourselves, body and soul. By spending time in nature and caring for our physical and emotional needs, we can tap into the energy of Berkana and experience greater health and well-being.

The affirmation “With nature, I nurture beauty” speaks to the idea that when we connect with the natural world, we are able to cultivate beauty within ourselves and our surroundings. By embracing the energy of Berkana and the symbolism of the birch tree, we can find inspiration to nurture our physical, emotional, and spiritual health, and to create beauty in our lives.

Through Berkana, we are reminded of the importance of self-care and the need to connect with the natural world. By nurturing our relationship with nature and ourselves, we can tap into the energy of renewal and growth, and experience the beauty of life.

“The horse is a joy to princes in the presence of warriors. A steed in the pride of its hoofs, when rich men on horseback bandy words about it; and it is ever a source of comfort to the restless.”
- Old English Rune Poem



EHWAZ

Horse

With ease, I nurture relationships.

Key concepts : Trust, loyalty, union, teamwork, movement, relationships.

Ehwaz means “horse”. It is a rune associated with trusted companionship, teamwork, and movement. The card is depicted with Árvakr (“early awake”) and Alsviðr, “very quick”) the horses which pull the goddess Sól’s chariot across the sky each day. The energy of Ehwaz encourages us to work together, to trust in our companions, and to move forward towards our goals with confidence.

The horse is a symbol of freedom and movement, and the energy of Ehwaz reminds us of the importance of mobility and progress in our lives. By embracing the energy of Ehwaz and working with trusted companions, we can achieve our goals and experience success in our lives.

The affirmation “With ease, I nurture relationships” speaks to the idea that when we work together and build strong relationships, we are able to achieve our goals with greater ease and efficiency. By trusting in our companions and moving forward with confidence, we can nurture the relationships that support us and experience greater success and fulfillment in our lives.

Through Ehwaz, we are reminded of the power of teamwork and the importance of movement in our lives. By connecting with the energy of this rune and the symbolism of the horse, we can find inspiration to work together, to trust in our companions, and to move towards our goals with confidence and ease.

“Man is an augmentation of the soil;
great is the claw of the hawk.”
- Old Norwegian Rune Poem



MANNAZ

Mankind

Connected with all you achieve mastery.

Key concepts : Mankind, collective, ideas, humanity, oneness, wisdom.

Mannaz means “mankind”. It is a rune associated with human potential and the power of community. The card is depicted with Heimdall, the guardian of the Bifrost bridge, overlooking Earth. Heimdall is known for his vigilance and his ability to see and hear things that others cannot. He is often seen as a mediator between warring factions, using his wisdom and fairness to help resolve conflicts.

The energy of Mannaz encourages us to recognize the power of community and the potential that comes from working together. By embracing the spirit of cooperation and recognizing the unique contributions that each individual can make, we can achieve great things and reach our highest potential.

The affirmation “Connected with all, I achieve mastery” speaks to the idea that when we work together and connect with others, we are able to achieve mastery and reach our goals with greater ease and efficiency. By recognizing our interconnectedness and valuing the contributions of others, we are able to tap into the power of community and achieve success beyond what we might be able to accomplish alone.

Through Mannaz, we are reminded of the importance of human potential and the power of community. By connecting with the energy of this rune and the symbolism of Heimdall, we can find inspiration to work together, to embrace our unique strengths, and to achieve our highest potential as individuals and as a community.

“The ocean seems interminable to men,
if they venture on the rolling bark
and the waves of the sea terrify them
and the stallion of the deep heed not its bridle.”
- Old English Rune Poem



LAGUZ

Lake

With calm, I receive inner guidance.

Key concepts : Water, dreams, calm, flow, cleansing, healing, empathy, the unconscious.

Laguz means “lake”. It is a rune associated with the unconscious and the world of dreams. The card is depicted with the Nordic goddess of the sea, Rán, who is associated with the dangers of the sea. In some myths, Rán is said to have a net in which she catches the souls of drowned sailors. In other myths, she is seen as a guardian who can be called upon to calm the waves and protect sailors.

The energy of Laguz is often associated with the power of the unconscious mind and the importance of paying attention to our dreams and intuition. By tapping into the deeper parts of ourselves and listening to our inner guidance, we can unlock our true potential and achieve greater success and fulfillment in our lives.

The affirmation “With calm, I receive inner guidance” speaks to the idea that when we are able to approach life with a sense of calm and inner peace, we are better able to connect with our intuition and receive guidance from our unconscious mind. By remaining centered and focused, even in the midst of chaos and uncertainty, we can tap into the power of Laguz and receive the wisdom and guidance we need to move forward in our lives.

Through Laguz, we are reminded of the importance of paying attention to our dreams and intuition, and of trusting the deeper parts of ourselves to guide us on our path. By connecting with the energy of this rune and the symbolism of Rán, we can find inspiration to dive deeper into ourselves and unlock the power of our unconscious mind, achieving greater success and fulfillment in all areas of our lives.

“ Ing was first amidst the East Danes
seen by men, until he eastward
over the sea departed; his wagon ran after.
Thus the Hearings named that hero.”
- Old English Rune Poem



INGWAZ *The God Yngvi*

Planting seeds, I manifest my potential.

Key concepts : Seed, potential, incubation, manifestation, meditation.

Ingwaz is a powerful rune of potentiality and growth, linked with the Nordic god Yngvi and Freyr. It is often associated with the symbolism of planting seeds and the idea of new beginnings. The Ingwaz card features a seed that carries the potential for growth and transformation, just as we all have the potential to manifest our deepest desires and dreams.

The image of a comet spreading seeds upon the planet behind the seed on the card invokes the concept of panspermia, the idea that life on Earth may have originated from microorganisms that were transported to our planet from outer space. This connection to the cosmos reinforces the idea that we are all connected and part of a larger, universal consciousness.

The affirmation “Planting seeds, I manifest my potential” speaks to the power of planting the seeds of our intentions and desires in order to manifest them in the physical world. By focusing our energy and attention on what we want to create, we can tap into the potentiality of Ingwaz and bring our dreams to fruition.

With Ingwaz as our guide, we can embrace the energy of new beginnings and trust in the potentiality of the universe to support us in our journey towards growth and transformation. As we plant the seeds of our intentions, we can trust that they will grow and bloom in their own time, bringing us closer to the manifestation of our highest potential.

“ Day, the glorious light of the Creator, is sent by the Lord; it is beloved of men, a source of hope and happiness to rich and poor, and of service to all.”
- Old English Rune Poem



DAGAZ

Day

As vast open space, I awake.

Key concepts : Rebirth, healing, hope, awakening, forgiveness, light, spirit.

Dagaz is a powerful rune that embodies the energy of awakening, healing, and rebirth. As the rune of “day”, it represents the dawning of a new era and the opening of new possibilities. The card features the valkyrie Brynhildr awakening on a river bank, symbolizing the power of transformation and the potential for new beginnings.

In Nordic mythology, Brynhildr was placed under a spell of deep sleep by Odin after she disobeyed him. She was eventually awoken by the hero Sigurd (also known as Siegfried), who broke the spell and freed her from her slumber. This awakening is often seen as a symbol of the opening of new possibilities and the transformative power of rebirth.

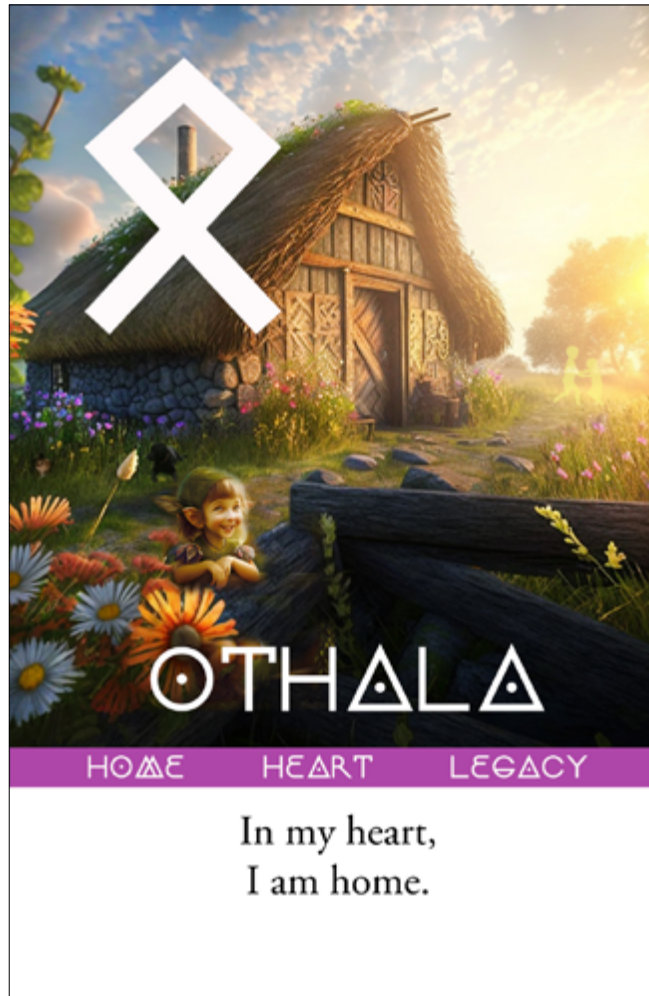
The affirmation “As vast open space, I awake” speaks to the idea of the endless potential that lies within us. By embracing the energy of Dagaz, we can tap into the power of awakening and healing, allowing ourselves to let go of the past and embrace the limitless potential of the present moment.

The valkyrie Brynhildr, depicted on the card, reminds us of the power of transformation and the importance of embracing new beginnings. As we awaken to the possibilities that lie ahead, we can embrace the vast open space of our potential and manifest our dreams into reality.

By connecting with the energy of Dagaz, we can tap into the power of transformation and rebirth, allowing ourselves to awaken to new possibilities and embrace the full potential of our being.

“An estate is very dear to every man,
if he can enjoy there in his house
whatever is right and proper in constant prosper-
ity.”

- Old English Rune Poem



OTHALA *heritage*

In my heart, I am home.

Key concepts : Home, inheritance, spiritual heritage, tradition, stability.

Othala, the rune of home and inheritance, is a powerful symbol of our ancestral roots and the values and wisdom that have been passed down through generations. It is depicted as a heavenly home in a timeless landscape, where a fairy or elf is resting near blooming flowers, and silhouettes of children playing can be seen afar in the sunlight, with a dog and cat hidden in the grass.

The affirmation “In my heart, I am home” speaks to the deep sense of connection and belonging that we can experience when we connect with our ancestral heritage and the values that have been passed down to us. By honoring our roots and integrating the lessons of the past into our present lives, we can find a sense of balance and wholeness that allows us to move forward with confidence and purpose.

As we connect with the energy of Othala and the symbolism of the heavenly home, we can tap into the deep wisdom and knowledge that lies within us, drawing upon the strength and resilience of our ancestors to guide us on our path. By embracing our heritage and integrating the lessons of the past with the opportunities of the present, we can find a sense of harmony and balance that allows us to fully embody the affirmation, “In my heart, I am home.”



THE ELDER RUNES

ORACLE CARDS

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All artworks of the Elder Futhark Runes Oracle Cards are created through a combination of traditional digital drawing techniques, photography, and the use of A.I. as a complementary tool in the creative process.

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