

NORSE MYTHOLOGY

FACTS

The Vikings believed in many different Gods and Goddesses. Each god had its own personality.

Vikings who fell in battle were said to go to Valhalla, The hall of the slain which was ruled by the god Odin.

Thor was the god of thunder and lightning who wielded the Mjölmir, a devastatingly powerful hammer that could slay giants and smash mountains. He rode a chariot drawn by two massive goats called Tanngrist and Tanngrisnir.

Q: Where do zombie Vikings like to go sailing?
A: The Dead Sea

Dwarfs (dvergjar) play a part in Norse mythology. They were very wise and expert craftsmen who forged practically all of the treasures of the gods, in particular Thor's hammer.

Q: What did the ocean say to the Viking?
A: Nothing – it just waved.

Q: Why do Vikings wear horns on their heads?
A: Because they don't have cars.

Loki's mother was a goddess and his father was a jötunn (giant) named Fárbauti from Jotunheim. Loki loved getting into mischief. Loki had 4 children, Hel the goddess of death, Jörmungand a serpent that surrounds the world, Fenrir the wolf, and Sleipnir Odin's eight-legged horse.

Although the giants of the realm Jotunheim became the enemies of the gods of Asgard, they were the original entities who gave birth to the gods.

Loki is not Thor's brother but is Odin's blood brother.

Frey was the god of fertility and birth. Vikings would pray to Frey for good crops, and when they married, would ask Frey to bless them with many children. Frey's sister Freyja was the goddess of fertility and love.

Days of the week are named after Norse gods:

Sunday- Sunna, the sun goddess

Monday- Mani, God of the moon

Tuesday- Tyr, God of war

Wednesday- Odin, king of the gods

Thursday- Thor's day, the god of thunder and sky

Friday- Frigg or Freyja, Queen of Asgard

Saturday- Honouring roman god Saturn, whose main attribute was renewal