

The Elder Futhark Rune Poem

Final Draft

The Elder Futhark
The oldest rune row
From the roots of the world tree,
Yggdrasil,
Connecting humanity,
To the divine.
The runes of Odin,
24 in total.
Gathered from the roots of the World Tree,
Through a trial by ordeal
Of nine days and nine nights
Hanging from a branch of Yggdrasil,
Wounded by his own spear.
Hearing their songs,
Seeing their shapes
He took them back with him
Screaming their songs.
The Elder Futhark,
A guide to life
A guide to making magick
in time with the cosmic order.

Freyja's Aett
The aett of magick and initiation,
Maintaining magickal order
To Hagal's Aett
The guide to the difficulties in your life,
How to learn and grow from them
And how to overcome them.
Then to Tyr's Aett,
Order and organisation
Of Midguard and the worlds beyond.
As above,
So below.

We first introduce Freyja's Aett,
The aett of magick
The aett of power
The aett giving us the tools to master our fate.

From Fehu,
Symbolising abundance, energy and manifestation.

The rune of material wealth.

To Uruz,

Signifying unbound universal will,

The rune of the Aurochs,

The rune of the primal cow, Audhuamla.

To Thurisaz,

The mighty protective rune

The rune of protection and endurance,

Of overcoming our challenges.

To Anzus,

The rune of the World Tree,

Yggdrasil,

Standing tall over all.

To Raidho,

The rune of the journey,

Physical or mental,

Mundane or spiritual.

To Kenaz next,

The rune of illumination,

Higher knowledge gained,

For the good of all.

Gebo next,

The art of gifting,

Of giving and receiving,

Whether between men,

Or men and the divine.

Then lastly in Freya's Aett

The rune Wunjo,

The rune of the peace,

Of balanced opposites
For the good of all.

To work with them all
You must understand them,
Get to know them well,
These eight runes,
Introduced further below.

Fehu,
Portable wealth,
Plentiful abundance,
Spiritual and mental wealth,
Fehu.

The abundance of movable wealth.
Cattle to the ancients,
Gold in the interim,
Precious gems.
Stocks, bonds and money to us today,
Blessed abundance,
That can be traded or sold
To make life pleasant,
To make life possible.
Fehu

Uruz next
The rune of primal will.
The rune of the Aurochs
And the first cow Auldumla,
Uruz,
Untamed primal will
Use at it's will,
Not at your own,
The untamed beast,
Untameable force of universal will,
Of creation,
The primal dark,

At the start of creation
The voice of the wilderness,
Uruz.

Thurisaz next,
The mighty thorn,
A symbol of protection,
A symbol of strength,
A symbol of endurance.
The clarity to protect,
The ability to endure,
The ability to climb the mountains,
Of our challenges.
The ability to protect and endure,
To learn to grow mighty
By facing our adversaries,
By facing our challenges,
Thusriaz.

Ansuz next,
The world tree rune.
The connection from high,
The communication between men and the divine.
The cosmic axis
Of the mighty world tree
That supports creation,
All nine worlds,
Binding all creation together
Binding us all.
The cosmic axis,
The tree of life,
The World Tree Yggdrasil,
The force connecting all levels of reality,
Ansuz.

From Anzus to Raidho
Reflecting our journeys,

The rune of process,
The rune of travel.
From a horse to a motorbike,
From a wagon to a car,
Or even a truck,
Progressing on the road.
Or even the process of learning.
Or or meaningful work,
Or the path of initiation.
Any process,
Requiring an order or travel,
One step at a time along a defined path
To be completed.
The rune of travel,
The rune of the road
The rune of defined process,
Raidho.

From travel to illumination,
with the rune Kenaz.
The rune of the torch,
Bringing ideas into the mundane world,
Shining light into a dark hall,
Bringing illumination of of higher knowledge,
Bringing the illumination of purpose,
Illuminating and inspiring our world,
With new ideas,
With new innovations
New knowledge to make our world a better place.
That changes our lives,
For the better.
The torch rune of higher knowledge,
Kenaz.

To Gebo next,
Gifu's rune,
Representing the art of giving and receiving,

At all levels.
The act of reciprocal giving,
Be that between the mankind themselves,
Or men and the divine.
Giving and receiving,
On all levels
The rune of mutual support,
Supporting community on all levels,
Be it divine or mundane,
Gebo.

From giving to peace,
At the end of this aett.
I introduce Wunjo,
The rune of harmony,
The rune of peace,
In the balance between opposites.
Between light and dark,
Day and night,
Anima and Animus,
Need and want.
The joy of adequate,
Of not too little,
Or not too much,
But just enough,
Wunjo,
The joy of balance.

Now we come from Freya's Aett,
About the order of magick,
To Hagal's Aettir,
The Aettir of life's difficulties.
Of need and want,
Of Life's realities
Of facing the difficulties life brings,
That give us opportunities to grow,
Hagal's Aettir

Hagal's Aettir,
Enduring the constrictions of life,
Manifesting in problems,
We need to overcome.
The lessons,
The frustrations of life.
From Haglaz,
The rune of hail,
Unexpected and chaotic,
Three state change that must be borne,
To get to the other side.
To Naudhiz
The rune of restrictions,
Of needs and wants,
And how we must face and overcome
When they do not balance out.
To Isa,
The rune of constricting Ice,
That brings wisdom but must thaw so we can move forward.
To Jera next,
The rune of the harvest,
Of work which must be done to bring the harvest to completion.
To Eihwaz next,
The rune of sudden movement and change
That cannot be predicted or planned for
leaving chaos in it's wake.
To Perdhro,
The rules of life we must follow,
From birth to death.
To Elhaz,
The rune of necessary defence,
A great and mighty rune to protect us,
From those that wish to harm us or others,
On all levels.
To Sowulo,
The rune of the sun,
of the new day dawning,

When all the difficulties are done.

Now I introduce,
This family of runes,
This road map through life's hard times,
That help us weather life's difficulties,
To learn and grow,
From the hardships in life,
Hagal's Aett,
The runes of the trials in life,
We grow and learn from.

Haglaz,
The first rune of the aett.
The power of the hailstorm,
Writ large in creation.
The power of the hailstorm,
Three stage chaotic change,
That cannot be predicted.
The state before the change,
The state during the change,
The chaos of the hailstorm.
Then the state after the change,
The final state after the thaw.
Unexpected change through a period of chaos
Haglaz.

From Haglaz to Naudhiz
The need fire within us,
The energy of want and necessity,
The forces of fate in our lives holding us bound
That have to be overcome.
The forces that can be overcome through the need fire within us,
Through our effort and inner strength,
To learn from our current reality,
To learn and grow,
To break through our old restrictions

That hold us down
Through kindling our inner need fire,
The strength within,
Naudhiz.

After Naudhiz comes Isa,
The rune of winter and ice.
The rune of crystallised wisdom,
At the way marker of the year.
The end and the beginning,
The beginning and the end.
The transmutation and transition of the year,
from one to the next.
A time of no movement but wisdom gained,
A time of reflection,
Reflected in the form of the quartz crystal,
Energy and wisdom trapped forever in time.
A rune of winter restriction,
But also of reflection and wisdom,
The way marker of the old transitioning to the new,
Isa.

From winter to autumn,
Jera.
The rune of the harvest,
From sowing to reaping.
The actions that are taken,
To bring in the harvest,
That is needed in the winter.
The road map of the process of effort in any cyclic process,
Be that a physical harvest of goods,
To the harvest of rewards in studies,
To working towards a material goal,
To a defined initiation process.
When the work is done,
In your personal autumn,
Tied to the cycles you are part of,

The harvest will come.
Represented by the harvest rune,
Jera.

From the harvest to sudden change,
Sudden communication and rapid transport,
From one state to another,
Eihwaz.

The rune of swift and sudden change,
Of the bolt from the blue,
Of sudden illumination and information,
That rapid changes your world,
Leaving you wondering,
And catching up.

The rune of swift and sudden change,
That leaves us bewildered,
Confused and catching up.

The rune of the bolt from the blue rune.
Eihwaz.

Next comes Perdhro,
Life's dice cup,
Coming from Mother Earth's womb,
Through the goddesses of fate,
The mighty Norns,
To show us the rules of the game of life.
From birth to death they restrict us
To the rules of life.
Within the rules,
We are free to play the game,
The game of life
As skilfully as we can,
For ourselves.
The rune of the game of life,
Regulated by the goddesses of fate,
Perdhro.

Second to last in this Aett,
We get to active defence,
for self and others.
The rune Elhaz,
The rune of the Elk,
The thorns of the sedge plant,
Defending from all comers.
A mighty defence,
Of people and place,
A rune of protection,
Alone,
Or bound with others,
A mighty aid
At times of need
A mighty active defence,
A mighty protection,
Elhaz.

From need and difficulty,
To the victory after.
In comes Sowulo,
The sunlight rune.
The rune of the sun,
That blessed light,
Illuminating the day after the dark,
Lighting your way out,
After a hard time.
The rune of breakthrough,
Inspiration and victory,
The rune of the sun,
Sowulo.

After the sun,
Illuminating our lives,
Comes the cosmic order,
With Tyr's Aett.
The runes of the sky god,

The warrior king,
That sacrificed his hand,
To the Fenris wolf,
For the good of all.

Starting with Teiwaz
The rune of the sky god,
The warrior king that sacrificed his hand for all.

Berkana next,
The rune of regeneration,
The rune of spring,
The gift of the Earth Goddess.

Then onto Ehwaz,
The rune of movement in partnership,
Ordering communication and movement

Above and below.

Next to Mannaz,

Mankind's rune,

His mind and his achievements,
Their place in the world.

Next to Languz,

The flow of tides and water,

Above and below,

In the cosmic order.

Next to Ingu,

The welcome hearth fire,
The rune of the God Ing,
Of the wise animus figure.

Next to Dagaz,

The dawn rune,

Last but one,

Heralding new beginnings.

The last of the aett,

Of the Elder Futhark,

The rune Othala,

Life's begging and end,

Our ancestors,

Of wealth and gifts that cannot be sold.

The last aett of the Elder Futhark,
I now introduce as a family,
The aett of as above,
So below.

We begin with Teiwaz,
The rune of the sky god Tyr,
The wise judge,
The warrior king.
One who sacrificed his hand
To bind the chaos wolf
For the good of all.
A rune of return for effort,
Of justice deserved,
Of reward for sacrifice,
In the long term.
The rune of the wise, warrior king,
The rune of true Justice,
Teiwaz.

From the sky we now travel,
To the ground,
For the rune of spring,
The gift of the earth goddess.
Berkana, now,
The rune of regeneration,
Of the regrowth of spring,
after the harsh winter.
The rune of spring,
Of regeneration and growth,
Of birth and rebirth,
Healing in turn.
The time of o balanced,
To allow life to renew,
Bringing back abundance and bounty,

The Rune Berkana.

After regeneration and new life,
Comes movement in partnership.

The rune Ehwaz.

The rune of the horse and rider,
Swift and sudden transport,
Swift and sudden communication,
Sudden ideas and movement.

Working in partnership

To create movement.

Swift communications as a messenger,
Swift movement towards a goal in a direct path,
Swift movement towards a destination on a fast mount.
Be the movement spiritual or material,
It is shown in the rune of movement and communication,
Ehwaz.

The next rune in the stave brings mankind into the frame

Mannaz.

The rune of mankind.

The rune of humans,

Their mind, what it produces,
Their achievements with their hands,
The cream of wisdom as a collective.

The rune of the first man,

Askr,

A transformed Ash.

The rune of the first woman,

Embala,

A transformed Elm.

The rune of the first man and the first woman,
The achievements of their descendants,
Mannaz.

From mankind's place in the world,
To the place of water,

In all it's flows and forms.

Laguz

The rune of physical water,

In all it's flows and tides,

As the life giving element,

On mother earth.

As well as the flow of energy in the greater world,

Of the tides of magick,

That which we work with,

In the cosmic order.

The water rune,

The rune of tides and flows

The rune of cosmic flow,

Laguz.

From water to fire,

The energising element,

Inguz.

The rune of the hearth fire,

Of the forge

And of early industry,

Bringing the comforts of life.

Bringing warmth to the home,

Fire to early industry,

Powering civilisation from afar,

Bringing illumination to our lives

As well as empowering energy into our lives

Inguz.

Second to last,

We come to the dawn Rune,

Dagaz.

After the endings of the night,

Comes the first light of dawn.

Bringing new beginnings with it.

New growth cycles,

New starts,

New potential,
Leading into the promise of a new day.
The promise of staring anew again
After the ending of the old.
A rune to give hope,
A rune of good fortune,
A rune to give courage,
Through a dark time
Dagaz.

Now we come to the last rune in the order,
The last rune in the Elder Futhark,
Othala.
A rune of completion,
Of going home at the end of a journey,
A rune of ancestry,
And wealth that cannot be sold,
Or will not be sold.
A rune of where you go back to,
A rune of inheritance,
A rune of gifts,
Coming through the bloodline.
A rune of priceless ancestral gifts,
And coming home,
Othala.

The Elder Futhark
The oldest root of the world tree,
The oldest rune wisdom coming to us
From the sacrifice of Odin,
Gifted to us.
Giving us the power,
The road map to master our lives.
The Elder Futhark,
The twenty four key guide to life.