

The Story of Creation as Told by the North Germanic Peoples

BIRTH OF THE JÖTNAR

In the beginning there was that abyss (_____). It lay between the place of elemental fire (_____) and elemental ice (_____).

Frost and flame met in the abyss. Flames melted ice and the drops that fell formed _____, the first of the godlike and destructive giants. While he slept, more giants leapt forth from his legs and the sweat of his armpits.

As the ice continued to melt, a cow, _____ emerged from it. While she nourished _____ with her milk, she was nourished with salt-licks in the ice. Eventually, her licks revealed _____, the first of the Aesir gods. _____ had a son named _____, who married _____ the daughter of the giant _____.

This union produced the half-god/half-giants _____, the eventual leader of the Aesir, and his brother _____ and _____.

CREATION OF THE COSMOS

The brothers would slay _____ and create the cosmos from his corpse. They fashioned the oceans from his _____, the soil from his _____ and _____, vegetation from his _____, clouds from his _____, and the sky from his _____.

From his rotting body crawled _____ that formed the dwarves. Out of fear that his rotting body would cause the sky to fall, four dwarves (_____, _____, _____, _____) were selected to uphold the sky - one from each direction.

CREATION OF THE HUMANITY

With the cosmos now formed, the gods formed the first man, _____, and woman, _____, from two tree trunks. Finally, the gods took _____ to build a fence around _____ to protect the humans from the giants.

And thus, the world and its gods and its people were formed. While this was a glorious beginning, little did they know Ragnarök awaited...

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