



# DISAPPEARING GODDESSES:FRIGG AND HER COURT

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# DISAPPEARING GODDESSES

In Greek and Roman lore, there are about the same number of gods and goddesses mentioned, whereas in Norse, Germanic, and Anglo-Saxon lore, there's a scarcity of goddesses. We're going to take a look at some of those missing goddesses.

Heathenry is a reconstructed religion, so how do we reconstruct a goddess when all we know is her name and one or two functions?

# WHY THEY'RE MISSING

1. Why they're missing
  - a. Less literacy, so didn't get written down
  - b. Written down after Christianization
  - c. May be there in archaeological record, which is spotty
  - d. Some became Christian saints, like Brigid in Ireland
  - e. May be there in folklore, like Holle/Holda

# NORSE GODDESSES

- a. Well known goddesses like Freyja, Frigg, Skadi
- b. Goddesses with occasional mentions like Sif
- c. Goddesses with a single mention. Several members of Frigg's Court.

# ANGLO-SAXON AND GERMANIC GODDESSES

## Anglo-Saxon Goddesses

- a. Eostre
- b. Frige

## Germanic Goddesses

- a. Frau Holle/Holda – lots of folklore

# FRIGG'S COURT

Frigg's court is listed in the *Gylfaginning*, part of the Prose Edda

Prose Edda was written and/or compiled by Snorri Sturluson. This was after Christianization, which had a big influence on the text.

For some goddesses, this is the only reference. For others, like Eir, Gefjun, and Saga, we have other references.

# FRIGG'S COURT

1. Saga, goddess of knowledge
2. Eir, goddess of healin
3. Gefjun, goddess of fertility
4. Fulla, advisor to Frigg and message-bearer
5. Sjofn, goddess of love
6. Lofn, goddess of marriage, especially forbidden marriage

# FRIGG'S COURT

7. Var, goddess of oaths and law
8. Vor, goddess who finds the lost
9. Syn, goddess and guardian of the home and hall
10. Hlin, goddess and protector from harm
11. Snotra, goddess of wisdom
12. Gna, goddess and messenger





# REFERENCES