

REVIVING LOKI

MYTH – DEVIL – HISTORY – COMMUNITY

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LOKI AND LOKEANS

- **MOST CONTROVERSIAL DEITY IN BOTH HEATHENRY AND SCHOLARSHIP**
- **MOST CONTROVERSIAL MODERN PRACTICE**
- **TROTH BAN**
- **BAN FROM MYRIAD OF HEATHEN ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS**
- **NORSE MYTH'S SATAN**
- **LOKEANS AND NOKEANS**

THREE ARGUMENTS AGAINST LOKI WORSHIP

- LOKI IS EVIL**
- LOKI CONTRIBUTES TO MORAL DECAY**
- LOKI WAS NEVER WORSHIPPED IN HISTORY**

RECONSTRUCTIONISM

- RECONSTRUCTION AS A HISTORICAL PROCESS
- THOSE IN THE PAST GAINED CONNECTION
- WE SEEK TO IMITATE THAT CONNECTION
- WHAT WE BUILD WILL NOT BE THE SAME
- UNSOLVABLE PUZZLES OF HISTORY AND SPIRITUALITY

LOKI'S EDDIC MYTHS

POSITIVE MYTHS

- BLOOD OATH WITH ODIN
- THOR IN A WEDDING DRESS
- LOKI VS LOGI
- LOKI THE CREATOR / LODURR CONNECTION

NEGATIVE MYTHS

- THOR VS GERRIOD
- LOKI HATES GOATS
- DEATH OF BALDR
- LOKI TALKS SMACK
- SAXO'S BOUND
UTGARDA - LOKI
- FATHER OF MONSTERS
- RAGNAROK

LOKI'S EDDIC MYTHS



POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE

- **MAKING ASGARD GREAT AGAIN**
 - **LOKI BENEFITS THE GODS**
- **TRAGEDY OF OTTER**
- **SIF'S BAD HAIR DAY**
 - **GIFTS TO THE GODS**
- **KIDNAPPING OF IDUNN**
 - **LOKI AND HIS WORD**

LOKI'S EDDIC MYTHS

NEGATIVE MYTHS

- **THOR VS GERRIOD**
 - INCONSISTENT ASSOCIATIONS WITH LOKI
 - THOR'S PROTECTING HIS FRIEND
- **LOKI HATES GOATS**
 - INCONSISTENT ASSOCIATION
- **DEATH OF BALDR**
 - LOKI'S INVOLVEMENT INCONSISTENT
 - IRISH INFLUENCE
- **LOKI TALKS SMACK**
 - MURDER APPEARS TO BE A LATE ADDITION
 - DEPICTS LOKI AS THE REBELLIOUS TRUTHTELLER
 - NJORDR IS A POTTY MOUTH

NEGATIVE MYTHS

- **SAXO'S BOUND UTGARDA - LOKI**
 - MAY NOT BE LOKI, BUT IF IT IS, IT'S EVIDENCE OF WORSHIP
 - SAXO'S BIAS
 - CONDEMNATION OF PAGANISM
- **FATHER OF MONSTERS**
 - APPEARS TO BE CHRISTIAN INFLUENCE
 - ANGRBODA AND BERA
- **RAGNAROK**
 - CHRISTIAN FRANKENSTEIN'S MONSTER OF MYTHS
 - LOKI'S INVOLVEMENT IS LIMITED, AND ONLY ASSOCIATED WITH HEIMDALLR
 - PAGAN SOURCES DO NOT MENTION LOKI

IS LOKI THE DEVIL?



- PARALLELS BETWEEN LOKEANS AND SATANISTS
- PARALLELS BETWEEN LOKI AND SATAN
- SAXO'S UTGARDA - LOKI AND THE DEMONIZATION
 - SAXO'S BIAS
- HAKONARMAL AND EIRIKSMAL
 - SNORRI, FENRIR, AND CREATED BINDING LEGENDS

IS LOKI THE DEVIL?



- **ROOTH AND THE AUTHENTIC LOKI**
 - **CHRISTIANIZATION AND DEMONIZATION**
 - **IRISH INFLUENCE**
 - **CHRISTIAN INFLUENCE**
- **WHAT IS THE AUTHENTIC LOKI?**
 - **VIKING AGE LOKI**
 - **MIGRATION PERIOD LOKI**
- **GOTHIC LOKI**
 - **IDENTIFYING THE ORIGINS OF CHRISTIANIZATIONS**
- **SNORRI AND SAXO'S DISTINCT STAGES OF DEMONIZATION**
- **MULTIPLICITY OF LOKI TRADITIONS**
- **KENNINGS AND THE POSITIVE LOKI**

THE LOKI OF MYTH



- **HONEST**
 - **HOLDS TO HIS WORD AND WORDS HIS PROMISES CAREFULLY**
 - **HONESTY IS OFTEN EXPLOITED**
- **OWNERSHIP OF HIS ACTIONS**
 - **THREATS MADE AGAINST LOKI**
 - **CREATES SOLUTIONS**
- **JUST AS FRUSTRATED AT HIS PREDICAMENTS AS ANYONE ELSE**
- **OUTSIDER**
 - **PARENTAGE – POSSIBLY JOTUN FATHER AND AESIR MOTHER**
- **GENDER BENDER**
 - **SHAPESHIFTING / GENDER**

HISTORICAL LOKI WORSHIP

POINTS AGAINST

- SCHOLARS GENERALLY HOLD THAT THERE WAS NO HISTORICAL WORSHIP
- NO PLACENAMES
- LACK OF LEGENDS IN WHICH HE ENGAGES WITH HUMANITY
 - KING GORM AND UTGARDA-LOKI
- POINT OF CENTRALIZED RELIGIOUS CULTUS AND SOCIAL STABILITY
 - STRONGEST POINT AGAINST

POINTS IN FAVOR

- ENDURING FOLK PRACTICES FEATURING LOKI
 - FIRE, NETS, KNOTS, SPIDERS
- WORSHIP OF ODIN IN ICELAND
 - ARGUMENTS AND EVIDENCE
- ROMANS AND THE LARES
- MATERIALS OF PERSONAL IDOLS
 - QUESTIONABLE ARTIFACTS

THE HISTORICAL LOKEAN



IF THEY EXISTED:

- LIKELY PERSONAL OR HOUSEHOLD PRACTICE
- SIMILAR SOCIAL SPACE AS LOKI
- EXISTED ON FRINGES
- PEOPLE WHO VIOLATED SOCIAL NORMS
- ASSOCIATIONS WITH MAGICAL PRACTICE

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TREND TOWARD LOKI



- **DAWN IN THE 1970S**
 - **FICTION, NOVELS, MARVEL**
- **NOT TOTALLY HERO NOR VILLAIN**
 - **TREND TOWARD APPRECIATION OF THIS REPRESENTATION**
 - **EMBRACE OF COMPLEX HEROES**
- **QUEER ICON**
- **LOKEANS EXIST AND IN LARGE NUMBERS**
- **LOKEANS AND LGBTQ IDENTITY**

CHALLENGES TO LOKEANS

- **HISTORICAL CRITICISM**
- **NEOPAGAN VS RECON DYNAMIC**
- **PURITY OF RECONSTRUCTIONISM**
 - **UNCHANGING RELIGION**
 - **HISTORY OF CHANGING RELIGION**
 - **APPLICATIONS TO HEATHENRY**
- **WHAT IS BEING REVIVED VS WHAT IS KEPT IN HISTORY**
 - **THRALLDOM**
 - **ERGI**
 - **STIGMAS**
- **BEHAVIORAL CRITICISMS RELATED TO MORAL DECAY / DEVIANCE**

THREE ARGUMENTS AGAINST LOKI WORSHIP

INTERRELATIONSHIP OF ARGUMENTS

- **LOKI IS EVIL**
 - **OVERSIMPLICATION OF CHARACTER**
- **LOKI CONTRIBUTES TO MORAL DECAY**
 - **LARGELY QUEERPHOBIC CRITICISM**
 - **SOURCE OF THE CRITICISM**
- **LOKI WAS NEVER WORSHIPPED IN HISTORY**
 - **QUESTIONABLE AND IRRELEVANT**
- **ARGUMENTS BOIL DOWN TO: MORAL DECAY**
 - **WHAT IS THE MORAL DECAY THO?**
 - **STRATEGY OF UNDERMINING POINTS ASSOCIATED WITH QUEER COMMUNITIES BY FEMINIZING AND INFANTALIZING**
 - **QUESTIONS OF HARM**

BANNING LOKI



- **PEACEKEEPING AND POLITICS**
 - **FEEDING INTO QUEERPHOBIA AND PERPETUATING IT**
- **RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY REFUSES TO STAGNATE**
 - **EVEN THE ONES THAT TRY**
- **WHETHER OR NOT LOKI WAS WORSHIPPED IN HISTORY IS IMMATERIAL**
- **LOKI IS WORSHIPPED TODAY**
 - **UNBANNING LATELY DUE TO EFFORTS BY LGBTQ ACTIVISM**
- **INCLUSION OF LOKI AND LOKEANS DOES NOT MEAN REQUIREMENT OF WORSHIP**

QUESTIONS?

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