

THE MYSTERY OF THE NORTH

Norse mythology, gods and the Vikings

Everybody has heard some myths about the Vikings – that they wore helmets with horns, were very dirty and too **savage**! But how much do you know about the gods, who the Scandinavians believed in? And are the myths about the Vikings even true?

THE CREATION OF THE EARTH

In Norse mythology, there's a belief that there were two worlds at the beginning. It was freezing in the first one, the other one was the world of fire and there was an **abyss** in between of them. Then, the frost met fire and that's how a giant called Ymi was created. One day, Ymi was killed and thrown into the abyss. His body became the Earth.

THE GODS

The Gods from Norse mythology come from two groups – Aesir and Vanir. The Aesir live in Asgard but a lot of Vanir live there, too. The **sovereign** of all the gods is Odin. His wife is Frigg and they're the parents of Thor (the god of thunder, he's very strong and owns a magical hammer Mjölnir), Balder (the god of purity and forgiveness, the favourite of every god except Loki) and some others.

Loki is the god of **trickery** and later he becomes the enemy of the gods. Bragi is the god of poetry. From Vanir, there is Njörðr (the god of sea and wind) and his offspring Freyja (the goddess of love and beauty) and Freyr (the god of sunshine and light rain). Then there are Norns (the three primary Norns present past, present and future and they're responsible for fate) and Valkyries (they collect brave men who died in a fight and take them to Valhalla – Odin's hall).



Odin with his wolves and ravens

OUR TIME
characters of
There's a TV
at most people
conding to some

– krutý
opost
[z n] – panovník
– čistota
– lest
• offspring [of sprɪŋ] – potomek
• to raid [reɪd] – přepadnout
• merchant [ˈmɜː.ʃənt] – velkoobchodník
• source [soʊs] – zdroj

sources, the names of the Norse gods are the origin of some names of the days in English: Tuesday – Tyr, Wednesday – Woden/Odin's day, Thursday – Thor and Friday – Frigg, Freyr or Freyja. The Vikings and Norse gods got into music, too, for example in Swedish metal band Amon Amarth.

of the Scandinavians were farmers and only few were actually Vikings. And it's also not true that the Vikings lived just from raiding. They were **merchants** and traded a lot. Another myth is that they were very dirty. But they washed once a week and that was really not so common in Europe. So compared to Europeans of that time, they were very clean. And lastly – it's being said that the Vikings wrote in runes. There are some mentions of magical power of runes in the stories about the gods and there's an alphabet called Futhark, which the Vikings used. The only problem is that they didn't write on paper. They wrote the runes on wood or carved in rock.



The Mystery of the North

by Kateřina Zrzavá

from Gymnázium Petra Bezruče, Frýdek Místek

Kateřina's topic was the Vikings, and she really made history come to life, something that is not easy to do. The article was really well researched, with lots of fascinating information about the Vikings, what they believed, their customs and even myths about them. It was both educational and interesting, and that is exactly what we want from a Gate history article. Well done, Katka!



Return or Burn by Viktorie Bystroňová, Adéla Kawuloková and Tereza Kostková from Gymnázium Třinec – a history of fashion trends with a beautiful colour scheme



Fashion Week by Tatiana Babicová from ZŠ Slobodného slovenského vysielateľa, Banská Bystrica – we loved this look inside Tatiana's school and at all the fun activities they have done



Blast from the Past by Bianca Chuffartová from Gymnázium Postupická, Praha – an interesting look at everything "retro" and how the past influences the music of today



Cryptocurrency and the Environment by David Teletník and Šimon Sanétník from 3. ZŠ Holešov – for writing really complex articles about hard topics. Excellent job!



Anime by Nikola Nováková – a great introduction into the world of anime with an awesome design



North Korea by Artem Kolkov from Gymnázium prof. Jana Patočky, Praha – original topic and very well-researched

Just FRIENDS

What are you talking about?

Humans are masters of disguise, both ordinary and extraordinary. So it is no different with well-known people. Especially when it comes to love. They try to hide it as much as they can. And sometimes they are able to do anything for it. But it's hard for famous people to be in love. There are journalists at every step, and they don't keep a secret alone. And when it comes to family, their children don't have it much easier. No wonder they hide their love. Even one look and fans or journalists will take it into a movie.



Not everything is as it seems at first glance. Even though you feel the chemistry between famous people, it doesn't mean they do love. Maybe they didn't get the message yet or they just ignored it completely. Sometimes it's better to stay friends after all. It's not very common for two friends to be friends again after a break.

Love you as a friend way

Examples are Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet. Although their characters fell in love in the movie Titanic, it only deepened their friendship. Despite all the films in which they played a couple in love, they remained just friends. After all, it is said that DiCaprio is more into much younger women. But what about it? A hundred people, a hundred tastes. They themselves know very well what is good for them. And if it's to stay friends, then everyone has to accept that.

I love it when you call me Señorita

Camilla and Shawn first met in 2014 because they were both opening for Austin Mahone on his Austin Mahone Live Tour. They became friends. In 2015 they dropped their first collaboration. It shows what you did last summer. In 2019 after their second collaboration, they were seen kissing on the Fourth of July. That confirmed that they're dating. But eventually they broke up in 2023, but stay friends.

Or Are We Something More ?

The love of them was on the set of "Spider-Man: Homecoming" in 2016. That time they were just friends. But the rumours started. They were supposed to date in 2017. But that was just a rumour. They announced their relationship by kissing in Holland's car. Well, the paparazzi did. They just confirmed it.




True love?

Justin and Hailey met through his actor father in 2012. He gave her just a friendly handshake. They became friends. She even tweeted that she ships Justin – when Justin was with Selena Gomez. In 2015 Justin broke up and Justin posted him kissing Hailey on New Year's Eve. Eventually they called it off after two years. In 2017 he started dating Selena again, but then they called it quits for good. Hailey and him got back together, he asked her to marry him and after two months they were married.

Just Friends

by Adéla Burianová

from OA, VOŠZ a SZŠ, SOŠS Jihlava

You may have noticed that at Gate we love celebrities, and especially celebrity gossip. So when we read Adéla's article about relationships between stars, we knew it was perfect for us. In it she looked at some of the biggest celebs in Hollywood and asked if they were just friends, or something more. We loved the fun way it was written and the romantic graphic design.