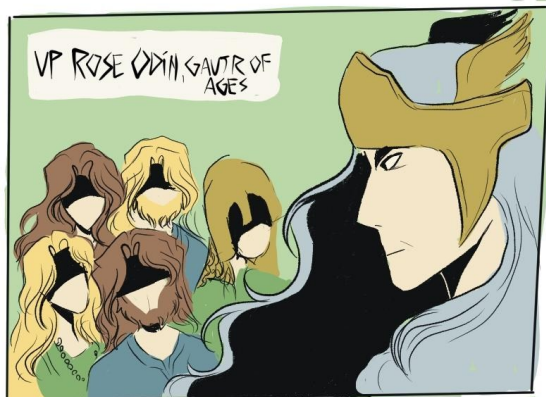


Baldrs draumar

ELLA WOOLFORD

AT ONCE THE AESIR
WERE ALL IN ASSEMBLY, AND
AND THE ASYNJUR ALL IN CONSULTATION,
AND THE POWERFUL DEITIES DELIBERATED
ABOUT IT, WHY BALDR'S DREAMS WERE BALEFUL



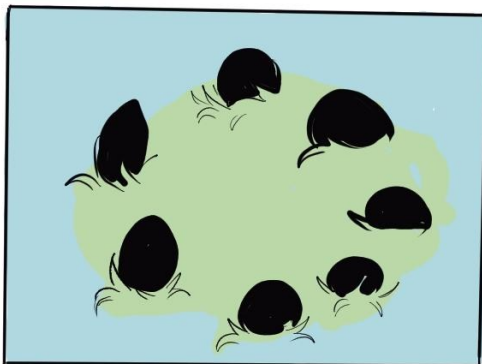
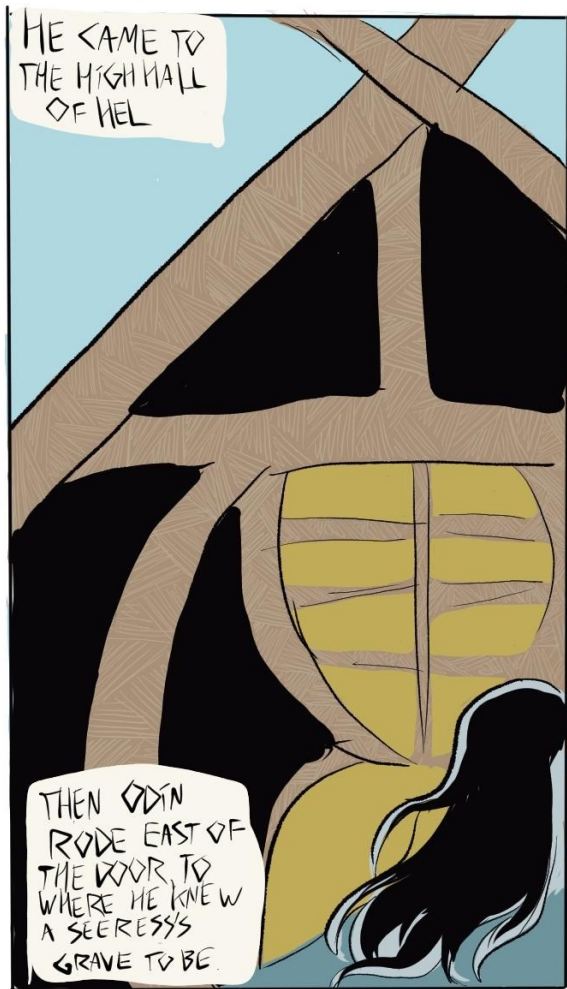
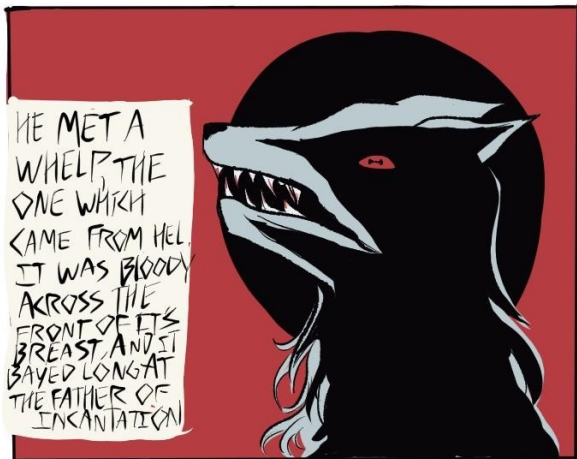
Ella Woolford is an undergraduate student at the University of Manitoba. This piece was created as a freeplay assignment for ICEL 2470 "The Viking Age" during Winter Term 2024.

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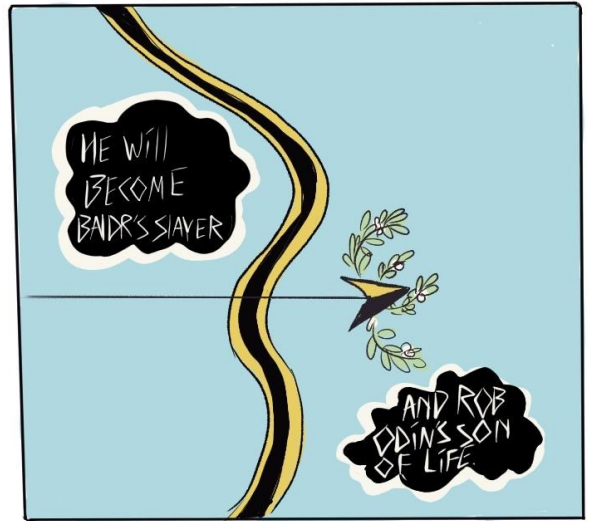
2024

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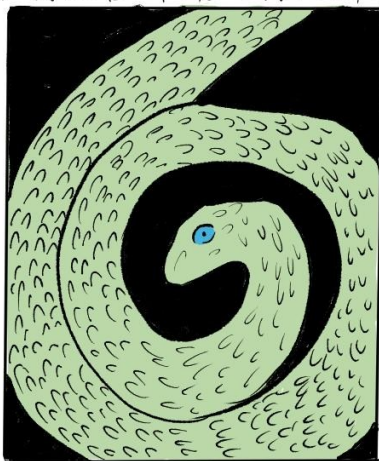








RATHER YOU'RE THE MOTHER OF THREE GIANTS



For my freeplay project I adapted the poem “Baldrs draumar” (Baldur’s Dreams) as featured in the dual-language edition of the *Poetic Edda*. I find this poem in particular to be very interesting, due to its significance to the Ragnarök legend, which may be one of the most important legends in Viking Age culture. It gives additional context to Baldur’s death and Loki’s imprisonment, which is helpful for those who wish to further understand the myth. On a practical note, it is not incredibly long, and thus lends itself to a mini graphic novel format.

I find that using visual illustrations is helpful for enhancing how a poem is read and understood. The combination of eye-catching visuals can help some readers, like myself, to better understand the text. While coming up with ideas for the panels, I referenced the analysis of the poem included in the text whenever I was confused about the meaning of a line. One example of this is the line where Óðinn refers to the Seeress as the “mother of three giants.” I was originally confused about how to illustrate this, but when I read through the analysis, one of the proposed explanations was that the seeress was Angurboða, mother of Fenrir, Jörmungandur, and Hel. This seemed to fit well with the poem’s other references to Ragnarök. These came to be the giants I chose to illustrate, adding another level of visual explanation for the poem.

This freeplay project required both surface level, and some further research into an important poem from the Viking Age. It engages with both the story and the readers’ visual sensibilities to create a new adaptation of a classic Norse myth.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Pettit, Edward. *Poetic Edda*. A Dual-Language Edition. Cambridge: Open Book Publishers, 2023.