

# Etruscan Bronze Liver of Piacenza: a Guide to Norse Mythology

Stuart Harris, November 2013, Cumberland Valley, PA

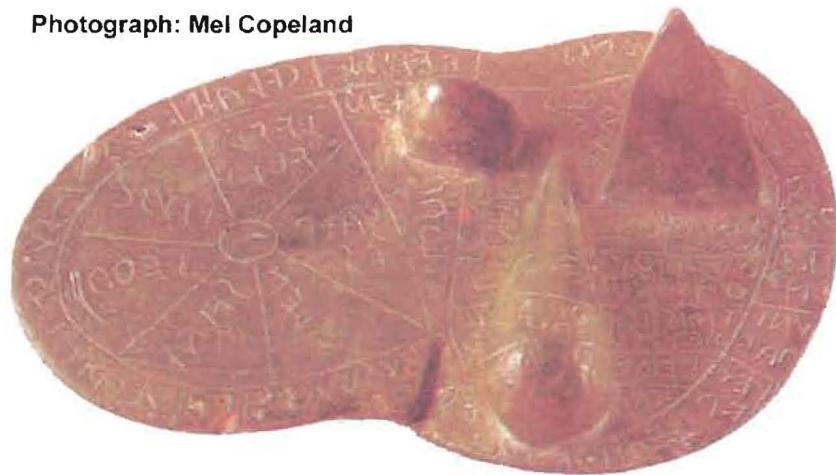
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## Summary

The Bronze Liver of Piacenza incorporates a wealth of Norse mythology, an outline of sagas of Island Earth, each episode mapped onto constellations that change with the seasons.

And it carries a stunning surprise - a map of Island Earth!

Photograph: Mel Copeland

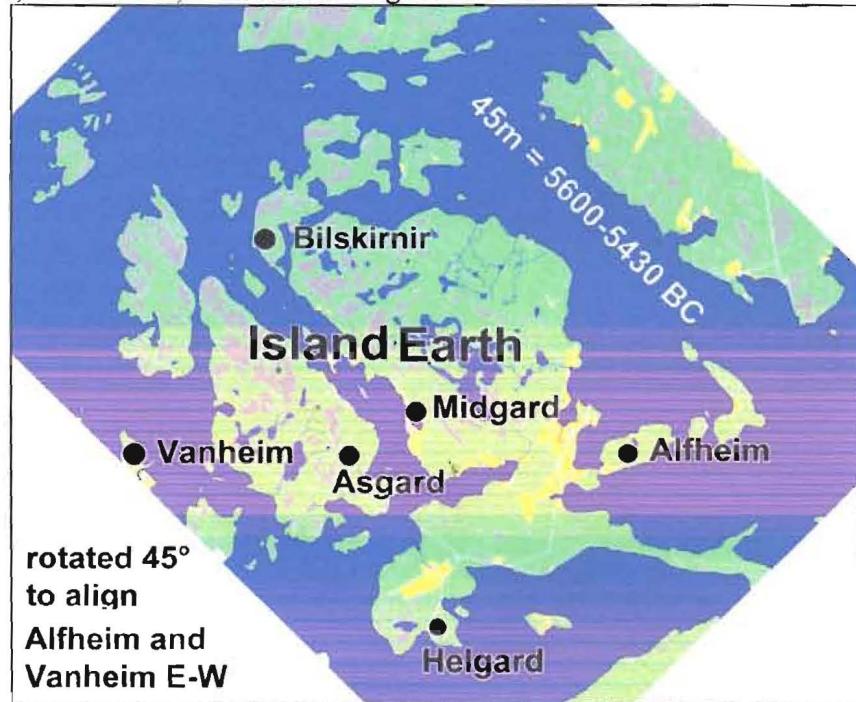


## Bronze Liver of Piacenza

The shape of the liver resembles Island Earth, surrounded by the serpent Jörmungandr, who lived in the sea. Land inhabited by deities is on the left, that of giants on the right. On the left, Freyja with golden hair occupies the hub of a six-spoked wheel, labeled 'Honey's family'. On the right, the face staring at the viewer is that of the giant Ymir, whose body parts were assembled to make Island Earth.

Compare the shape of the liver with the real Island Earth in southwest Finland, when relative sea level was 45m higher. (below, rotated 45° to orient Alfheim east and Vanheim west). The total island is the world tree Yggdrasil, whose trunk at the lower right connects to the mainland. Through the center of the island snakes S-shaped Elivagar that separated Asgard from Jotunheim, the land of giants. The island resembles the rooster Gullinkambi, with head, eye, feet, wings and feathers. The southern part of the island comprises the upper jaw of Fenrir the wolf, protector of Helgard, with the hand of Tyr caught in his throat. Around Asgard are:

Alfheim, in the direction of dawn, where lived Delling  
Vanheim, in the direction of sunset, where lived Billing  
Helgard, under Asgard  
Frost Giants lived north of Asgard, across Elivagar waterway.  
Bilskirnir, hall of Thor, northwest of Asgard



### History of the bronze liver

On September 26, 1877, in a field owned by Count Arcelli of Settima di Gossolengo, located in the Po River valley south of Piacenza, a plough hand uncovered a decorated object, the bronze liver of Piacenza. The only one of its kind, it now displays at Palazzo Farnes of the Museo Civico di Piacenza. Based on the form of letter M, the liver dates to the second century BC. How it got lost in this field remains a mystery.

This liver forecasts the future by mapping constellations onto the liver. On the lid of a funerary urn in Volterra from the first century BC, now in the Guarnacci Museum, the deceased Aule Lecu, son of Laris, holds a similar liver in his left hand, whose signs he interprets. The sculptor turned the liver around so the viewer could read it.



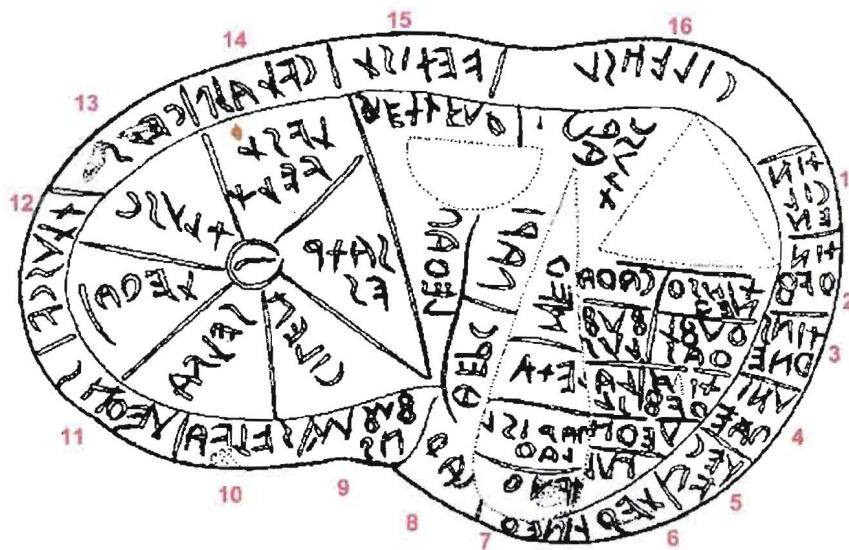
Although it resembles a sheep's liver and gall bladder, the front side adds two geometric protrusions surrounded by geometric compartments, each with an inscription. The Midgard Serpent, drawn as a ribbon around the perimeter, divides into 16 unequal regions, each labeled with an inscription. The overall design resembles a Babylonian liver circa 1900 BC in the British Museum, but which lacks the ribbon around the outside.



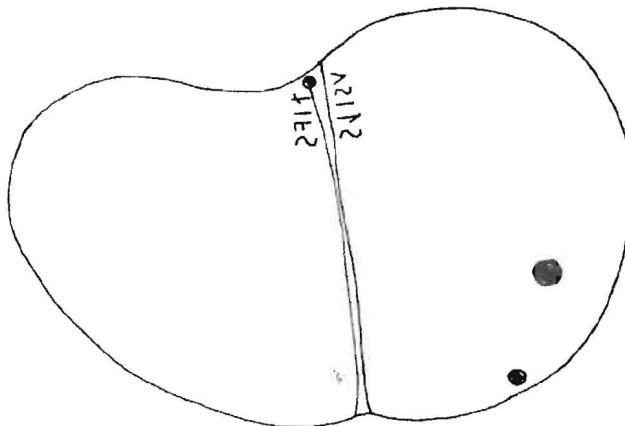
#### **Drawing of the inscriptions**

Patrick Hunt of Stanford University Liver Clinic published an accurate drawing of the front side inscriptions (likely drawn by Adriano Maggiani in 2005).

## Bronze Liver of Piacenza



Andis Kaulins from Stanford University Law School published a good drawing of the reverse side, smooth and shiny like a fresh liver, with two inscriptions plus two lines and three unequal dots.



### German translation of the reverse

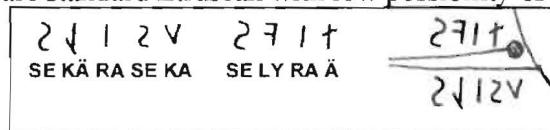
German scholars interpret the Piacenza Liver as a means to calculate the rising and setting of certain stars or star groups, which in turn determined the Etruscan calendar, a conclusion independent of the Etruscan language. Instead of 13 moon months or 12 horoscope houses, it has 16 compartments around the periphery.

On the reverse side, these scholars deduced two words:

VSILS = 'sun, day'

TIFS = 'moon, night'

Maybe. Before proceeding, let's find out what the Etruscan actually says. I will use letters drawn by Andis Kaulins, which are standard Etruscan with low possibility of error, as shown below.



Etruscan, transposed to read left to right.

Ä RA LY SE            KA SE RA KÄ SE

Finnish translation of Etruscan:

Äijä raja lyö sen.    Kauha sen rajan käy sen.

English translation of Finnish:

Tall border strikes her.    Dipper of his border visits her.

The subject is definitely astronomy, with names for constellations. I know little about astronomy, so I will leave interpretation to others.

### Etruscan syllabary of the bronze liver

The bronze liver employs 41 different syllables, as shown in the chart below, accompanied by the Etruscan syllabary compiled so far.

A	Ä	E	I	O	Ö	U	Y	
a	ä	e	i	o	ö	u	y	
+	t t t	A						
ha	hä	he	hi	ho	hö	hu	hy	H
ja	jä	je	ji	jo	jö	ju	jy	J
ka	kä	ke	ki	ko	kö	ku	ky	K
la	lä	le	li	lo	lö	lu	ly	L
ma	mä	me	mi	mo	mö	mu	my	M
na	nä	ne	ni	no	nö	nu	ny	N
pa	pä	pe	pi	po	pö	pu	py	P
ra	rä	re	ri	ro	rö	ru	ry	R
sa	sä	se	si	so	sö	su	sy	S
ta	tä	te	ti	to	tö	tu	ty	T
va	vä	ve	vi	vo	vö	vu	vy	V
1	5	10	50	100				

## Norse Protagonists in the Bronze Liver

### **Freyja created the bronze liver design**

The hub with six spokes, labeled 31C, has two Etruscan letters, ME MI, which read in Finnish *Me'en miehet* meaning 'Honey's people'. Honey was a kenning of Freyja, based on the color of her hair. Her people would include all those living on Island Earth.

The shape of the liver resembles Island Earth, separated into two halves by a shallow channel named Elivagar, with Asgard on the left and Frost Giants on the right.

Freyja not only led the assembly at Asgard, but was the foremost astronomer of her day. She devised a calendar that most of the world still uses: 24 hours in a day, 7 days in a week, 4 weeks in a month, 13 months in a year. She named each day of the week after her family, with herself as Sunday (see below).

With Mimir and others from the assembly at Asgard, Freyja revised the Old European alphabet to make each letter look like a recognizable object whose name begins with the sound of the letter. Her revised alphabet survives as Linear A in Minoan Crete. Once others understood the concept, they created new alphabets throughout the world.

Freyja was a famous Vala, a prophetess or seer. Parents might hire her to foretell the future of their newborn child. When she arrived in Asgard she taught Oðin the magic of seither, the practice of divination, by entering a trance state. This liver combines her skills in astronomy, divination and writing. Its language and imagery is so original that Bragi the bard likely participated.

### **Perimeter inscriptions of the bronze liver**

Around the perimeter in houses 1 through 16, the inscriptions have a certain commonality:

Each inscription is a complete sentence.

Reading proceeds clockwise, shown by House 8 that borrows its subject from the last letter of House 7. Also, a clockwise sequence fits an implied seasonality:

- 13 freeze - winter
- 1 plough - early spring
- 5 marriage - early summer
- 7 prepare honey - mid summer

Each sentence contains kennings of two or more people.

The same person often appears in adjacent houses.

Every name corresponds to Norse mythology, whose deeds are preserved in the sagas of Iceland. What follows is a quick review of some principal characters of the bronze liver, followed by a table of characters.

### **Principal people from Norse mythology**

**ME**, from *me'en* meaning 'honey', is Freyja, who like her brother Frey had golden hair. Her name may come from *vir'e yjae* meaning 'speak noble verse'. Friday, her day in the calendar,

was originally Sunday. Freyja outlived her companions and became the mother goddess of Europe. An exceptionally talented astronomer, she created the model for our present calendar of twenty-four hours in a day, seven days in a week, four weeks in a month, thirteen months in a year. Each day of the week was named after her family, with herself as Sunday. With Mimir and others, she modified the Old European alphabet to make it easier to learn by shaping each letter into a recognizable object, a script called Minoan Linear A. With her spear maidens, Freyja collected half the souls of those fallen in battle, the other half going to Oðin. Freyja married Svipdag-Oðr, the sword hero, and their son Asmundur became ruler of the Northern Kingdom.

**PU**, from *puu* meaning ‘tree’, is Njörð, Freyja’s father, pronounced *north*, who figures prominently in houses eight through fourteen. Line 5 refers to North Pole. His name may come from *nuorta* meaning ‘youth’. The Norse name for the pole of Earth was *Yggdrasil*, the revolving axis tree.<sup>1</sup> The strange name Yggdrasil is a composite from *Iku Urð Ask Yli* meaning ‘Eternal ash above Urð’, where Urð is pronounced *earth*.<sup>2</sup>

*Yggdrasil*’s symbol is a vertical line (axis) crossed by three horizontal lines (planes). The names of the three planes are Heaven, Earth and Hell. In Norse these four are written Yggdrasil, Hifinn, Urð, Hellä, whose abbreviation YHUh = YHvh = the Tetragammon of Biblical fame. Thus Hebrew preserves a similar cosmology.

**PO**, from *po* meaning ‘son’, is Oðin, who figures prominently in houses one through seven. *Po / Votan / Oðin* headed the clan of Aesir on Island Earth. After erecting a palisade around the city, its name changed to Asgard, from *Ahjs Kartano* meaning ‘Metal Manor’. Oðin may be a title that means ‘master of the assembly’, from *asian* meaning ‘assembly, thing’. Oðin was the son of Bor, from *Pori* meaning ‘domesticated reindeer’, and Besla, from *Pe’e sula* meaning ‘friendly family’. Oðin had two brothers:

Löður-Ve, headed the clan of Vanir  
Hönir-Vili, headed the clan of Alfar

Oðin had three principal wives:

Jörð (pronounced *earth*), mother of Thor;  
Frigg, mother of Balder and Höder, who raised Thor  
Gunnlöð, mother of Bragi.

**VE**, Ve’e, from *ve’en* meaning ‘water’, is Ve-Vei-Loður, Oðin’s brother, from *lohtu* meaning ‘comfort’. Ve headed the clan of Vanir and the community of Vanheim, from *van heimo* meaning ‘water family’. During the revolt of the gods, Ve-Löður took command away from his other brother Vili-Hoenir, who was sympathetic to Oðin.

**A-RA**, from *aura* meaning ‘plough’, was Jörð (pronounced *earth*), first ruler of the assembly at Aesir, who gave her name to Island Earth. She was the first ruler of the assembly at Asgard, and figures prominently in houses one to three.

<sup>1</sup> Spanish preserves the same double meaning, *palo* = pole, tree.

<sup>2</sup> Völuspá describes Yggdrasil. Translation Jean I. Young, 1954

I know an ash-tree known as Yggdrasil,  
tall tree and sacred besprnt with white clay,  
thence come the dews that fall in the dales;  
it stands ever green over Urð’s spring.

## Bronze Liver of Piacenza

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**NA**, from *naon* meaning sister-in-law or *naiun* meaning ‘wedded’, was Frigg, second wife of Oðin.

**KU**, from *kuun* meaning ‘moon’, was Gunnlöð, third wife of Oðin, mother of the skald Bragi. Gunnlöð comes from *Kuun ylös* meaning ‘Moon above’.

**U**, from *urho* meaning ‘champion’, was Odin, not Thor.

**RA**, from *raja* meaning ‘border’, was Balder, son of Frigg and Oðin.

**KE-TO**, from Kertojan meaning ‘storyteller’, was Bragi, son of Gunnlöð and Oðin.

### Freyja's family in the bronze liver

#### Table of protagonists, as written in Etruscan.

Ääri (Boundary, visited by Po) : Thor?

Äijä raja (Tall Border): Thor?

Äly (Intellect, drinks mead) : Mimir (drinks poetic mead)

Aura (Plough, first house) : Jörð (first mistress of the assembly)

Käen (Hand, son of Spear) : Orvandel (son of Ivalde)

Kauha poian Me'en (Dipper, son of Honey) : Delling (son of Freyja)

Keiho (Spear) : Ivalde (spear hero)

Kuun kertojan (Moon's storyteller, son of Moon) : Bragi (bard, son of Gunnlöð)

Kuun (Moon, mother of Storyteller) : Gunnlöð (Moon Above, mother of Bragi)

Löyhkä (silly one, made magic nostrum wood) : Loki (made mistletoe spear)

Lyhyt vei'on Pon (short brother of Po) : Vili (brother of Odin)

Me'en (Honey) : Freyja (with golden hair)

Me'en poian (Honey's son) : Asmundur (Freyja's son)

Meri rauhan (Sea of tranquility, mother of Ve'e) : Besla (Fine family, mother of Ve)

Naon (sister in law, wife of Oðin) : Frigg (wife of Oðin)

Neien (maiden turned aside) : Nanna (rebuffed by Balder)

Pe'e Me'en (family of Honey) : Vanir (family of Freyja)

Pe'e Merin (family of Sea) : Aesir + Vanir (family of Besla)

Po (Son, brother of Ve) : Oðin (brother of Ve)

Puu (Tree, pole) : Njörð (North, pole)

Puun lyhyt vei'o (Tree's short brother) : Dag (Day, son of Nat)

Puun poian (Tree's son) : Frey (Njörð's son)

Räiskä (Gull, wooed by son of Honey) : Gnod (wooed by Asmundur)

Raja puhas (Border handsome) : Balder (handsome son of Frigg)

Seppo se käärii (smith who binds) : Mimir (smith who binds)

Taiat rauhain (wizards of peace) : Suttung (wizards with mead)

Urho (champion who courts mead) : Oðin (who courts mead)

Ve'e (Water, brother of Po) : Ve (Water, brother of Oðin)

Veen (Water) : Vanheim (water family)

#### Table of protagonists, with their Norse names.

Aesir + Vanir : Pe'e Merin (family of Sea, family of Besla)

Asmundur : Me'en poian (Honey's son, Freyja's son)

Balder : Puhas raja (Handsome border; handsome son of Frigg)

Besla : Meri rauhan (Sea of tranquility, mother of Ve'e)

Bragi : Kuun kertojan (Moon's storyteller, son of Gunnlöð)  
Daga : Puun lyhyt vei'o (Tree's short brother; Day, brother of Njörð by Nat)  
Delling : Kauha poian Me'en (Dipper, son of Freyja)  
Frey : Puun poian (Tree's son, Njörð's son)  
Freyja : Me'en (Honey, with golden hair)  
Frigg : Naon (sister in law, wife of Óðin)  
Gnod : Räiskä (Gull, wooed by son of Honey; wooed by Asmundur)  
Gunnlöð : Kuun (Moon, mother of Bragi)  
Ivalde : Keaho (Spear, spear hero)  
Jörð : Aura (Plough, first house)  
Loki : Löyhkä (silly one, made mistletoe spear)  
Mimir : Äly (Intellect, drinks poetic mead)  
Mimir : Seppo se käärii (Smith who binds; smith who binds)  
Nanna : Neien (maiden turned aside, rebuffed by Balder)  
Njörð : Puu (Tree, north pole, North)  
Óðin : Po (Son, brother of Ve)  
Óðin : Urho (champion who courts mead)  
Orvandel : Käen (Hand, son of Ivalde)  
Suttung : Taiat rauhain (wizards of peace; wizards with mead)  
Thor? : Ääri (Boundary, visited by Odin)  
Thor? : Äijä raja (Tall border)  
Vanir : pe'e Me'en (family of Honey, family of Freyja)  
Ve : Ve'e (Water, brother of Po, brother of Óðin)  
Vili : Lyhyt vei'on Pon (short brother of Po, brother of Óðin)

### **Freyja's family in the calendar**

What follows is a short digression on the brilliance of Freyja, just one example out of many, but relevant to the bronze liver.

Frisian history records that Freyja designed the yearly calendar that most of the world still employs: 24 hours in a day, seven days in a week, four weeks in a month, thirteen months in a year.

The seven days of the week carried names from Freyja's immediate family, preserved in the design of Middelburg in Friesland, as names of seven streets that radiate from the center.<sup>3</sup>

In 2000 BC, Middelburg was a palisaded fortress called Valhallagara, where women trained to become burgmaids.<sup>4</sup> Many of the radiating street names end with *-poort* meaning 'gate' because each street went through one of seven gates around the city, a gate for each day of the week. The names are Norse.

Sunday = Sint Joris < Sýn Njörð Dis 'Fair Njörð Maid', Freyja  
Monday = Suiker < Sviker 'Swede', Freyja's husband Svipdag  
Tuesday = Nieuw < Níu 'Nine', Freyja's nine Valkyren  
Wednesday = Stroo < Stór 'High [One]', Freyja's uncle Óðin

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<sup>3</sup> *Oera Linda Boek* states that the gates of Valhallagara were named after the seven days of the week, an observation that proves its authenticity.

<sup>4</sup> So many artifacts from far older times have been found in the vicinity that the city might well date to about 5300 BC.

## Bronze Liver of Piacenza

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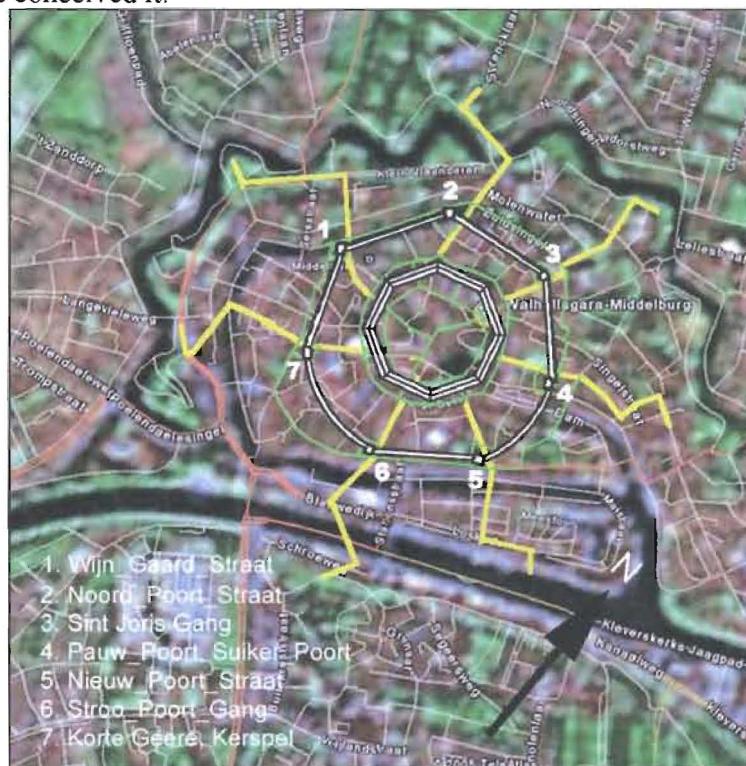
Thursday = Geere < Geirr 'Spear', Freyja's spear valas Kyrie

Friday = Wijngaard < Vingarð 'Femme guard' < viini kaarta 'quiver bow', Freyja's watchguards

Saturday = Noord < Njörð 'North', Freyja's father Njörð

Below is an image of Middleburg taken years ago when Google Earth had low resolution. Crenellated moats and stone walls were constructed in the Middle Ages. Five of the original seven palisaded walls remain as straight streets of equal length. At the junction of each of seven palisaded walls was an eight-sided tower that guarded a gate and road through the palisade, whose locations survive as seven small lots. Upon leaving the palisade, all seven roads took a bent shape called 'running legs' that means time moving forward. Within the palisade a two-story octagonal building surrounded a central market. Each side housed one shift of guards, for a total of eight shifts of three hours each that made a day. At the very center, three roads with running legs intersect beside a surveying stone.

Thus the city plan is that of a weekly calendar! The concept is so original that few other than Freyja could have conceived it.



# Island Earth

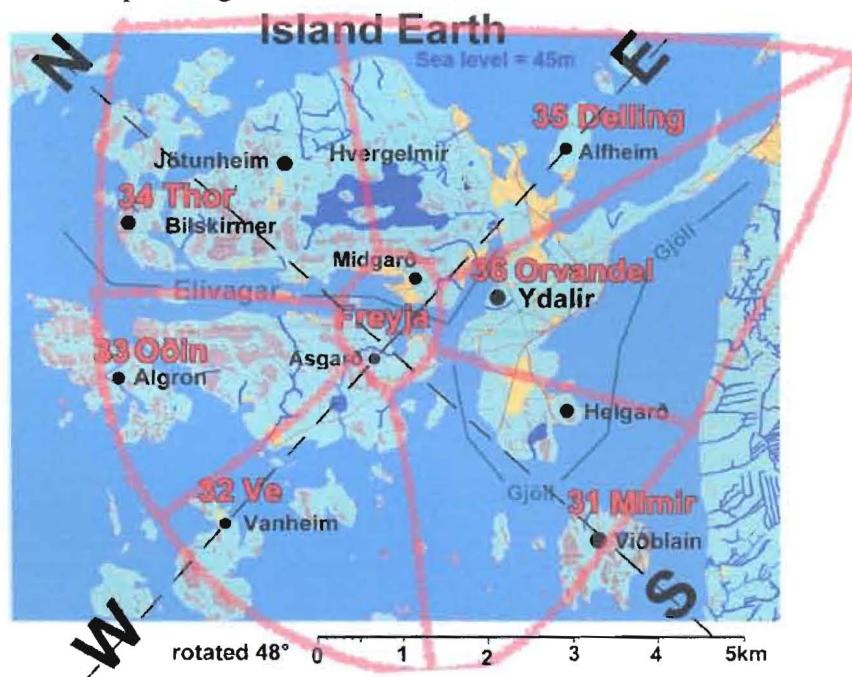
## Map of Island Earth

The drawing on the left side of the liver of six radiating spokes includes a hub in the center inscribed 'Honey's people', where Honey is Freyja. The compartments between spokes contain names of people who lived near Asgard.

- 31 Mimir, lived at Viðblain
- 32 Ve, lived at Vanheim
- 33 Odin, lived 5 years at Algron
- 34 Thor, lived at Bilskirmir
- 35 Delling, lived at Alfheim
- 36 Orvandel, lived at Ydalir

The drawing represents a political map of island Earth with Asgard at the center and six regions between political boundaries. To view these associations, I used a digital version of Finnish topographic map Perniön Asema 2021-10.

- Locate Asgard at the highest peak in southwest Finland, Multamäki meaning 'Earth Hill', 60.2837N, 23.1974W.
- Raise sea level such that Elivagar forms a continuous waterway, shallow enough for Thor to wade across: 45m contour line.
- Rotate the compass 48° to align Alfheim-Vanheim east-west.
- Center the liver map on Asgard and rotate for best fit.



Note the following:

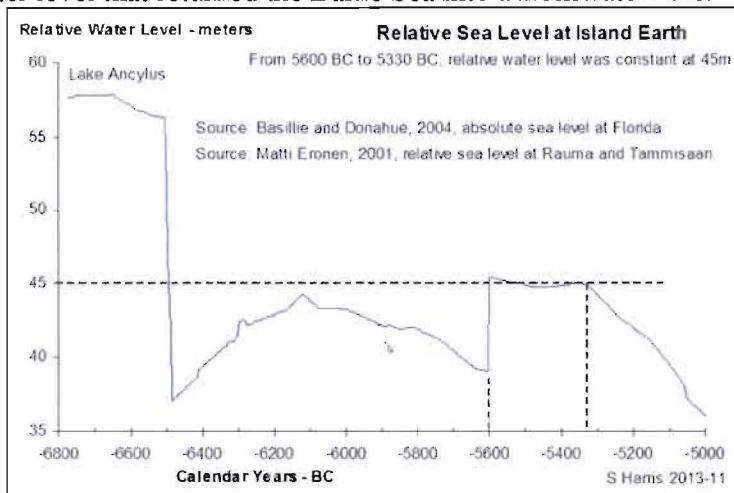
## Bronze Liver of Piacenza

Boundary of Asgard includes Midgard, home of men.  
Boundary 31-32 goes through the sea near Gjöll  
Boundary 32-33 goes through the sea  
Boundary 33-34 goes through Elivagar seaway  
Boundary 34-35 goes through lake Hvergelmir  
Boundary 35-36 goes through the sea beside an isthmus  
Boundary 36-31 includes Helgard with Mimir.  
South is Viðblain, an islet, home of Mimir (31).  
West is Vanheim, an islet, home of Ve (32)  
Northwest is Algron, an islet where Oðin stayed five years (33)  
North is Bilskirmer, an islet, home of Thor (34)  
East is Alfheim, nearly an islet, home of Delling (35).  
Southeast is Ydalir, home of Orvandel (36)

## Time of Island Earth

With sea level at 45m, what year was it? A chart of relative sea level for Island Earth shows a plateau at 45m, from 5600 BC to 5330 BC, more than a thousand years.

The same chart shows that Island Earth emerged abruptly in 6510 BC when Baltic Lake Aencylus fell 19 meters. In 5600 BC the drain of the Baltic Sea again became blocked, which caused a 6 meter jump in water level that returned the Baltic Sea into a freshwater lake.



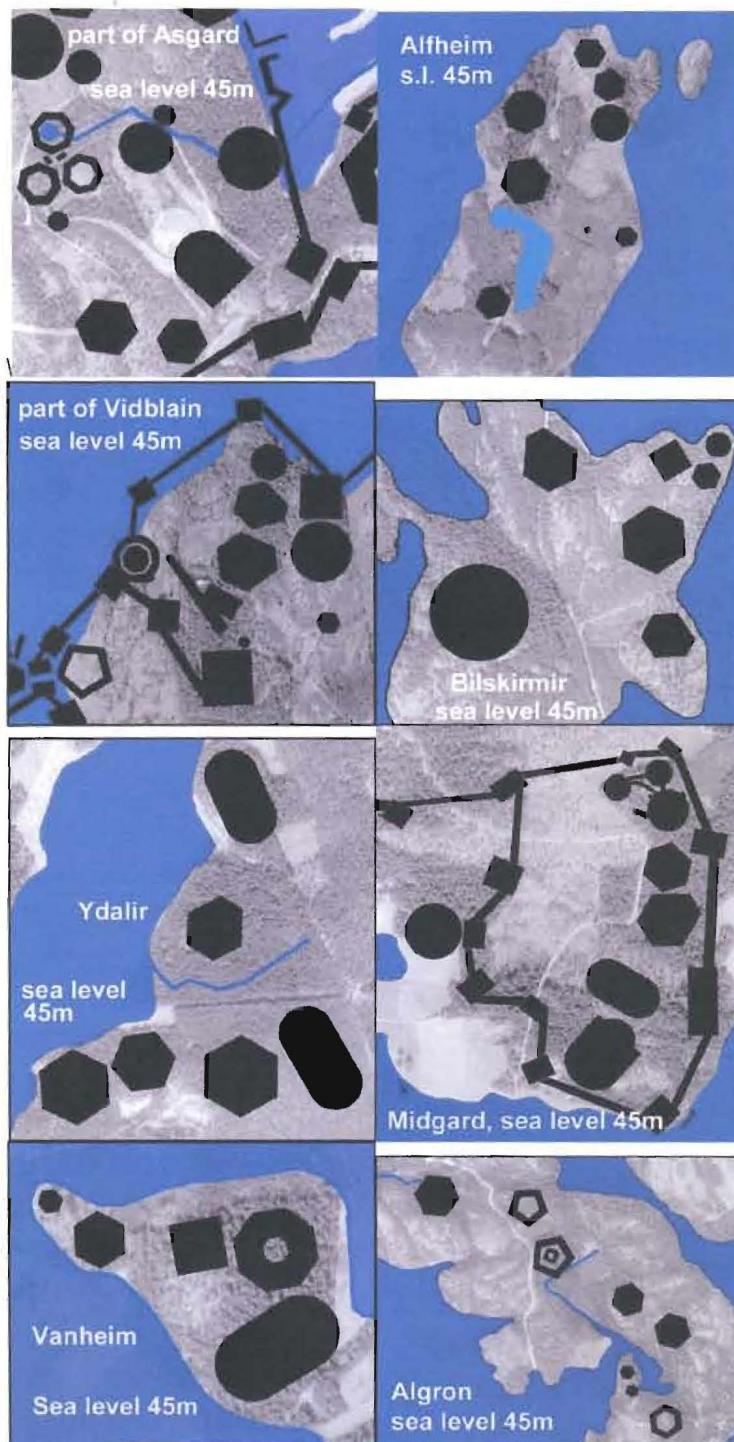
## References for Sea Level

Balsillie, James H.; Donoghue, Joseph F.; 2004; High resolution sea-level history for the Gulf of Mexico since the last glacial maximum; Florida Geological Survey

Eronen, Matti; Glückert, Gunnar; Hatakka, Lassi; Van de Plassche, Orson; Van der Plicht, Johannes; Rantala, Pasi; 2001; Rates of Holocene isostatic uplift and relative sea level lowering of the Baltic in SW Finland based on studies of isolation contacts, Boreas, V30, pp17-30, Oslo.

## Island Earth settlements mentioned in the bronze liver

Each location within the map comprised a community of post-and-beam buildings, shown below on old aerial photographs.



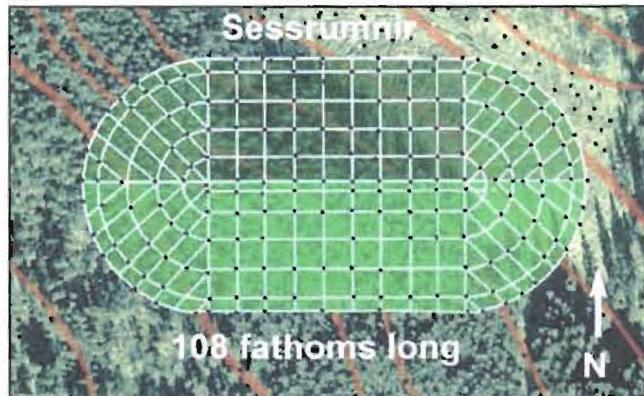
### Freyja's hall Sessrumnir

Freyja's great hall Sessrumnir, meaning 'space for many people' in Norse, was shaped like a boat, the only one like it in Asgard. It was located near Heimdall's Gate, which guarded the entrance toward Elivogar. Its length of 108 fathoms exceeded the Roman Colosseum (102

## **Bronze Liver of Piacenza**

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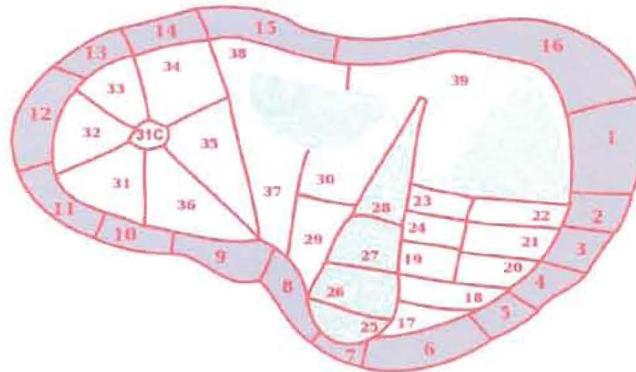
fathoms). The image below, rotated 45° to align with old North, resembles immense thatched barns in the Netherlands.



Builders used spruce trees for posts. Thousands of years later, spruce trees grow preferentially in these old post holes, visible as arrays of dark spots. The distance between post holes occurs in increments of a fathom (6 ft), such as 6 fathoms, 7 fathoms, etc.

Next comes the translations of the liver, grouped and numbered per Wikipedia.

## Bronze Liver of Piacenza Translations 1-16



### Etruscan

2 1 1 2 V	2 7 1 + 0
SE KÄ RA SE KA	SE LY RA Ä
Λ E J I D U I 4 1	
LA PO KÄ RA PU LA RA A	
8 3 0 N I + 2	
HÄ LY ME LA RA A	
E N C I M I T 3	
PO LA SO SE LA RA A	
3 A P I U V 4	
PO RI U RA LA KA	
1 1 2 1 3 1 5	
U RA LY PU PO NA	
4 1 4 1 6	
NA VO PO VE	
0 3 1 7	
ME PO LA	
Q A ) 8	
ME RI PU	
2 1 2 1 9 8	9
TO KE KU KÄ ME TU HÄ	
A E J I 1 0	10
RI PO VE LY SE	
2 1 1 2 1 1 1	11
SE LA ME PO KA	
7 1 2 1 8 1 1 2	12
LY PU SE KA VE Ä	
VI SE JÄ PO PU	13

## Bronze Liver of Piacenza

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1 A R A P 14  
PE VE RI VE LY PU  
2 R E A P 15  
VE SE RAA PO LY  
3 H A S J I 16  
NE SE LA NÄ KÄ RA PU

### Transcribed Etruscan (now reading left to right)

- 0 Ä RA LY SE. KA SE RA KÄ SE
- 1 A-RA LA PU RA KÄ PO LA.
- 2 A-RA LA ME LY HÄ.
- 3 A-RA LA-SE SO LA PO.
- 4 KA LA, RA U RI PO.
- 5 NA-PO PU LY RA U.
- 6 VE PO VO NA.
- 7 [NA] LA PO ME.
- 8 PU RI ME.
- 9 HÄ TU ME KÄ KU KE-TO.
- 10 SE LY VE PO RI.
- 11 KA, PO ME, LA SE.
- 12 Ä VE KA SE PU LY.
- 13 PU PO JÄ SE VI.
- 14 PU LY VE RI VE PE.
- 15 LY PO A RA SE VE.
- 16 PU RA KÄ NÄ LA SE NE.

### Translation of Etruscan into Finnish:

- 0 Äijä raja lyö sen. Kauha sen rajan käy sen.
- 1 Aura laa'ii puhas Raja käyä Pon laihon.
- 2 Aura laa'ii Me'en lyöet häät.
- 3 Aura laa'ii sen so'ia lai'a Pon.
- 4 Kahlen laiat, Rajan uhro riia'a Pon.
- 5 Napoa Puu lyö Rajan urho.
- 6 Vei'o Pon voi Naon.
- 7 [Naon] laa'ii Pon me'en.
- 8 Puu riiaa Me'en.
- 9 Hän tuo Me'en käyä Kuun kertojan.
- 10 Sen lyhyt vei'on poian riiaa.
- 11 Kauha, poian Me'en, laa'ii sen.
- 12 Äijä veijot kaihat sen Puu lyöä.
- 13 Puun poian jää'yy sen viian.
- 14 Puun lyhyt vei'o riiaa Ve'en pe'en.
- 15 Lyhyt poian ai'oo raja'a sen vei'on.
- 16 Puhas Raja käy nähä lai'a sen neien.

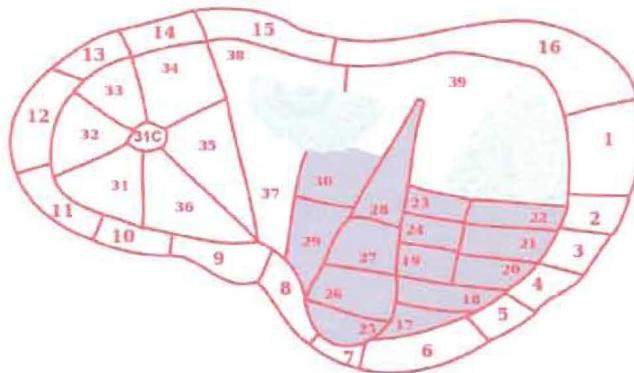
### Translation of Finnish into English:

- 0 Tall border strikes her. Dipper of this border visits her.
- 1 Plough prepares handsome Border to visit Son's clan.
- 2 Plough prepares joyful Honey's wedding.
- 3 Plough prepares her to battle the edge of Son.
- 4 Between two sides, Border's champion courts Son.
- 5 Pole of Tree smites Border's champion.
- 6 Brother of Son defeats sister-in-law.
- 7 [Sister-in-law] prepares Son's mead.
- 8 Tree courts Honey.
- 9 He brings Honey to visit Moon's storyteller.
- 10 His short brother's son he courts.
- 11 Dipper, son of Honey, greets him.
- 12 Many grim-looking brothers of his, Tree strikes.
- 13 Tree's son freezes his grove.
- 14 Tree's short brother courts Water's family.
- 15 Short son plans to confine his brother.
- 16 Handsome Border turns aside his maiden

**Insertion of Norse names into English translation:**

- 0 Thor? strikes Freyja. Dag visits Freyja.
- 1 Jörð prepares handsome Balder to visit Oðin's clan.
- 2 Jörð prepares joyful Freyja's wedding.
- 3 Jörð prepares Freyja to battle the edge of Oðin.
- 4 Between two sides, Oðin courted by Thor.
- 5 Njörðr's pole smites Thor.
- 6 Ve defeats Frigg.
- 7 Frigg prepares Oðin's mead.
- 8 Njörðr courts Freyja.
- 9 Njörðr brings Freyja to visit Bragi.
- 10 Njörðr courts Bragi, son of Dag, his short brother by Nat.
- 11 Höder, son of Frigg, greets Njörðr.
- 12 Many grim-looking brothers of Höder, Njörðr strikes.
- 13 Njörðr's son (Frey) freezes his grove.
- 14 Njörðr's short brother Dag courts Ve's family.
- 15 Vili plans to confine his brother, Ve.
- 16 Handsome Balder turns aside his maiden (Nanna).

## Bronze Liver of Piacenza Translations 17-30



Phrases 17-30 summarize various events that occurred on Island Earth. Many events occur in pairs, while number 30 connects back to number 17.

### Etruscan Inscriptions

17	RA KA KE
18	LA ME PO KA
19	KÄ RÄ RI KÄ
20	HÄ LY ME LA NI U VE
21	SE RI ME VE HÄ KA ME
22	SÄ PÖ PA NI ME SE NARA A
23	RI ME RI PU
24	SE KA KÄ HÄ KA HÄ
25	ME JU LY Ä
26	ME RI KÄ KÄ SE RA TA RI U
27	RI Ä PO KÄ
28	ME PO LA
29	PU TA PO ME-MI

19A7 30  
RA TA RI PE

**Transcribed Etruscan** (now reading left to right)

- 17 KE KA RA.
- 18 KA PO ME LA.
- 19 KÄ RI RÄ-KÄ.
- 20 VE U-NI LA ME LY HÄ.
- 21 ME KA HÄ VE; ME RI SE.
- 22 A RA NA SE ME, NI PA PÖ-SÄ.
- 23 PU RI ME-RI.
- 24 HÄ KA HÄ KÄ KA SE.
- 25 Ä-LY JU ME.
- 26 U RI TA RA SE-KÄ KÄ RI ME.
- 27 KÄ PO Ä-RI.
- 28 LÄ PO ME
- 29 ME MI PO-TA PU.
- 30 PE RI TA RA.

**Translation of Etruscan into Finnish:**

- 17 Keihon kaa'oi Raja.
- 18 Kaa'aa poian Me'en lai'a.
- 19 Käy riia'a Räiskä.
- 20 Ve'en unia laa'ii Me'en lyönen häät.
- 21 Me'en kaihoa häät Ve'en; Me'en riia'a sen.
- 22 Aie Rajan naia sen me'en, niin pahe pöyhinsä.
- 23 Puu riiaa Meri.
- 24 Hän kaihoa häät käyä ka'jan sen.
- 25 Äly juo me'en.
- 26 Urho riiaa taian rauhan sekä käyä riiun me'en.
- 27 Käy Po Äarin.
- 28 Laa'ii Po Me'en.
- 29 Me'en mies poistaa Puun.
- 30 Pe'e riia'a taas Rajan.

**Translation of Finnish into English:**

- 17 A spear topples Border.
- 18 He topples son of Honey's edge.
- 19 He goes to woo Gull.
- 20 Water's dream prepares Honey's joyful wedding.
- 21 Honey yearns for wedding of Water; Honey courts him.
- 22 Intention of Border to marry his honey, then evil one turned him.
- 23 Tree courts Sea.
- 24 He yearns for a wedding to make beer for her.
- 25 Intellect drinks mead.
- 26 Champion courts wizard of peace and fetches courtship mead.

## Bronze Liver of Piacenza

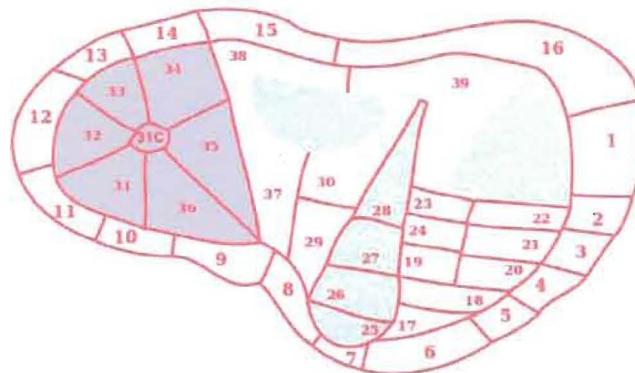
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- 27 Son visits Boundary.
- 28 Son greets Honey.
- 29 Honey's man removes Tree
- 30 Family to court again Border.

### **Insertion of Norse names:**

- 17 A spear from Höður topples Balder.
- 18 He (Höður) topples son of Freyja's (Asmundur) edge.
- 19 He (Asmundur) goes to woo Gull.
- 20 Ve's dream prepares Freyja's joyful wedding.
- 21 Freyja yearns for wedding of Ve; Freyja courts him.
- 22 Intention of Balder to marry Nanna, then Loki turned him.
- 23 Njörð courts Besla.
- 24 Njörð yearns for a wedding to make beer for Besla.
- 25 Oðin drinks mead.
- 26 Oðin courts Suttung and fetches courtship mead.
- 27 Oðin visits Boundary.
- 28 Oðin greets Freyja.
- 29 Freyja's man Svipdag removes (himself from) Njörð.
- 30 Family to court again Balder.

## Bronze Liver of Piacenza Translations 31-36



The hub with six compartments on the left is a map of the political divisions of Island Earth, explained elsewhere.

### Etruscan



### Transcribed Etruscan (now reading left to right)

- 31C ME MI
- 31 SE-PO VE SE KÄ-RI.
- 32 VE, PO ME-RI RA.
- 33 LO VE PÄ SE PU.
- 34 VE LY, SE VE LY PO KÄ KO.
- 35 SE LA LO TA PO SE.
- 36 PU RA KÄ, PO KE.

### Translation of Etruscan into Finnish:

31C Me'en miehet.

## Bronze Liver of Piacenza

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- 31 Seppo ve'ho se käärii.
- 32 Ve'e, pojani Meri Rauhan
- 33 Loi veijo pääni sen puu.
- 34 Ve'ho lyöjä, sen veijon lyhyen pojani käy koin.
- 35 Sen laji loi taian pojani sen.
- 36 Puun raju Käen, pojani Keihon.

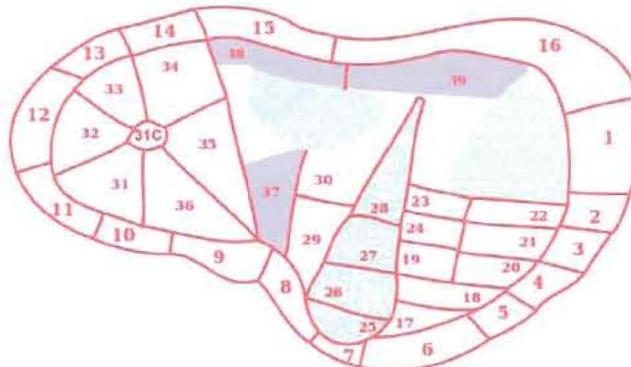
### Translation of Finnish into English:

- 31C Honey's people.
- 31 Smith shaman who binds.
- 32 Water, son of Sea of Tranquility
- 33 He fashioned his dear friend's head from wood.
- 34 Shaman striker, whose close friend's short son brings dawn.
- 35 His clan created a wizard of his son.
- 36 Tree's fierce hand, son of Spear

### Insert Norse names:

- 31C Freyja's people.
- 31 Mimir, smith shaman who binds.
- 32 Ve, son of Besla.
- 33 Odin, who carved his dear friend Mimir Jr.'s head from wood.
- 34 Thor, whose close friend, Vili's short son Delling, brings dawn.
- 35 Delling, whose clan created a wizard of his son (Daga < taika 'magic').
- 36 Orvandel, Njörðr's fierce hand, son of Ivalde (spear)

## Bronze Liver of Piacenza Translations 37-39



The last three compartments relate sepaarate incidents:

Orvandel's return to his wife Groa when Thor carries him in a basket out of Jotunheim and one of his toes freezes.

The war of the gods, between the Aesir and Vanir, when Oðin refused to follow the ruling of a joint judicial committe composed of members from both Aesir and Vanir. His brother Ve took over command from Vili to lead the revolt.

The death of Balder from a mistletoe spear thrown by his blind brother Hoder under the guidance of Loki.

### Etruscan

  
 37  
 PE RI ME PÖ KÄ  
  
 38  
 ME E LY VE LO PO RI  
  
 39  
 MI PU TÄ RI PU SE KA KÄ LÖ

**Transcribed Etruscan** (now reading left to right)

37 KÄ PÖ ME RI PE.

38 RI PO LO VE LY E ME.

39 LÖ- KÄ KA-SE PU RI-TÄ PU MI.

### Translation of Etruscan into Finnish:

37 Käen pöyhii Merin pe'en.

38 Rii'a Pon loi Ve'en lyö'ä ehon meian.

39 Löyhkä katselia puu riistää puh'aan miehen.

### Translation of Finnish into English:

37 Hand turns to Sea's family.

38 The quarrel of Son inspired Water to vanquish the whole of us.

## **Bronze Liver of Piacenza**

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39 Silly one's magic nostrum wood snatches away the handsome fellow.

### **English Translation using Norse names**

37 Orvandel turns to Besla's family.

38 Oðin's quarrel inspired Ve to defeat the Aesir.

39 Loki's mistletoe wood takes Baldor's life.

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