



SUNNA'S CHARIOT

Your solar rune is dictated by the position of Sunna's Chariot (the Sun) in the runic wheel at the time of your birth. It supports you in accessing your heroic self, soul purpose or divine purpose. As Sunna rides her chariot through the skies she brings light and enlightenment to all the worlds. She is the beacon of hope and the gladdener of hearts. Her own rune, Sowilo, is known as the navigator. In soul lore your Sun Rune connects to your *valkyria*, an anchoring part of the soul that endures across lifetimes. The Trundholm Sun Chariot (opposite) gives a clue as to the importance of the Sun Chariot in the ancient northern tradition, it was discovered in Denmark and dates to the early Bronze age circa 1400 BCE.



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THE HALF MONTHS

The position of Sunna's Chariot dictates what is known as the 'runic half months'. Each half-month equates to a roughly two-week period when Sunna's Chariot is progressing through the segment of one rune in the Runic Wheel. The half month you were born in is your Sunna's Chariot birth rune. For ease of reference Nigel Pennick supplied dates for the half month in his book on runic astrology. These are broadly correct but can vary by up to two days either way on any particular year. This means that if your birthday is bang in the middle of a half month you can be pretty confident it is accurate. If it's closer to the beginning or end of the half month then you will want to use the calculation method given in the next section to be sure. Here are the broad dates for each half-month:

29th June - 14th July = **F** Fehu

14th July - 29th July = **U** Uruz

29th July - 13th August = **Þ** Thurisaz

13th August - 29th August = **F** Ansuz

29th August - 13th September = **R** Raidho

13th September - 28th September = **<** Kenaz

28th September - 13th October = **X** Gebo

13th October - 28th October = **W** Wunjo

28th October - 13th November = **H** Hagalaz

13th November - 28th November = **N** Nauthiz

28th November - 13th December = **I** Isa

13th December - 28th December = **J** Jera

28th December - 13th January = **J** Eihwaz

13th January - 28th January = **P** Perthro

28th January - 13th February = **Y** Algiz

13th February - 27th February = **S** Sowilo

27th February - 14th March = **T** Teiwaz

14th March - 30th March = **B** Berkano

30th March - 14th April = **M** Ehwaz

14th April - 29th April = **M** Mannaz

29th April - 14th May = **L** Laguz

14th May - 29th May = **I** Inguz

29th May - 14th June = **O** Othala

14th June - 29th June = **D** Dagaz

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AN INTRODUCTION TO SUN RUNES

FEHU



Fehu is the power of wealth and the flow of life force. Its literal name is Cattle referring to the very earliest form of wealth. Souls who are fully embodied in their Fehu power shine with life force and vitality. They are blessed with the ability to effectively channel hamingja the 'personal luck hoard' of northern soul lore. This gives them the innate ability to attract what they need and desire to them. They are outgoing, warm, vivacious, sensual and easy-going. Their shadow self is the possessive dragon afraid to rest in case he loses his hoard of treasure.

URUZ



Uruz is the power of strength and the endurance of the natural world. Its literal name is Aurochs, a primal beast of huge strength similar to a modern bison. Souls who are fully embodied in their Uruz power hold the magic combination of creativity and perseverance. They are driven but patient and will play a long game to achieve their objectives. They strive for harmony in all things and are normally diplomatic, gracious and calm in crisis. Uruz souls need time alone, particularly time in nature, to access the deep inner peace which is their hallmark. Their shadow self is the stampeding rage of the wild aurochs when provoked.

THURISAZ



Thurisaz is the power of the heart and the deep roar of the wild. Its literal name is Giant or Thorn. Souls who are fully embodied in their Thurisaz power are passionate, unconventional and vibrant. They will fight for their cause, and their people, tooth and nail. They are fearless, exuberant and have great compassion for the vulnerable and wounded. Their shadow self is the rebellious, brutal and cynical aggression of the roaring giant and the sharp, unforgiving thorn.





AN INTRODUCTION TO SUN RUNES

ANSUZ



Ansuz is the power of inspiration and the breath of consciousness. Its literal name is 'God' or 'Mouth' referring to the opening of a river or estuary. Souls who are fully embodied in their Ansuz power are gifted communicators, poets, orators and visionaries. They are blessed with the ability to inspire, enthuse and persuade through story, song and eloquence. They combine rigour of intellect with a spark of the mystical which allows them to captivate their audience. Their shadow self is the voracious wolf whose greed for knowledge makes them lose sight of their wisdom and compassion.

RAIDHO



Raidho is the power of natural order and graceful right action. Its literal name is Road which encompasses both the traveller and the path. Souls who are fully embodied in their Raidho power bring order, harmony and an impeccable sense of timing to their endeavours. They intuitively know how to guide their journey, and the journey of others, towards success, fulfilment and happiness. They thrive in ritual contexts, naturally adapting to the rhythms and cycles of nature and human society. Their shadow self is an urge towards imposing order and control and an inability to change course once committed.

KENAZ



Kenaz is the power of creativity and the skilful hand of the artist. Its literal meaning is the Torch that guides the way to knowledge and enlightenment. Souls who are fully embodied in their Kenaz power are skilful, artistic and learned. Their mastery of whatever creative process they put their minds confers an almost magical ability to transform with their hands. Their creative outputs are matched only by their mental acuity and ingenuity. Their shadow self is the perfectionist whose drive to achieve an ideal vision makes them repeatedly reject their work and themselves.



AN INTRODUCTION TO SUN RUNES

GEBO

X

Gebo is the power of reciprocity which forms the very foundations of society. Its literal name is Gift which relates not just to generosity but to oath-making and trust. Souls who are fully embodied in their Gebo power possess integrity of spirit, fairness of action, and balanced outlook. They cannot be corrupted and are relied upon both for their impartiality and compassion. They are highly skilled at seeing and working with the unseen rules of society that bind us together. Their shadow self is the manipulator who sees every act as a debt to be repaid.

WUNJO

P

Wunjo is the power of ecstasy and the gift of belonging, fellowship and harmony. Its literal name is Joy or Pleasure. Souls who are fully embodied in their Wunjo power are optimistic, out-going, radiant and fun. They possess an inner light which radiates outwards inspiring peace, laughter and delight (sometimes all at the same time). They are gifted at helping others see the brighter, joyful side of life. They value relationships with family and friends and others feel special in their presence. Their shadow self draws out an elven, impish side which can bring levity at inappropriate times and extremes of melancholy, withdrawal, depression and gloom.

HAGALAZ

N

Haglaz is the power of evolution which destroys to enable something better. Its literal name is Hail. Souls who are fully embodied in their Haglaz power are the change-makers who lead the way to greatness. They possess the revolutionary spirit of the visionary, the innovator and the entrepreneur. Their clarity of purpose is crystalline and their love for the world absolute. Their shadow self is the destructive hail-storm without mercy or purpose which can occur when their vision or cause is frustrated or denied by others.

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NAUTHIZ



Nauthiz is the power of desire which leads us into purpose, wisdom and maturity. Its literal name is Necessity. Souls who are fully embodied in their Nauthiz power possess exceptional instincts, tenacity and grit. They are skilled at selecting friends, communities and work that support their purpose. They understand that we achieve our greatest breakthroughs following times of hardship and challenge. They also treasure pleasure and sensuality as essential parts of human experience. Their shadow self manifests as a tendency to choose the hard, unforgiving path for themselves.

ISA



Isa is the power of stillness, enduring strength and crystalline beauty. Its literal name is Ice. Souls who are fully embodied in their Isa power have strength of purpose, will-power and personal magnetism. They are unafraid of solitude and don't mind standing out in a crowd. Whether they are the centre of attention or prefer their own company they cannot help captivating others. They possess the power to hold and manifest their vision and realise their dreams. Others love them for their confidence, certainty and presence. Their shadow self manifests as over-confidence and ego that draws out the deceptive beauty of the ice that can break, freeze or cause us (or them) to slip.

JERA



Jera is the power of cyclical growth which brings a successful harvest. Its literal name is Year which incorporates both the Summer and Winter seasons. Souls who are fully embodied in their Jera power are practical, patient and earthy. They understand the need for balance and instinctively know when to nurture, when to cut back and when to leave well alone. They have an excellent sense of timing and are relied upon for their good judgement in big decisions supporting future success. Their shadow self is an aversion to acting in the now without full knowledge of the risks.



AN INTRODUCTION TO SUN RUNES

EIHWAZ



Eihwaz is the power of initiation which accepts that some things must die for the eternal part of ourselves to evolve. Its literal name is Yew. Souls who are fully embodied in their Eihwaz power possess fortitude, far-sightedness, serenity and wisdom. They have an intuitive understanding of the bigger picture and an ability to weather almost any storm. To them every loss is an opportunity for new growth. Their shadow self manifests as a tendency to close off from others and dismiss those trivial, joyful acts of pleasure which make the present moment so delicious.

PERTHRO



Perthro is the power of Wyrd that connects past, present and future. Its literal name is unknown but guesses include song, laughter, luck and change. Souls who are fully embodied in their Perthro power tread lightly but see deeply. They are opportunistic, entrepreneurial and resilient. They are often gifted with psychic abilities or at least a very powerful intuition. Others find them baffling, sometimes mysterious but always captivating. Their shadow self is a tendency to fickleness and a lack of understanding as to why others might see change as something to get anxious about.

ALGIZ



Algiz is the power of connection to the divine which brings grace, ease and confidence. Its literal name is Elk (it can also be called 'Elhaz'). Souls who are fully embodied in their Algiz power make excellent guides, teachers, counsellors and stewards. They are protected and guided and can bring these same gifts to others. Algiz souls have their feet firmly rooted but their hands raised up to the heavens. Their shadow self is a tendency to take on too much (losing the lightness they need to connect to the heavens) or to flee from worldly cares (losing their ability to make a meaningful difference on earth).





AN INTRODUCTION TO SUN RUNES

SOWILO



Sowilo is the power of the inner compass that combines skill, experience and intuition. Its literal name is Sun. Souls who are fully embodied in their Sowilo power possess infallible instincts, optimism and foresight. They connect themselves and others to purpose and are naturally comfortable in leadership. They are equally confident leading 'slow and steady' or following a sudden flash of inspiration. Their shadow self manifests as the optimist who is always looking to the horizon and forgets to stop and assess the risks and opportunities in the present moment.

TEIWAZ



Teiwaz is the power of truth and aligned action leading to victory and success. Its name refers to the God Tyr who was a noble warrior and priest. Souls who are fully embodied in their Teiwaz power possess integrity, conviction, passion, fair-mindedness and drive. They are willing to sacrifice to their cause and will act as examples to others due to their nobility of spirit. They are able to consciously channel cool rationality and fierce warrior heat when necessary. Their shadow self is a tendency to over-sacrifice, to fight any cause and to obstruct others who are capable and willing from leading the charge.

BERKANO



Berkano is the power of the earth from which all life springs and will return. Its literal name is Birch. Souls who are fully embodied in their Berkano power are resilient, resourceful, charming and original in their approach to life. They possess great strength, warmth and wisdom and are often turned to for comfort, advice and protection. Their protection is normally extended gently but they will draw on the rage of the she-bear protecting her cubs when necessary. Their shadow self can manifest as a tendency to over-protect, deceive or manipulate others because they think they know best.



AN INTRODUCTION TO SUN RUNES

M

EHWAZ

Ehwaz is the power of partnership, collaboration and speed. Its literal name is Steed. Souls who are fully embodied in their Ehwaz power rely equally on intellect and instinct and are known for the speed of their thoughts and ideas. They foster union, comradeship and harmony in all their relationships and are skilled at collaborative leadership. They are particularly gifted at synthesising ideas and can seem a little other-worldly to others because of their gifts. Their shadow self manifests as an over-reliance on their inner-world and a dissolving of personal boundaries in their relationships.

M

MANNAZ

Mannaz is the power of integrated, sovereign consciousness. Its literal meaning is Human. Souls who are fully embodied in their Mannaz power make natural leaders. They call on all their resources, counsellors and wisdom to make the best decisions for themselves and their realm. They are outward focused and very aware of what needs to be done in the world to make it a better place. They strive for harmony but not at the expense of necessary action. Their shadow self is a tendency to take the law into their own hands, run before they can walk and forget that a sovereign is appointed by his or her subjects.

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LAGUZ

Laguz is the power to penetrate the liminal and bring forth great rewards and great wisdom. Its literal name is Water. Souls who are fully embodied in their Laguz power use their intuition, insight and wisdom to facilitate healing, growth and evolution. They are natural channels for ideas, insight and inspiration. They possess great purity of spirit and fearlessness when it comes to plumbing the depths of consciousness, emotion and experience. Their shadow self can manifest as a tendency to wallow or stagnate in the energy of a space or situation.



AN INTRODUCTION TO SUN RUNES



INGUZ

Inguz is the power of the seed from which all new life springs. Its literal name refers to the God Ing, a divine ancestor associated with fertility and harvest. Souls who are fully embodied in their Inguz power possess a quiet and determined heroism - they simply get the job done. They have a nose for opportunity and adventure and are fearless when it comes to sacrificing for the greater good. They are magicians at the art of manifestation. Their shadow self surfaces as a turning inward when times are hard; self-sufficiency becomes martyrdom and they avoid all risks they can't personally control.



OTHALA

Othala is the power of legacy, inheritance and hearth. Its name means Heritage or Estate. Souls who are fully embodied in their Othala power are the keepers of story and history. They enjoy a deep connection to the land and are talented in seeing both the visible and invisible threads that hold society together. Behind a very practical exterior Othala souls enjoy a rich inner life. They are both the keepers, and breakers, of boundaries and the guardians of thresholds. Their shadow self manifests as a tendency to hold on too tightly to every detail and so lose the freedom of the bigger picture.



DAGAZ

Dagas is the power of the gateway that brings inspiration and enlightenment beyond our present imagining. Its literal name is Day. Souls who are fully embodied in their Dagaz power are visionaries who see clearly how the present moment connects to the dreamt of future. They have a transcendent quality that would make them seem out of reach if it wasn't for their humour and kindness. They are optimistic, comfortable with change and love to surprise and entertain. Their shadow self can manifest as a tendency to see further and move faster than others can reasonably keep pace with.