

= Hlín =

In Norse mythology , Hlín (Old Norse " protectress ") is a goddess associated with the goddess Frigg . Hlín appears in a poem in the Poetic Edda , compiled in the 13th century from earlier traditional sources , the Prose Edda , written in the 13th century by Snorri Sturluson , and in kennings found in skaldic poetry . Hlín has been theorized as possibly another name for Frigg .

= = Attestations = =

In the Poetic Edda poem Völuspá , Hlín receives a mention regarding the foretold death of the god Odin during the immense battle waged at Ragnarök :

Then is fulfilled Hlín 's
second sorrow ,
when Óðinn goes
to fight with the wolf ,
and Beli 's slayer ,
bright , against Surtr .
Then shall Frigg 's
sweet friend fall .

In chapter 35 of the Prose Edda book Gylfaginning , Hlín is cited twelfth among a series of sixteen goddesses . High tells Gangleri (earlier in the book described as King Gylfi in disguise) that Hlín " is given the function of protecting people whom Frigg wishes to save from some danger . " High continues that , from this , " someone who escapes finds refuge (hleinar) . " In chapter 51 , the above @-@ mentioned Völuspá stanza is quoted . In chapter 75 of the book Skáldskaparmál Hlín appears within a list of 27 ásynjur names .

In skaldic poetry , the name Hlín is frequent in kennings for women . Examples include Hlín hringa (" Hlín of rings ") , Hlín goðvefjar (" Hlín of velvet ") and arm @-@ Hlín (" arm @-@ Hlín ") . The name is already used frequently in this way by the 10th @-@ century poet Kormákr Ögmundarson and remains current in skaldic poetry through the following centuries , employed by poets such as Þórðr Kolbeinsson , Gizurr Þorvaldsson and Einarr Gilsson . The name remained frequently used in woman kennings in rímur poetry , sometimes as Lín .

In a verse in Hávarðar saga Ísfirðings , the phrase á Hlín fallinn (" fallen on Hlín ") occurs . Some editors have emended the line while others have accepted the reading and taken Hlín to refer to the earth .

= = Theories = =

Andy Orchard says that in Völuspá , Hlín appears to be just another name for Frigg , and adds that " the numerous occurrences of the name in skaldic poetry in poetic periphrases or kennings for women do nothing to dispel the confusion . " Rudolf Simek agrees that Hlín seems to appear as another name for Frigg in Völuspá , and that in skaldic poetry Hlín was a well @-@ known mythological figure by the 10th century . Simek states that Hlín is likely simply another name for Frigg , and that Snorri " misunderstood her to be a goddess in her own right in his reading of the Völuspá stanza . "

However , in the same work , Rudolf Simek also says that the goddesses Sága , Hlín , Sjöfn , Snotra , Vár , and Vör should be considered vaguely defined figures who " should be seen as female protective goddesses " that are all responsible for " specific areas of the private sphere , and yet clear differences were made between them so that they are in many ways similar to matrons . " John Lindow observes that if Hlín is indeed Frigg , then this means that Hlín 's " second sorrow " in Völuspá is the death of Odin , the first being the death of Baldr .