

# Herja

---

In Norse mythology **Herja** (Old Norse) is a valkyrie attested in the longer of the two Nafnabulur lists found in the Prose Edda.<sup>[1]</sup>

Rudolf Simek says the name is etymologically related to the Old Norse *herja* and Old High German *herjón* (meaning "devastate"), and derives from Proto-Germanic word *\*Herjaza*. Simek notes that the Continental Germanic goddess name *Hariasas* (attested from a now lost 2nd century stone found in Cologne, Germany) also derives from *\*Herjaza*, but says that "it is almost impossible to say whether Herja was an original name of a goddess including among the North Germanic peoples," and that "an independent development is equally likely in the case of a 'goddess of war'."<sup>[2]</sup>



"The Ride of the Valkyrs" (1909) by John Charles Dollman

## Notes

---

- Jónsson (1973:678).
- Simek (2007:143). For Hariasas, Simek (2007:131).

## References

---

- Finnur Jónsson (1973). *Den Norsk-Islandske Skjaldedigtning*. København: Rosenkilde og Bagger.
- Simek, Rudolf (2008). *Dictionary of Northern Mythology*. Cambridge: D, S. Brewer. ISBN 978-0-85991-513-7.

---

Retrieved from "<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Herja&oldid=981227303>"

---

This page was last edited on 1 October 2020, at 01:46 (UTC).

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.