

Gnostic Runology – The “YR” Rune (Historically)

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The “Yr” Rune According to Friedrich Fischbach (1900)

After the M-Rune, Fischbach says “Out of the younger Runes [*jüngerer Runen*], the following are probably the most important” and he gives 11 more Runes which he associates with letters (but does not give any additional descriptions). Included among them is ‘Yr’, which he describes with the *Tyr*-Rune as follows:



The Yr-Rune shows the Bow [*Bogen*] made of Yew-Wood [*Eibenholz*]. The Yew-Tree [*Eibe*], which is called “the greenest and longest-lived of the Trees”, is also called *Ju* and *Eon* (Eo = i).

The “Yr, Eur, Irr” Rune According to Guido von List (1907)



yr, eur, Irr, Iris, Bow/Arc [*Bogen*], Rainbow [*Regenbogen*], Yew-Wood-Bow [*Eigenholzbogen*], Wrong/Mistake [*Irren*], Anger/Wrath [*Zorn*], etc.

A Sixteenth I speak to a coy Maiden
To gain my Favor and Happiness:
That changes¹ [*wandelt*] and turns my Wish and Perception [*Wunsch und Sinn*]
Of the swan-armed Beauty.

yr=Rune

The “Yr-Rune” is the upside-down “*Man*-Rune”, and since it denotes the Bow/Arc, it also represents the waxing and waning Moon (in contrast to the Full-Moon of the “*Man*-Rune”).

Firstly, this refers to the Changeability [*Wandelbarkeit*] of the Moon. Secondly, as the “*Irr*-Rune” or “Error-Rune”, it refers to the Moon-Like [*mondähnliche*] Changeability of the feminine Nature [*weiblichen Wesens*], which is described in later Verses of the “*Havamäl*” as follows:

Do not rely-on the Maiden’s intimate Words,
Do not rely-on the Woman’s intimate Words,
Her Heart was shaped on an oscillating Wheel [*schwingendem Rad*],
Inconstancy’s Dwelling is the female Bosom.

The Yr- , Irr- or Error-Rune causes Confusion [*die Verwirrung schafft*], whether through the Excitement of the Passions [*Leidenschaften*] in Love, in Play, in Drink (Intoxication), or through False-Reasons [*Scheingründen*] in Speech (Sophistry), or through whatever other Cause [*Ursache*]; indeed it defeats the Resistance through Confusion [*Verwirrung*].

But the Success of such a Victory is as misleading as the Triumph itself, because it brings Anger/Wrath, wild Rage, and Lunacy or Madness [*Wahns*] in the end.

The “Yr-” or “Irr-Rune” is therefore also in Contrast with the “Os-Rune”, because it wants to use False-Grounds [*Scheingründen*] to Establish the Defeat of an Adversary, instead of using Solid-Grounds [*Gründen*].

Therefore it teaches: “Consider the End/Outcome [*Ende*]!”

¹ Translation note: ‘Change’ can be translated a number of ways from German. *Wandel* is when something is transformed into something else (the same thing transforms to be different), such as the weather.

The “Yr, Eur” Rune According to E.T. Kurtzahn (1924)

Exoterically: Woman [*Weib*], Deception [*Täuschung*], Untruth [*Unwahrheit*]

Esoterically: Matter/Material, Chaos

Generally: Woman and Matter/Substance, Lie, Falsehood [*Falschheit*], Sensual-Pleasure [*Sinnenlust*], Hatred, Anger/Wrath [*Zorn*], Wickedness, Error/Mistake, Inconstancy, Lunacy.

We now come to the second of three Runes which give symbolic Expression to Humans themselves [*Menschen selber*] and their most intimate Relationship to one another through the Sexes [*durch die Geschlechter*], which are the Runes of ✚ Man, ♀ Woman, and ⚭ Marriage [*Ehe*].

If the three points of the ✚ *Man*-Rune were directed upwards towards the eternal Light, towards the Spirit, then here with the ♀ *Yr*- or Woman-Rune they are directed downwards.

This is supposed to indicate that the female Gender is rooted in Matter/Material [*weibliche Geschlecht in der Materie wurzelt*], and that all her Perceptions [*Sinnen*] & Aspirations are mostly directed to what is Concrete. But, of course, not all female Beings are like this. [What is spoken of is the ‘Yin’ of Eastern Philosophy, which has its various correspondences.]

Some even go so far as to say that "the Woman [*Weib*] must recognize, in her present Embodiment in the material Being, that her Role is Service". However, what must be understood is that Matter serves Appearances/Phenomenon [*die Materie nur den Erscheinungen dient*, that is: ‘Yin’ serves ‘Yang’].

The Woman [*Frau*] has her own natural Rights just as the Man has his, and both of their Spheres-of-Action [*Wirkungskreis*] are conditioned thereby. From Rights arise Duties [*Pflichten*] for her as well as him, and that is unconditional! One can also rule through Serving, and the Rosicrucian heraldic motto of the Princes-of-Wales: “I serve!” should be good enough to explain this.

In the *Edda*, a Verse from the *Hávamal*, reads:

Do not rely-on the Maiden’s intimate Words,
Do not rely-on the Woman’s intimate Words,
Her Heart was shaped on an oscillating Wheel [*schwingendem Rad*],
Inconstancy’s Dwelling is the female Bosom.

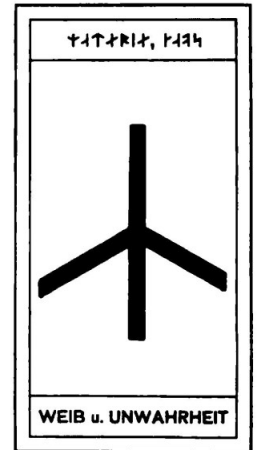
[Again, here what should be understood is the danger of relying on the ‘Yin’ improperly, since] it is very much attached to 'the great Deception of Matter/Material', and can thus easily be taken for the Truth. What this Verse of the Rune-Song aims to explain is: Infatuation [*Betörung*], by means of which one’s Desire & Perception [*Wunsch und Sinn*] are easily transformed and manipulated...

Therefore the *Yr*-Rune is also particularly characterized by Infatuation [*Betörung*] and the Lie & Confusion connected with it, which in the End also adheres to everything Material.

However, always keep in View that the Opposite-Pole of all these bad Qualities are good ones and that the latter alone should come to light.

To always remain true to oneself, this is the greatest and happiness-bringing Main-Point in Life.

This Rune Rightly belongs to the mutable Moon (☾).



The “Yr, Yrr, Irr, Eur, Eibe, Eybe” Rune According to R.J. Gorsleben

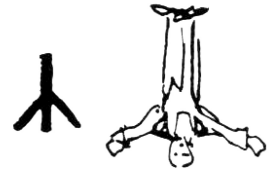
Letter Y and Number 16.

The *Yr, Yrr, Irr, Eur, Eibe, Eybe, W-ybe* Rune denotes both Y as well as the final R, and represents the Inversion/Subversion of the *Man*-Rune.

It is the Sign of our present Time, of the Turning-Away from Nature and Religion, of Inversion/Subversion, of Godlessness and of Gold-Rush. When Gold becomes Money [*Geld*], when there is misuse/abuse and when things become muddled/clouded.

Dr. Friedrich Teltscher's *Ur*-word is *Vollendung* meaning “Completion” as well as finishing, bringing to an end, perfection, accomplishment, and fulfillment.

A Sixteenth I Speak, with the unwieldy Maiden
to rouse her Lust and Desire [*Lust und Verlangen*]
I banish the Heart of the delightful Woman [*wonnigen Weib*]
[so that] her Wishes [*Wünsche*] turn towards me



The Rune means Error, Confusion, Reversal, Negation, Annihilation/Destruction, Overthrow, Fall, and then (as an Opposite, as an Antithesis to Man) it also means Woman, Matter/Substance, Evil.



yr



man

As its shape shows, the *Yr*-Rune ✎ is the inverted *Man*-Rune ✎, it is the Symbol of the erring Human-Being, and of the World that is Upside-Down or standing on its Head. Just as all Striving in the true Human-Being is upward aiming, so too in the Inferior-Human, the Downward-Aspiring person, is all striving aimed downward. It is the Rune which creates Confusion and Error.

Just as the *man*-Rune refers to the Full-Moon, the *yr*-Rune refers to the Changeability of its Phases, to the waxing and waning, also suggesting the Flexibility and Pliability of the Feminine. Therefore it also refers to the Bow made of flexible Yew-Wood ✎, also the Rainbow, and the Laughter beneath the Weeping.

By adding a W to the Rune-Name "*Eybe*" [Yew], we get "W-eybe" or *Weib* [German for 'Woman']. Thus, the *Yr*-Rune or *Eybe*-Rune is the Rune of the Woman. The *Man*-Rune stretches the Arms upward, while the Woman-Rune, in contrast, points them downwards.

Just as Man is rooted in Spirit, so Woman (as his Complement, as his equal Substance) is rooted in Matter/Substance, in the “Increaser” of Nature, in the *Mary*, in *Mater*/Matter, in the *Ma-(te)-ria*.

The material World, represented by that which is Feminine, Ephemeral, Changeable, Variable, Mortal, is the Mary, *Maya* (the “great Illusion”, as the Indians called it) the Seduction, the Temptation, the Infatuation, the Confusion, which is part of everything Earthly-Feminine, Material, in contrast to the Male-Spiritual, Divine, Eternal.

This Juxtaposition does not mean or intent any “Disparagement” of Woman, but is an Outpouring of the Knowledge of the eternal Balance between two Forces, which can solve their common Task only in Union. Man and Woman are not “equal” and therefore they cannot have “equal Rights” and they do not need any, if each part comes to their Natural-*Ur*-Right. They are different, but co-directed Variables, which are both perfect when United as one.

Another Name for the Rune is "the Crow's Foot", which is not just derived from its Shape...



The *Yr-* or *Eybe*-Woman-Rune is also the Rune of the Night, because the Woman is subjected to the Rhythm of the Nightly-Luminary (the Moon), with the 28-day Fertility-Cycle.

Incidentally, the *Yr*-Rune also represents (and without any evil connotation) the quite justifiable Earthly-Human, the active Sensual-Joyfulness and Sensuality of Human-Nature that is inclined towards the Earth. But as a warning Symbol of our Times, it shows us, as the Reversed side of the *Man*-Rune, of the *manas*, of divine Reason, the turning away from God and Spirit, and in this way it becomes the Symbol of Revolution, of Godlessness, of Gold-Rush and of Erring.

The World consists of Opposites, of eternal Polarities, of Good and Evil, Yes and No! If Man, *Manas*, Reasoning, *Mannus*² and his "Horn" of Salvation, his Salvation-Procreation [*Heils-Zeugung*], are turned over, reversed, then Revolution is the necessary Consequence.

Everything that Happens is based on eternal Change³ [*Wechsel*], upon the lawful Cooperation of the polar-opposite Forces [*gesetzmäßigen Zusammenwirken der polaren Kräfte*].

Thus, the Man- and Woman-Rune creatively complement each other and in their Union they are a Symbol of the Last Judgement, the Horn-of-Change [*Wendehorn*], which is very similar to the *Hagall*-Rune, but without the common point of Intersection of the Beams [*Balken*], therefore not yet perfect in its Unity, but it promises new Ascension.



Therefore the Rune teaches: "Consider the End/Outcome!"

There is a special meaning to the number 16 which corresponds to the Woman-Rune. The Number 16 contains two Words: Six and Ten, the first of which we have already recognized as an Abbreviation for Sex, Gender, on a personal Level of the Individual, of the King, of the one who is Capable, which was introduced by the sixth Rune, the *Kaun*-Rune or the King's-Rune. The second Word, Ten, means Completion/Perfection [*Vollendung*] in the 10 – 01, the Sum of the Ten-Stem [*Zehntschaft*]; in other Words the Clan, the Bloodline, from which descends the Individual, the one who Can. Sixteen therefore is Sex, Gender in its Completion; in other words perfected Procreation [and, further, that it is the Completion/Perfection of understanding one's Sexual Capacity].

The *Yr*-Rune shows the driveling/pissing Man [*seichenden Mann*], therefore the Rune is called the Drivel/Piss-Rune. But Drivel/Piss [*Seich*] is not just the Result of physical Metabolism, but on a Higher-Level the Word means Seed [*Samen*], as well as Blessing [*Segen*]. In this Sense, men are Seed-Bearers, Germinators, Sowers (as long as they sow, fertilize and enliven the Earth) and Woman is the Bearer of the Genetic-Material [*die Trägerin der Erbmasse*].

The three Beams of the *Yr*-Rune are also the Roots of the Yggdrasil World Ash-Tree, from which the Seeds get their Nourishment ✚. Here, likewise, sit the three Norns *Urda*, *Werdandi* and *Skuld*, the Women-of-Fate/Destiny, who work the Fate/Destiny of the Entire-Human-Race according to the Laws of the World-Tree.



The Religion of our Ancestors was a Hymn to the Necessity, Glory and Merit of a well-attuned Life [*eines wohl angebrachten Lebens*]. They knew of their Personal-Responsibility (Self-Responsibility or Responsibility-towards-Self) which emerges from a self-generated Fate/Destiny [*selbstgeschaffenen Schicksal*], and they knew that no sins can simply be forgiven, but that every Action [*Tat*] will somehow find its Compensation [*Ausgleich*].

² This refers to *Mannus*, son of Tuisto (a god brought forth from the earth), who, according to the Roman historian Tacitus, had 3 sons who became the leaders of the 3 main Germanic tribes.

³ Translation note: 'Change' can be translated a number of ways from German. *Wechsel* is when something is exchanged for something else (one thing changes for a different thing), such as when changing the tires on a car.

Likewise, they knew that nothing can be given to us simply by divine Grace, because the Divine Law of the Conservation of Energy/Force [*Erhaltung der Kraft*] inevitably leads all Unevenness to a just Compensation.

The Human-Being is dominated by the great Instinct of Love and Reproduction [*großen Triebe der Liebe und der Fortpflanzung*], but in the absence of Guidance he does not know how to harness and coordinate these tremendous Forces [*ungeheuren Kräfte*], so he squanders them, wastes them, because a horrible devilish Power suggested to him that Procreation was Dirty.

Thus, all Knowledge of the World and of God must demand of its Devotees that they take the Procreation-of-Human-Beings into their Sacred Care [*Heilige Hut*], into “Holy Attention”, into the “Holy Eight [*Heilige Acht*]”, i.e. to Infinity ∞ , because otherwise they will also lack spiritual Procreation. Whosoever puts Dirt onto physical Procreation has long since also put Dirt onto Procreation in Spirit.

The Yr-Rune is also the Symbol of the descending Divinity, of the Son-of-God who goes into Lunacy/Folly [*Irre*], into Aberration [*Ir-de*], into the Earth [*Erde*]. We will only really understand this when we fully grasp the significance of the Connection between the Man-Rune and the Woman-Rune, which finds its most perfect Expression in the *Hag-All* Rune.



Then we will fully recognize what the *Irr-* or Error-Rune is all about, the Going-Astray of God [*Irre-Gehen des Gottes*], but also of the Human-Being, who as a Spirit, as a Part of God, as a “Son-of-God”, has to go astray in this Bodily-Life into Lunacy/Folly [*Leibes-Leben in die Irre*], into Aberration [*Ir-de*], that is: first to the Earth and then back to the Earth again... until he has found his Aim, once and for all, in God.

The Birth and Death [*Geburt und Tod*] of an entire World is one Breath for God: one Exhalation and the World becomes, one Inhalation and the World passes-away!

We have all become short-sighted in this World, because we have all looked at Things from very Close-Up. We have to get our Eyes used to that which is Far-Away, to the Vastness, then they become healthy.

If we progress gradually, if we always approach what is Nearby (our Neighbor) first, instead of what is Farthest away, then we will recognize the points of Transition. Thus we will not “love” where others want and should love, but if everyone loves their Neighbor, then they fulfill the law, but not by trying to love the one who is farthest away and thereby crush their Neighbor as a result.

In this Commandment is the whole Natural-*Ur*-Law.

The Yr-Rune rarely appears in the Coat-of-Arms in its pure shape, but often concealed, as such in the Coat-of-Arms of the City of Basel.



The “Yr” Rune According to S.A. Kummer (1932-1933)



(Y) The Y-Rune, Yr, Error [*Irr*], Mistaken [*Irrtum*], Iris, Yew-Tree [*Eibe*]. The Rune of erring Love [*irrenden Liebe*], Ocean Derangement, of Sorrow and of Lust; of Pleasure and of Pain, Laughter and Weeping. – Numerical value 16.

This Rune means Irrationality [*Irrung*], Disarray [*Wirrung*], Delusion [*Wahn*], Inversion/Reversal [*Umkehrung*], Denial/Negation [*Verneinung*], Destruction [*Vernichtung*], Subversion/Overthrow [*Umsturz*].

It also means distorted Head [*Kopf verdrehen*], Anger/Wrath [*Zorn*], Hatred [*Hass*], False-Appearance [*Vorspiegelung*], Seduction in Suffering [*Verführung in Leid*], Temptation [*Versuchung*], erroneous Sensuality [*irrende Liebeslust*].

It is the upside-down erring Human, standing on their Head. The overturned *Man*-Rune, the downward striving in the inferior Human [*niederrassigen Menschen*], which creates Confusion [*Verwirrung*], Intrigue [*Innung*], and Chaos.

The *Yr*-Rune, in its Demonium, is subject to the bad Influences of the Full-Moon and its Phases.

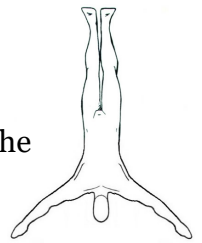
It is the Rune of the Night, of the Moon, of the changeable, changing/exchanging Woman [*wechselnden Weibes*], whose Body is subject to the Ebb and Flow of the tide.

Yew-Tree [*Eibe*], the Yew-Tree-Wood, Ghost-Tree, which Misleads [*in die Irre führt*] in its Demonium, and tempts towards black Magic [*zur schwarzen Magie verleitet*].

Yr is the Rune of erring Love [*irrenden Liebe*], of unconscious, impure Procreation. Its Motto is: "Consider the End/Outcome [*Ende*]!" But when the pure Woman ♀ unites with the noble Man ♂ in conscious Procreation [*bewussten Zeugung*] then she gives birth to the ✱ *Hag-all*, the Son-of-God, in the Microcosm.

Full Body Rune Exercise(s):

Kummer does not give any specific Rune-Posture for this Rune, but does mention the Head-Stand [*dem Kopfe stehenden*] in his description of the Rune's attributes.



Hand Rune Exercise ('Mudras' or "Rune-Grips"):

Kummer does not give a Rune-Grip for the *Yr*-Rune. However, since it is the opposite of the *Man*-Rune, then it can be assumed that one can do the *Man*-Rune-Grip with the left hand, but aiming it down towards the earth, and with the Palm facing outwards.

