

RUNES AROUND THE NORTH SEA AND ON THE CONTINENT AD 150-700; TEXTS & CONTEXTS

Proefschrift

ter verkrijging van het doctoraat in de Letteren,
aan de Rijksuniversiteit van Groningen
op gezag van de
Rector Magnificus, dr. F. van der Woude,
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door

Jantina Helena Looijenga

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2. *Amay* (Liège, Belgium), comb, bone, bought in 1892 from an antiquary at Liège, Belgium. Seen at the Museum Curtius, Liège. Date: ca. 575-625. Said to be found in a row-gravefield near Amay, which lies on the Meuse between Huy and Liège. The gravefield was in use from the end of the 6th c. till the beginning of the 7th c. The comb is broken; the runic inscription (or what is left of it) starts from the break and reads from right to left: Jeda.

MMF

The ultimate rune is $\tilde{a}c$. *eda* is probably a PN nsm. *n*-stem, showing monophthongization of Gmc **ai* > OFris \tilde{e} : *ēda* < **aid-* < **haið-* < **haiþi-* 'clear', cf. OE *hādor*, OS *hēdar*; or *ēda* < **haidu-*, cf. Go *haidus* 'way, manner' (Kaufmann 1965:200, 201). In OFris, normally Gmc *h* is retained in the *Anlaut*, but in some cases it disappeared, for instance before *a* or \tilde{e} (Steller 1928:33). On the other hand, the fact that *h-* has dropped may point to Romance influence (Kaufmann 1965:196), which, in view of the findplace, will not surprise.