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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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Val·hal·la  (vāl-hāl ə, vāl-hä lə) also **Wal·hal·la** (wāl-hāl ə, vāl-, wāl-hä lə, vāl-)

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n.

Norse Mythology

The hall in which Odin received the souls of slain heroes.

[New Latin, from Old Norse *Valhöll* : *valr*, the slain in battle; see **welə-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *höll*, *hall*, *hall*; see **kel-**¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]



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Valhalla

folio from a 1680 Icelandic manuscript

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Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

[Semitic Roots](#)

The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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