

Heads or Tails

“The only way that I could figure they could improve upon Coca-Cola, one of life’s most delightful elixirs, which studies prove will heal the sick and occasionally raise the dead, is to put rum or bourbon in it.”

—Lewis Grizzard

Still befuddled, you reluctantly replace the book on the shelf and are about to leave when you, once again, hear approaching voices. You duck behind the sofa a split second before the door swings open and two hooded men enter, arguing.

“That’s ridiculous, there is no way ya could’ve pulled that stunt.”

“It’s not ridiculous, it was only four heads in a row.”

“Nah, four heads ain’t nothing, but I’ve seen ya bet four heads and win against at least 50 people. That coin is bloody rigged.”

“It’s not bloody rigged. I beat you fair and square. Now leave me alone.”

“Aw yea, if it’s not rigged, lemme see it. I bet I could flip four heads with a coin like that!”

“Leave it! Or I’ll friggin’ show you a fourth head in a row that you won’t bloody forget!”

“Give it here!”

“Oh, look what you’ve done! Now I’ve got to find it. Just stay put, you’ve done enough damage for the day.”

“No way, you dropped it yerself. And Im gonna look for it too, and when I find it, I’ll expose ya scum!”

Their searching is interrupted by a third party, who excitedly informs them that a tall middle-aged Dutch intruder had been caught trying to exit the building. Furthermore, there will be a meeting in the grand hall, for which they will be late if they do not make haste. “You haven’t heard the end of this” mutters one of the hooded men as they leave the room.

Luckily for you, in their hot-headedness, the two men had not seen the coin roll towards your hiding place. You wipe away the cold sweat accumulating on your forehead and gingerly pick up the curious piece of metal. He was right, it is double headed after all. This could come in handy. Just as you’re about to pocket the coin you notice the strange inscriptions written along the rim on each side of the coin.

First side: ORDE EM NEATEN PAT

Second side: RA ALT RANGE ANT

—Yi Huang