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Cover

Manuscript of a poem, with portrait of Louis the Pious, the only son of Charlemagne to outlive him. The words of the poem are written on the picture and can be read like a cross-word puzzle. The letters around the cross and the halo also form verses. See review of The Dawn of European Civilization: The Dark Ages, page 185. [Fulda, Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, Vienna]