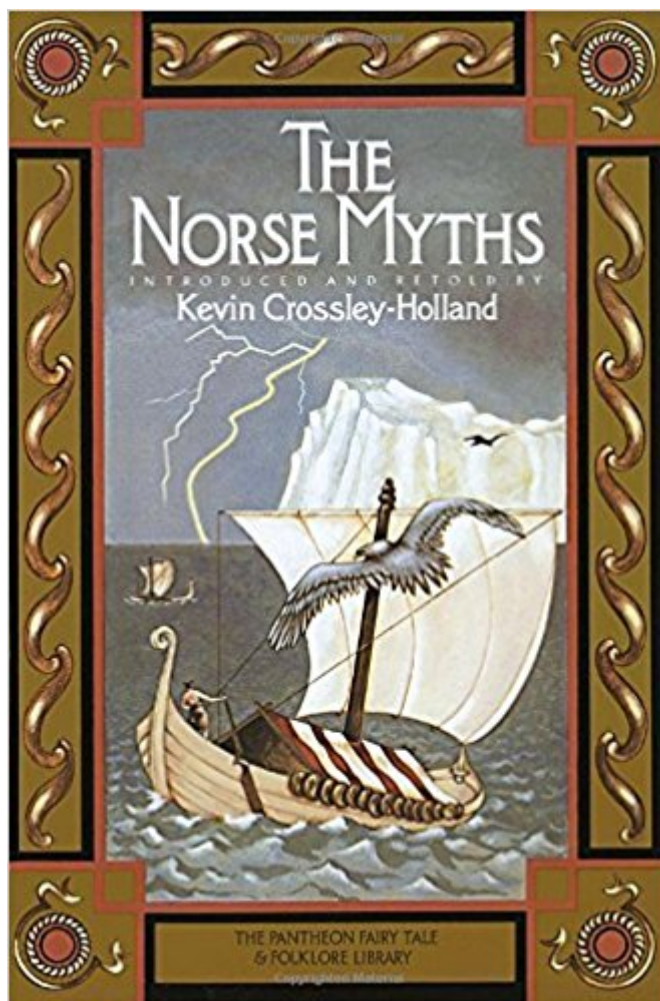


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The Norse Myths (The Pantheon Fairy Tale And Folklore Library)



Synopsis

Here are thirty-two classic myths that bring the Viking world vividly to life. The mythic legacy of the Scandinavians includes a cycle of stories filled with magnificent images from pre-Christian Europe. Gods, humans, and monstrous beasts engage in prodigious drinking bouts, contests of strength, greedy schemes for gold, and lusty encounters. The Norse pantheon includes Odin, the wisest and most fearsome of the gods; Thor, the thundering powerhouse; and the exquisite, magic-wielding Freyja. Their loves, wars, and adventures take us through worlds both mortal and divine, culminating in a blazing doomsday for gods and humans alike. These stories bear witness to the courage, passion, and boundless spirit that were hallmarks of the Norse world. Part of the Pantheon Fairy Tale and Folklore Library

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Kevin Crossley-Holland retells the Norse myths in clear, attractive prose . . . An excellent introduction, notes, and a glossary provide mythological and historical backgrounds and suggest parallels with myths in other parts of the world.” —The Denver Post

Drawing on a wide variety of sources, the author has re-created 32 classic Norse Myths that compete in power with Greek mythology.

this is a great compilation of many sources of the remaining Norse Myths. It is written in a style that is easily understood and the use of explanations and historical notes at the end of the book, one for each myth, make both the symbolism, source material and context more accessible. It combines the Eddas of Snorri with other sources to attempt a more complete set of myths than I have read and its language and the order in which myths are presented make it much more fun and more easily understood than the source material is.

Crossley-Holland does a superb job of making the topic of Norse mythology easily accessible and digestible; it can be used as a reference or for enjoyment. As well, the introduction gives a solid base for the subsequent myths. Enjoy!

This is my go to source for helping people with no knowledge of Norse Lore and Mythology come to have a solid understanding. Written in story form, this gives you the sense of Snorri without needing to know a Scandinavian language.

Quite a very informative Reade and really helped me learn my history

Not through yet. Seems pretty complete.

It is a mythology book, and not all of the myths are complete or really make much sense in a realm of linear thinking. Can't blame the author for that since he's just retelling the myths. Overall I'd say its pretty good if you want to understand the Norse a little better. Also you'll learn that Thor was an idiotic and fairly racist thug and not a hammer swinging avenger. My only problem is that it is missing some of the stories I found the most interesting, and the Ragnarok story is very short. Would have liked to have seen a bit more.

I ordered this book hoping to get what is pictured, that beautiful mint green and gold cover. What I got is a paperback textbook like item. While I stil enjoyed reading it, I was expecting the beautiful cover. The seller did give me a refund, but beware if you are ordering this book expecting to get the fancy version you probably won't.

I have read the Eddas and many sagas, so buying this was kind of a whim for me. I wanted to read

an adaptation into fairly modern language. Crossley-Holland does this well. If you are a scholar, this might not be for you. If you want to get some perspective on Norse myth, by all means, buy it. This is a really good place to start for that. The author combines prosaic and poetic Eddas for more "cohesive" stories, which is nice. I don't think that it is out of line with oral tradition to tell stories a different way. In fact, retelling the story in a slightly different fashion may be closer to oral tradition than referencing the Eddas directly. Crossley-Holland also explains all of this in his intro. The appendix in the back is great as well. For the beginner, it breaks down where the ideas for each story were obtained, so you can get an idea how spread out the "narratives" were. Anyway, this is a well written entry-point to the poetically haunting and absurd world of Norse Mythology.

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