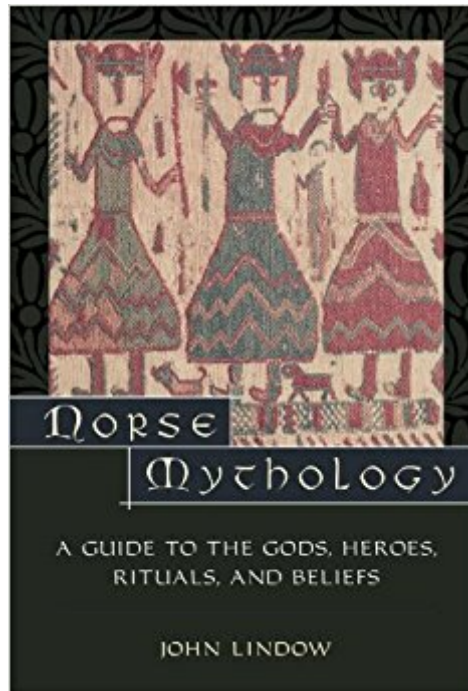




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Norse Mythology: A Guide To Gods, Heroes, Rituals, And Beliefs



Synopsis

Norse Mythology explores the magical myths and legends of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland and Viking-Age Greenland and outlines the way the prehistoric tales and beliefs from these regions that have remained embedded in the imagination of the world. The book begins with an Introduction that helps put Scandinavian mythology in place in history, followed by a chapter that explains the meaning of mythic time, and a third section that presents in-depth explanations of each mythological term. These fascinating entries identify particular deities and giants, as well as the places where they dwell and the varied and wily means by which they forge their existence and battle one another. We meet Thor, one of the most powerful gods, who specializes in killing giants using a hammer made for him by dwarfs, not to mention myriad trolls, ogres, humans and strange animals. We learn of the ongoing struggle between the gods, who create the cosmos, and the jötnar, or giants, who aim to destroy it. In the enchanted world where this mythology takes place, we encounter turbulent rivers, majestic mountains, dense forests, storms, fierce winters, eagles, ravens, salmon and snakes in a landscape closely resembling Scandinavia. Beings travel on ships and on horseback; they eat slaughtered meat and drink mead. Spanning from the inception of the universe and the birth of human beings to the universe's destruction and the mythic future, these sparkling tales of creation and destruction, death and rebirth, gods and heroes will entertain readers and offer insight into the relationship between Scandinavian myth, history, and culture.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This book has a very good and thorough dictionary of names.... Its essays on time in Norse

mythology and its summary of the historical background are extremely helpful and enlightening."--Nicholas D. Humez, Montclair State University

John Lindow is a professor at the University of California, Berkeley specializing in Scandinavian medieval studies and folklore.

great guide enjoy reading about different gods that i like and i am glad it is so organized and alphabetical so i dont have to go searching for stories and facts about the ones i enjoy having to read through about different ones i dont as much but a great buy highly recommended and it is more of a dictionary of norse mythology not a story book which a lot of people were complaining about but thats reason i got it

It was one of the better readings on the subject (s) available through Kindle/. I quite like how this version has several suggestions on other sources to look into.

The title of Lindow's book on Norse mythology fits exactly what this book is about. It is a great resource for people who want to have a more in-depth knowledge about this subject, scholarly and well-written, and even enjoyable to read. The reviewer "Valkyrie Mist" mentioned that there were a few things missing that were covered in Simek and Orchard, but these are more obscure facts and I feel that Lindow is more than adequate. I found that this is a great reference and very readable and highly recommend it to anyone who wants in-depth knowledge of this fascinating subject matter.

like the stories and myths of these tales. great for reading to children and family

Got this for my boyfriend as a gift and he loves it. Great if you want to learn more about the subject for research purposes or just enjoy reading mythology has a hobby.

Along withÃ A Dictionary of Northern MythologyÃ A by Rudolf Simek this is an excellent reference to Norse myth and I would recommend that any serious student of Norse myth have both books around. This work provide a dictionary-type approach to introducing the various individuals, themes, and places of Norse myth. These are particularly useful when addressing more obscure topics (like the Disir) in the myths because the the discussion tends to be a scholar's digest of what is known. When I reviewed Simek's work I thought it was exceptional as far as dictionaries of

mythology went. Now I am beginning to understand that it is not unique in that regard. This book belongs on the bookshelf right next to it. Like Simek's work, this book draws from textual studies archaeology, and etymology to provide a fairly substantial, though not comprehensive, reference to the Norse myths. In particular, each entry has a "further reading" section so it is perfect as a place to start research. I have to further agree with Ian Miles Slater on the quality of the illustrations. These contribute greatly to the book.

Great guide for anyone interested in reading Norse Mythology

A bit dense but worth reading. As I got into it, I found reading it interesting and illuminating.

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