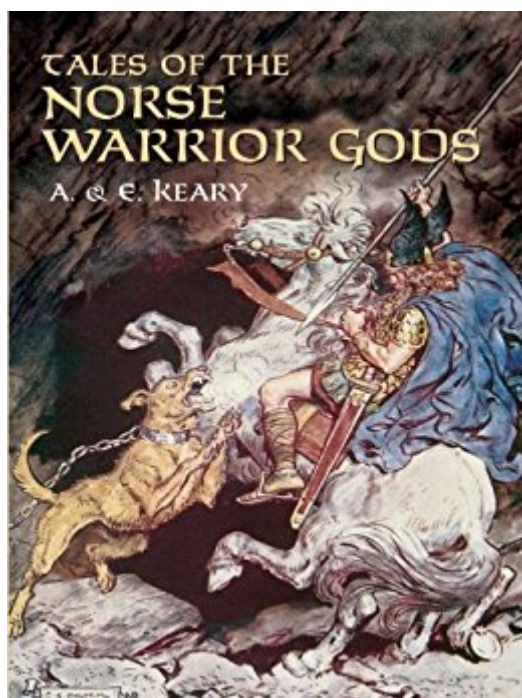


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Tales Of The Norse Warrior Gods: The Heroes Of Asgard (Dover Children's Classics)



Synopsis

Loki, the deity of mischief; Gerda, the beautiful goddess of light; Odin, the chief of all the gods; and other immortal figures of Norse mythology come vividly to life in this beautifully illustrated book for young readers. The exciting collection of 29 tales is myth at its best, narrating the adventures of (among others) Thor, the thunder god, son of Odin; Baldur, another son of Odin, a radiant god of beauty, purity, and peace; and Freya, the goddess of fertility and beauty. Closely bound to Asgard, their mythologic home, these mighty warriors are powerful beings, capable of superhuman feats, but still exhibit very human weaknesses. Handed down from generation to generation, the thrilling tales of gods on earth and their miraculous feats will charm young readers with their powerful stories of magic and mystery.

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Customer Reviews

These stories are a cute rendition of many of the Norse myths. The authors have taken some liberties with the stories as they were originally portrayed, for example one of the first things to

happen is Thor telling his father, Odin, that he's forged a hammer for himself. The original myths has Loki visiting the dwarves in penance for cutting the hair of Thor's wife, Sif, and asking the dwarves to forge the most powerful magic item, which produces Thor's hammer Mjolnir and other important items that occur in other later myths. Why the authors felt it necessary to change it and leave out one of the defining stories of Sif and the character of Loki I don't know, and this isn't the only unnecessary deviation from the old stories. What I did enjoy is that the authors approached some of the themes differently than most retellings of the myths. The elves and dwarves in particular are portrayed more like the fairy folk the British isles, small and spritely. The events prior to the formation of Midgard were more involved than is usual, with the gods exploring the different lands of giants and elves as newcomers, unfamiliar with the world. These different themes didn't alter the fundamental story but still gave a different perspective on the tales than other works, so it was something I enjoyed. This book is also illustrated throughout, and the art is a great addition to the story. I'd love to get some of them as larger prints, if they were available. In the end it was a fun read, the style is cute and their approach is endearing, but if you are interested in reading tales from the Norse myths, I would recommend other books over this one. *The Norse Myths* (Pantheon Fairy Tale and Folklore Library) is well-researched and easy to read and covers the stories more accurately and more completely, while *The Children of Odin: The Book of Northern Myths* is still mostly accurate to the original sources but has a similar endearing style like what I enjoyed in this book. Either of these are as good or better than "Tales of the Norse Warrior Gods", and are more representative of the true tales of the Norse gods.

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