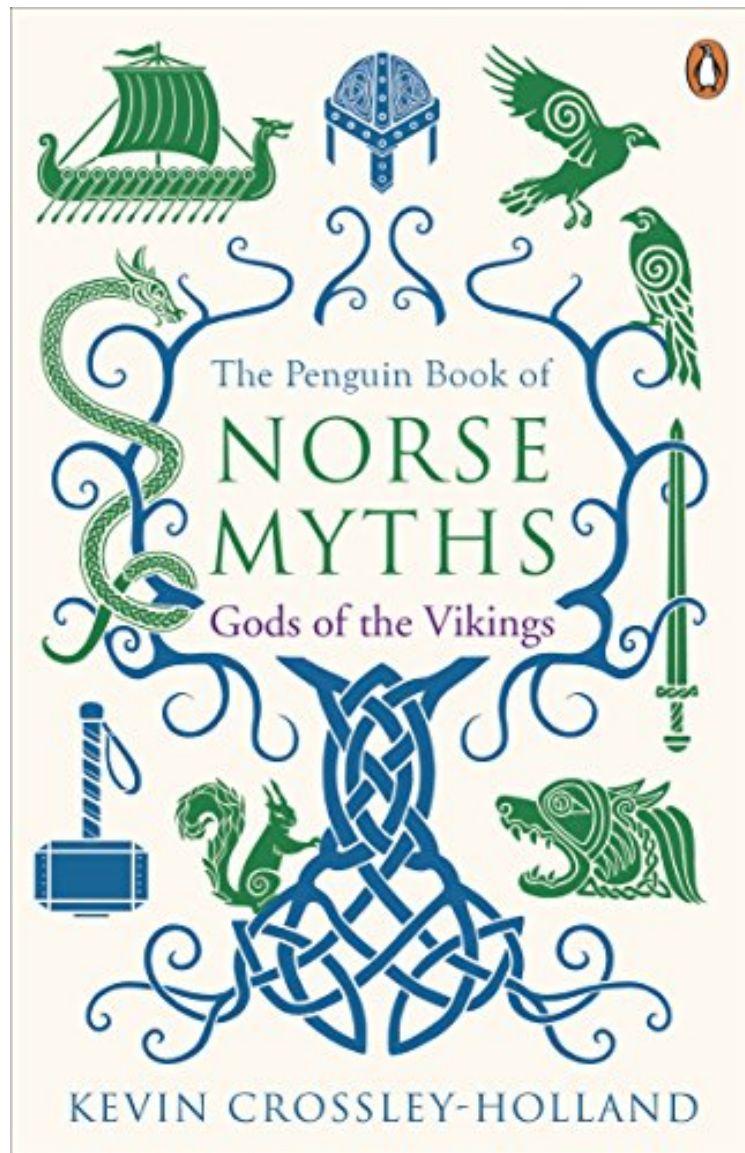


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## The Penguin Book of Norse Myths: Gods of the Vikings

Von Kevin Crossley-Holland

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**Von Kevin Crossley-Holland : The Penguin Book of Norse Myths: Gods of the Vikings** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Penguin Book of Norse Myths: Gods of the Vikings:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An obvious masterpieceVon aroemeltThis is the rare case of a complete book. The author tackled the task to retell the ancient Norse myths fully equipped with scientific background competence and skilfull language ability. A thorough

introduction divided by subjects is followed by the myths themselves told so vividly and entrancing one hardly wants to stop for the additional notes at the back of the book - until one does and finds them equally entrancing. Crossley-Holland's endeavour to not only retell the Norse myths but recreate their spirit in using mostly words of Germanic origin rather than Romanic makes the book come nearest to the original poetic sources without being poetry itself. The author manages to present the thrill of a well-written fantasy book (and there are many not well written) in combination with the value of a scientific one. It bridges the gap between the Edda and The Lord of the Rings. An absolute delight to read, a wealth of information, a long lost road home to the subconscious northern heritage in the reader. In one word: a masterpiece. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Strange and disturbing stories we think we know. Von Ein Kunde Adult retelling of stories we think we know from the surviving original sources. Reading Crossley-Holland's book is like reading the real Grimm's Fairy Tales -- they are much stranger and more disturbing than you remember from the kiddie show about Thor and his hammer. The Aesir are a doomed race of flawed, violent, sometimes cruel but ultimately heroic gods. Odin is not always a benevolent father, but also is obsessed with knowledge and willing to kill, deceive and suffer intensely to get it. Freya is not only a war-goddess but a kind of personification of sex. The stories cover the building of Asgard, an ur-War between the Aesir and the ultimately allied Vanes, struggles between the gods and the Frost Giants, the mischief and ultimately evil of Loki, and an array of malevolent dwarves and monsters with names like Nidhogg (the worm that gnaws the root of the world-tree Yggdrasil, Fenrir the wolf of the end of the world. Incidentally, Tolkien got many of the names of his characters from the sources. Highly recommended. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Must-have reference. Von Stephanie Noverraz Finally I've found it: the book of tales of Odin, and Thor, and Bifrost, and Ragnarok! What a pleasure to read the tales that inspired so much of the world's fantasy literature! Here you'll find the background stories behind and the likes of Beowulf, the Nibelungenlied or the Volsungs' Saga, and obviously the roots of Professor Tolkien's own Middle-Earth mythology, so numerous are the similarities. Not only are the thirty-two myths comprised in this translation very well told and captivating, but the introduction and notes are very complete and interesting, not to mention the very practical glossary and index. I haven't read Snorri Sturluson's Edda so I can't compare, but I'm pretty sure Kevin Crossley-Holland's is one of the best reference books on the subject, a must-have on one's shelf.

Kurzbeschreibung 'Burning ice, biting flame; that is how life began' The extraordinary Scandinavian myth cycle is one of the most enduring, exciting, dramatic and compelling of the world's great stories. The Penguin Book of the Norse Myths compellingly retells these stories for the modern reader, taking us from the creation of the world through the building of Asgard's Wall to the final end in Ragnarok. You'll discover how Thor got his hammer and how Odin lost his eye, the terrible price of binding the wolf Fenrir and why Loki the trickster can never be trusted. The Norse myths are as thrilling to read as they are of vast cultural and historical importance. In this gripping book Kevin Crossley-Holland brings alive the passion, cruelty and heroism of these unforgettable stories. Pressestimmen A collection of dramatic, moving, intricately structured stories ... a scholarly survey and compendium of Norse mythology ... a sustained poem distinguished by the icy precision of its language (The Times Educational Supplement) Stately or bucolic, heroic or comic, romantic or gross, horrific or gentle, deeply ironic or deeply moving, the myths here retold yield up their mood and substance (The Times Literary Supplement) Kurzbeschreibung 'Burning ice, biting flame; that is how life began' The extraordinary Scandinavian myth cycle is one of the most enduring, exciting, dramatic and compelling of the world's great stories. The Penguin Book of the Norse Myths compellingly retells these stories for the modern reader, taking us from the creation of the world through the building of Asgard's Wall to the final end in Ragnarok. You'll discover how Thor got his hammer and how Odin lost his eye, the terrible price of binding the wolf Fenrir and why Loki the trickster can never be trusted. The Norse myths are as thrilling to read as they are of vast cultural and historical importance. In this gripping book Kevin Crossley-Holland brings alive the passion, cruelty and heroism of these unforgettable stories.