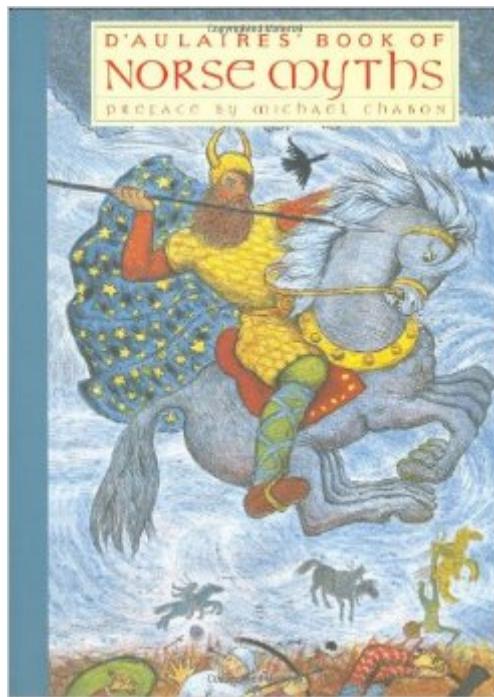


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# D'Aulaires' Book Of Norse Myths



## Synopsis

The Caldecott medal-winning d'Aulaires once again captivate their young audience with this beautifully illustrated introduction to Norse legends, telling stories of Odin the All-father, Thor the Thunder-god and the theft of his hammer, Loki the mischievous god of the Jotun Race, and Ragnarokk, the destiny of the gods. Children meet Bragi, the god of poetry, and the famous Valkyrie maidens, among other gods, goddesses, heroes, and giants. Illustrations throughout depict the wondrous other world of Norse folklore and its fantastical Northern landscape.

## Book Information

Series: New York Review Children's Collection

Hardcover: 160 pages

Publisher: NYR Children's Collection; Main edition (July 10, 2005)

Language: English

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ISBN-13: 978-1590171257

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.7 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (200 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #6,546 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Norse #483 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure #2024 inÂ  Books > Reference

Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

## Customer Reviews

I remember having this book read to me when I was a child. It was only when I saw a photograph of some of the illustrations in a book review of the NYRB reprint that I ordered a copy for myself and devoured it. All through my childhood, I knew of Odin the One-Eyed, duplicitous Loki, and the willowy Freya -- but I had not recalled where it was that I learned about them. One of the things that most struck me about the wooing and fighting gods of Asgard was that they were mortal. The world tree, Yggdrasil, was threatened by a dragon in Niflheim that gnawed at its roots; and the giant wolf Fenris was hogtied by a magic cord. Around the same time, both of them cut loose and attacked. What ensued was Ragnarok, the Twilight of the Gods. Why the old Norse peoples should have killed off their gods was always a question in my mind. Did it happen before or after Olaf Tryggvason, the

Kind of Norway, was converted to Christianity around the year A.D. 1000? It does make some sense to establish the new religion by dusting off the old. This book has stayed with me for the better part of a lifetime. As a parent, I think you can certainly do worse than sharing this memorable book and its glowing illustrations with your children. One little footnote: Last Christmas, I sponsored a wolf at the Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary in Ramah, NM whose name is Fenris. Look out, world!

It is impossible to over-recommend this book. It fired my young daughter with a love of literature that has lasted her through grad school and beyond. This book is my standard present for every newborn among my family and friends. "Start reading it to him at two years," I tell them. "You'll think he's too young, but he won't be." The illustrations are perfect for little children, their apparent roughness disguising their artistry, and the stories are kid-fun. A great book, and a great start to a life of loving books.

Several years ago my husband and I were disappointed to find that the d'Aulaire's book had gone out of print. (We wanted to be able to read it to our children.) We found a very used copy and bought it because, despite this copy's poor condition, the book was very hard to find. Now we will be able to replace it with a copy that is in one piece. The stories are well researched and well told. The illustrations are great--if you are familiar with other works by the d'Aulaires you will know what I mean. This is a great Norse mythology for children.

The tales are well written and beautifully, lovingly illustrated. However, the volume itself is printed on cheap paper--experience tells me that in a few years this kind of paper begins to yellow, especially around the edges, and some years later, to fall apart. I was hoping this would be a more permanent addition to my collection. I would rather have paid more and had better quality; I feel as if the publisher has short-changed me and didn't do justice to this wonderful work.

Great book as stated by most everyone and beautiful illustrations - However the quality of the book itself is truly a shame. The cover is OK but the paper used for pages is so thin you can see through the print of the next page. I recommend searching used editions of this book published by Doubleday books - The original title was "Norse Gods and Giants". You'll be assured to get the same great book (story/illustrations) but on quality printed paper if this is important to you.

I haven't bought this edition of the book yet, but soon will. I just wanted to express my true love for

this book, and gratitude that it's finally back in print. When I was ten or eleven years old, my mum borrowed the original edition of this book from the library for me. I had always enjoyed Greek mythology, but this...I just fell in love with. (Particularly, I fell in love with Loki.) Ever since then, I've been collecting Norse mythology books, but this one remains the one that I love the most of all. I have always thought back to it, always wanted to own my own copy. If you enjoy reading folktales and mythology to your children, please buy this book for them. Or, if you're an adult who enjoys mythology, buy it for yourself. The tales are retold charmingly, and the artwork is astounding. I love all of the books by the D'Aulaires, but this one is, without a doubt my favourite. I can promise with 99% certainty that you'll really enjoy this book.

When I was a kid I was put off by Norse mythology after Loki killed Balder, so I never introduced it to my own children. Now that my oldest grandchild is heavily into myths, someone suggested that I send her this, as a companion to the D'Aulaire book of Greek mythology. Almost-eight-year-old Alex found it, read it in one sitting, and then sighed "I'm so sorry I finished- it's like saying goodbye to a dear friend." Like all the D'Aulaire stuff it's beautiful, engaging, and totally bearable to adults to read, even as it is appealing to kids. Unlike the others though, it is usually totally unfamiliar to them. Everyone knows the Greek stories, but these are far less well known, and therefore all the more worth discovering.

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