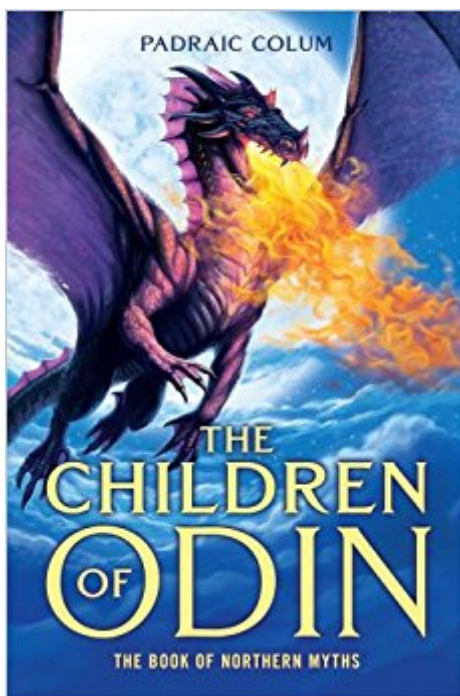


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The Children Of Odin: The Book Of Northern Myths



Synopsis

Before time as we know it began, gods and goddesses lived in the city of Asgard. Odin All Father crossed the Rainbow Bridge to walk among men in Midgard. Thor defended Asgard with his mighty hammer. Mischievous Loki was constantly getting into trouble with the other gods, and dragons and giants walked free. This collection of Norse sagas retold by author Padraic Colum gives us a sense of that magical time when the world was filled with powers and wonders we can hardly imagine.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 65 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Padraic Colum (1881–1972) was a poet, a playwright, and a leader of the Irish Renaissance, but he is best known for his works for children, including *The Children of Odin* and *The Golden Fleece* (a Newbery Honor Book). William Andrew ("Willy") Pogany (August 1882 – 30 July 1955) was a prolific Hungarian illustrator of children's and other books.

Just a note. If you're getting the free version available for the Kindle, it DOES NOT contain Willy Pogany's illustrations, even though its product description still lists him as a contributor. But it is still a great read, especially for free. Written in a very jejune, almost childlike, style. If you like mythology, you will be entertained by this book. As a side, I recommend Edith Hamilton's *Mythology* for a good primer in both the Greek and Norse myths. [Mythology](#)

I was an avid reader/studier of Norse mythology when I was a kid, so I picked this title up on a lark. I

am SO glad that I did! This is a fairly comprehensive coverage of the old Norse stories, told in a manner that just seems "right" for the subject matter. Reading these stories, it was easy to imagine myself sitting around the smoky fire of a longhouse, hearing one of the "elders" or skalds telling the tales. The language is a little antiquated, so it might not be the best choice if you're trying to introduce younger kids to the Norse myths, but it's fine for the rest of us. Strongly recommended!

Other than Thor and Odin, I had almost no familiarity with Norse mythology, but decided I wanted to learn more about it. This ended up being one of the best introductions to a new mythology that I have ever read. Written as a narrative (rather than a dictionary of mythological beings, which is what you find in most mythology books), you are able to get a much better picture of the Norse pantheon. I got the Kindle version, so there was none of the artwork mentioned in some of the other reviews, but the storytelling is so good, you don't even really need the pictures.

I don't usually do reviews for products that I buy. I read and enjoyed some of the stories in this book as a boy, and now that I have sons of my own, I was looking for a book that would give them the same experience I had. After purchasing this book, I was not disappointed. This book contains what I would call the most widely known stories of Thor, Loki, and Odin, as well as several more obscure stories, like the creation of the world, and how Thor lost and regained Mjolnir. I don't know if it ranks highly as a scholarly book, but it truly has been a pleasure to reread the stories I remember, as well as reading several new ones. Put on your Viking helmet, and get ready to read!

Outstanding

It served well for my daughter to get a feel for Norse mythology. I haven't read it myself, so I am unsure of how suitable its contents are, but it was an easy, quick read for my 10-yr-old

“The Children of Odin” Book of Northern Myths, by Padraic Colum
Such a book is necessarily an eclectic compendium and thus cannot easily be evaluated for a general readership. Mythology of any type is mostly enjoyed for its unique taste of the world and its value must be set by every individual reader. This collection is well done, entertaining and presumably characteristic of the folk stories of the genre.

A book more aimed at younger readers leaving out the gore and such. But for someone who was

unfamiliar with the Norse mythos this covers the basics. I was personally hoping for a book with more detail. But it's great if you're going to buy it for a child.

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