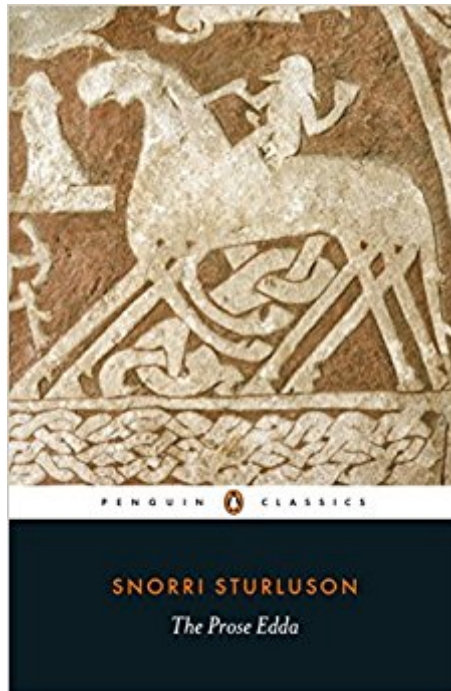




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The Prose Edda: Norse Mythology (Penguin Classics)



Synopsis

Written in Iceland a century after the close of the Viking Age, *The Prose Edda* is the source of most of what we know of Norse mythology. Its tales are peopled by giants, dwarves, and elves, superhuman heroes and indomitable warrior queens. Its gods live with the tragic knowledge of their own impending destruction in the cataclysmic battle of Ragnarok. Its time scale spans the eons from the world's creation to its violent end. This robust new translation captures the magisterial sweep and startling psychological complexity of the Old Icelandic original. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Snorri Sturluson (1179–1241) was the son of an upstart Icelandic chieftain. He rose to become Iceland's richest and, for a time, most powerful leader. Jesse Byock is a professor of Icelandic and Old Norse studies at UCLA. He is the translator of *The Saga of the Volsungs* and *The Saga of King Hrolf Kraki* for Penguin Classics.

It was a little shorter than I had hoped. All in all, this is a wonderfully crafted collection of Norse

history. The prose is easy to follow, and the stories are second to none. I would definitely recommend this book to others.

I had a lot of fun reading this. I have been a bit obsessed with Norse history and mythology lately, so how could I not read this. If you are a Tolkien fan I highly suggest this, as you can see where he got his inspiration.

Great. Thank you.

A very good transcript of 8th century legends.

This book now holds a very dear place in my bookshelf. The Edda is a great insight into the tales of the Norse gods and anyone wishing to know more about these great adventurous people and their pagan rituals would do well to pick up this translation and give it a read. Aside from actual tales, there are many footnotes placed by Byock that offer further detail into the occurrences of the tales and even some historical context on which to cement some characters or occurrences mentioned in the stories. Byock's translation was a very pleasing read and I recommend this book to anyone who has a hunger for Norse lore.

It's a little more difficult read than The Poetic Edda.

As a descendant of Shetlanders, it is very interesting to read about the ancient beliefs of my forefathers. The introduction by Sturluson is especially interesting because he was a Christian writing about pagan beliefs and explains his (and my own) reasons for studying these things. This small book is written in a very enjoyable and easy to read style. I received great service, as well.

Would only recommend this to persons seriously interested in Viking culture.

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