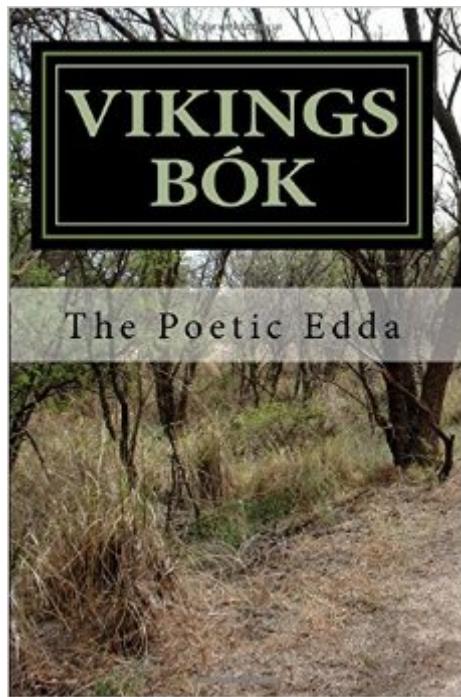


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Vikings Bok: The Poetic Edda



Synopsis

This is the newly updated, and complete wisdom and prophesy of The Vikings BÃ k, commonly known as the Poetic Edda--the Bible of the northern European, pre-Christian, Heathen religion--translated by Olive Bray and revised for modern learners of the Northern Way by the editor, Wolf Wickham.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ ¤ See all reviewsÂ (3 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

The Poetic Edda is a collection of story fragments in verse form, including many of the stories and characters that turn up in more popular and familiar mythological tales. As fragments, these stories are not always coherent or easy to digest, and the translator for this edition of these verses, Olive Bray, did a fine job of keeping the feel of ancient Scandinavian people and their lives, while making the stories readable and understandable. The editor, Wolf Wickham, does an equally good job of annotating and otherwise facilitating so that readers unfamiliar with Norse mythology can understand these stories. As a new edition of a fascinating piece of world literature, this is a great book. In addition, this book provides at least a partial introduction to a new development called the Northern Way, something with which the editor Wolf Wickham is involved. Anyone interested in comparative religion will find Wickham's introduction and glossary sections quite interesting, not just as resources for understanding the Poetic Edda, but as a glimpse at a religious perspective that is trying to push back against Christian dominance in Northern Europe. These segments of Wickham's book make his glossary a bit less useful as a glossary, since many of his entries are soaked in

Wickham's agenda of promoting the Northern Way against established religion, but while this very blatant agenda erodes somewhat the usefulness of Wickham's supplementary segments of this book, as far as supporting the Poetic Edda itself, they add some interest of their own. I gave this book a 4 out of 5 stars, because the notes and supplementary material really were not all that helpful for making the primary text more readable, though for academic or research purposes they might be still useful.

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