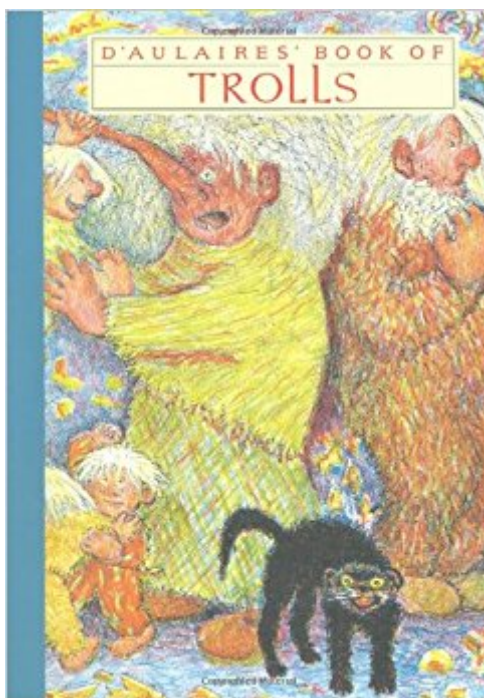


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# D'Aulaires' Book Of Trolls (New York Review Children's Collection)



## Synopsis

In this spectacular follow-up to their beloved *Book of Norse Myths*, the husband-and-wife team of Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire explore the uncanny reaches of Norse mythology, an enchanted night-world populated by trolls of all kinds—mountain trolls, forest trolls, trolls who live underwater and trolls who live under bridges, uncouth, unkempt, unbreakable, unforgettable, and invariably unbelievably ugly trolls—who work their wiles and carry on in the most bizarre and entertaining fashions. With their matchless talent as storytellers and illustrators, the d'Aulaires bring to life the weird and wonderful world of Norse mythology.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1020 (What's this?)

Series: New York Review Children's Collection

Hardcover: 76 pages

Publisher: NYR Children's Collection for ages 7-12; Main edition (October 17, 2006)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 0.6 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 41 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #104,091 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Norse #85 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Anthologies #2039 in Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Activity Books

Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

## Customer Reviews

"Available once again, this beautifully lithographed collection of lore introduces children to some of traditional literature's bad boys (and girls)." --School Library Journal  
Over their nearly five-decade career, Ingri and Edgar d'Aulaire penned and illustrated nearly 30 books, winning them wide acclaim and several awards. *Trolls*, originally released in 1972, was among this lauded group. New York Review Books has now returned it to print, and we have two words to say about that: Thank you. *Trolls* combines charming tales from Norse folklore with a fantasy traveler's

guide to the hairy beasts. We learn about forest trolls, mountain trolls and bridge trolls—their habitats, habits and even number of heads. We meet three creatures who share a single removable eyeball, and cursed princesses who burp toads. But nothing's too scary: The lithographed pictures have a warm, hand-drawn look that transforms all beasts from horrific to humorous. The press reprinted another of the couple's classics last year, *D'Aulaires' Book of Norse Myths*, with a preface by novelist Michael Chabon. This new entry in the collection arrives without endorsement, but trust us, it doesn't need one.

• "Time Out New York Kids — There are children whose drawings of even the most ferocious monsters still reflect a quality of their own innocence and sweet temperament. The same is true of the artwork of the *d'Aulaires*. No matter how fierce their subjects, they can endow them with a kind of vulnerability that is both touching and—especially in the case of trolls—ridiculous. Combining knowledgeableness with easy-going humor, the *d'Aulaires* work anecdote after anecdote into a kind of patchwork story-quilt. Each patch, while complete in itself, contributes to an over-all understanding of the Norwegian troll world, fragments of which have survived into today. [They] have written an authoritative book on trolls and created a nearly perfect picture book for children.

• "The New York Times — *D'Aulaires' Trolls*, an informative Baedekar on the moss-grown mountains of Norway and their weird inhabitants of more than a century ago, exemplifies a happy balance of art and text. Ingrid and Edgar Parin *d'Aulaire* have completed the legends and descriptions with fittingly grotesque color and black-and-white sketches of myriad trolls.

• "The Washington Post — The crayon-like drawings have a humorous ugliness, and in their own outlandish way are a delightful change from all the antiseptic ethnic literature being turned out with one eye on the ethnic dollar.

• "Christian Science Monitor — This book represents the quintessence of the *d'Aulaires' art*.

• "Horn Book — [A] real winner.

• "Boston Globe — The *D'Aulaires' Book of Norse Myths* taught a generation about the legends on which much of literature is based. Now their *D'Aulaires' Book of Trolls* by Ingrid and Edgar Parin *d'Aulaire*, first published in 1972, returns to print to shed light on another staple of Norway: the magical trolls, as old and moss-grown as the mountains themselves, in all their diversity.

• "Publisher's Weekly

In their unique style, the *d'Aulaires* have created a wonderful picture book about these strange long-ago inhabitants of the wild Norwegian mountains. "Luminous, magical pictures transport readers deep into the mountains and forests of Norway and into the consciousness of old believers. This is a robust and resonant natural history of trolls."--Kirkus Reviews. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book seems to have perfectly captured the spirit of Norwegian Trolls. These creatures of myth were once genuinely feared by children and adults alike. Yet, with time, the culture has embraced them as a symbol of superstitious mischief. In modern day Norway, the troll is an impishly cute, cuddly sort of a thing. And this beautifully illustrated book has managed to replicate this transition. Your kids will shiver, squeel, and giggle at the stories in this collection. Nothing makes the monster under the bed so easy to deal with as showing that a monster can be cuddly.

As someone who is trying to cultivate a love of literature AND a lengthy attention span in my homeschooled children, I \*did\* purchase this for my pre-schooler and he sat happily through the entire book (3 evenings worth of reading for us). The d'Aulaire illustrations were, as always, engaging, soft, and encouraging to the child's imagination. Detailed without taking over the telling of the tales. Basically, it covered all of my criteria to be purchased: well written and if it has illustrations they need to be worthy of the story and worth looking at. The down side to this book is that it is in some ways a long treatise on trolls that happens to include some stories as examples. This means that your child ends the book having been exposed to a lot of the folk beliefs of Scandinavian trolls, with a limited number of stories, and that it doesn't offer simple cut-off points for bedtime reading. On the other hand, it means it is a book worth revisiting as a child grows older; in our case so our children will be versed in the folklore and belief of their ancestors. A simpler bedtime book with lovely woodblock illustrations would be Lise Lunge-Larsen's "The Troll with No Heart in His Body." It is a collection of the stories with very brief intros that can be included or omitted according to the moment (at bedtime with my pre-schooler I tend to leave them out; when reading during the day I am more likely to include them). I'm not really suggesting one book over the other. In a search for either cultural literacy or multiculturalism, both have their place and are both well told, well illustrated and will add to your child's imaginative landscape.

An absolute must for anyone interested in Norse Mythology! Very enjoyable book for young & old, alike! Great for a child who is reading on their own or for a parent or grandparent who loves to read to their children/grandchildren! I love this book so much I'll have to buy another copy for the Yule gift this one was planned for! Will be a part of my Norse library until they cart me off to the next world! ;)

I love this book. It was for my kids but I even sit and read it.

it is a very nice book for reading

I love the D'Aulaire's approach to myths. Beautiful illustrations, well written text. Recommended!  
Also check out the American history series and the Greek and Norse myths.

We love reading about hobbits, elves and dwarves and so we were thrilled to find D'Aulaire's book about trolls! It is a fascinating look at Norse myths and history, much of which inspired Tolkein's own writing in The Lord of the Rings. I would also recommend the D'Aulaire's book of Norse mythology - it is a wild and crazy read that reveals many influences on our own culture. Of course the book on Greek Mythology is a must read for any child, and especially for Percy Jackson fans.

This book is lovely. The illustrations are charming. The seller packaged it in shrink wrap and its in perfect condition. I'm an adult and it's for my coffee table, but my mom bought another copy for a friends grand son.

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