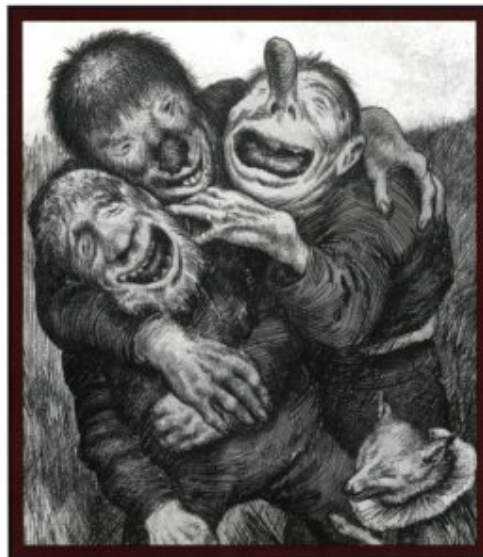


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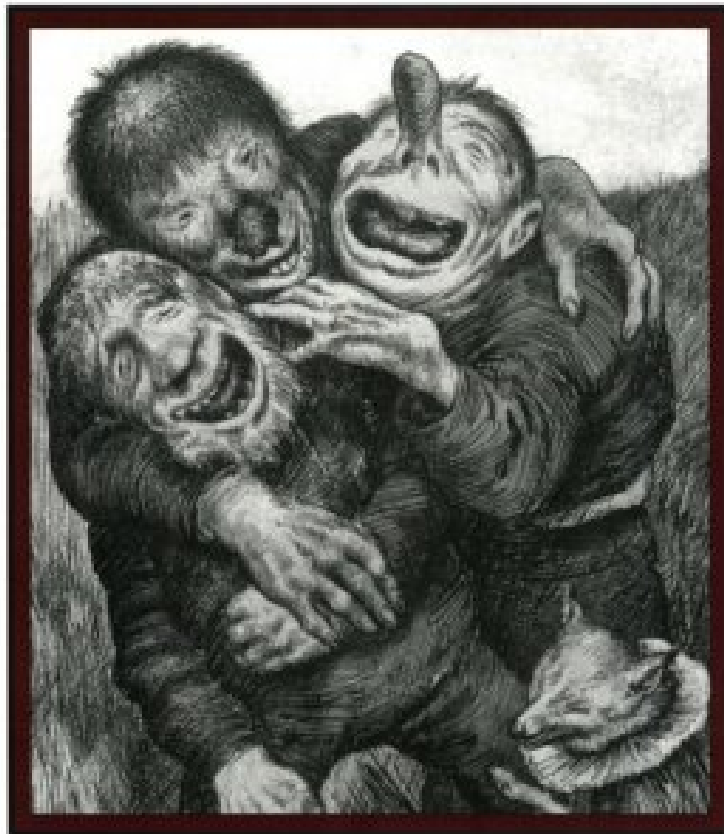
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NORWEGIAN TROLL TALES BY JOANNE ASALA PDF

In the days now long departed, so far back that no one can quite say when, the trolls came to the land of Norway and they have been trouble ever since! Feature stories and poems by well-known Norwegian writers, including Peter Asbjornsen, Jorgen Moe, Henrik Ibsen, and Jonas Lie. Learn about thousands of trolls who have immigrated to America. Part II relates the adventures of the trolls in the New World, with essays on Mount Horeb, Wisconsin, "The Troll Capital of the World," and the troll carvings of Little Norway. Artist Judith Simundson tells how to make your own troll figurine out of paper mache.

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- 160 pages

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1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Interesting book, IMHO

By Christopher R. Travers

This book appears to me to be an attempt to portray the popular image of trolls to America. The book includes stories, descriptions of how they were told in a family setting, discussions of folklore collectors, artists, and so forth who were inspired by the folklore, etc.

Despite of the fact that (or perhaps even because) this is not a scholarly but rather a popular book, this helped me see the folklore for what it is, as a living and deeply embedded tradition with a powerful and complex yet still living soul. The areas of the book which appear to be "errors" from certain scholarly angles actually contributed greatly to my understanding of and appreciation for this area of folklore.

On the whole I would highly recommend this book.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

if you like mythology and folklore you will enjoy the book

By Wayne S. Walker

I picked this book up at the Norway pavilion in the World Showcase of Epcot Center when we visited Disney World last year. According to the most ancient Norse myths, when the Earth was created from the fallen body of the slain giant Ymir, the maggots which emerged from his corpse were transformed by magic into the light elves and dark elves, and most of the trolls belong to the latter. There are many kinds of trolls in Norway, some ugly and others deceptively beautiful, but the vast majority are mean, skilled at thievery, and living only to cause harm or grief to others. When Christianity came to Norway, the trolls were thought to be fallen angels or the souls of pagans who had died and could not go to heaven so they now roamed the

earth.

The folk tales about trolls were first collected and set down in the mid-1800s by Peter Christian Asbjornsen, a zoologist, and Jorgen Engebretsen Moe, a minister. Following the example of the Brothers Grimm, the two published their first volume, *Norske Folkeeventyr*, in 1852. Later editions, beginning in 1877, were illustrated by artists Erik Werenskiold and Theodor Kittelsen, the latter of whom went on to publish his own collection, *A Book of Fairytales for Children*. In 1994 Joanne Asala, who received her degree in medieval English literature from the University of Iowa and has edited several collections of Scandinavian, Celtic, and Eastern European folklore, published a collection of Norse troll stories called *Trolls Remembering Norway*, from which the tales in this book are taken.

A few of the stories are a little grotesque, with talk about cooking and eating people, and might not be appropriate for some younger or more sensitive children. There are occasional references to drinking alcoholic beverages, such as ale and brandy, and to tobacco juice. The euphemistic “heck” and the word “Lord” used as an exclamation are each found once. Many trolls are pictured as having magical powers and able to engage in witchcraft, so those who object to mention of such things in literature will not care for the book. However, those who like reading about mythology and folklore will enjoy the book, which includes stories by such well-known Norwegian writers as Asbjornsen, Moe, Kittelsen, Henrik Ibsen, and Jonas Lie. It is interesting to see the interplay between the trolls and “Christians,” and some have discerned moral lessons in the stories. The last section tells how trolls “emigrated” to the New World.

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

A surprising focus on just trolls

By D. Donovan, Editor/Sr. Reviewer

This was released early last year but deserves ongoing mention for fans of fantasy in general and Norwegian folk stories in particular, offering a surprising narrowed focus on trolls and revising and expanding a previous title. Troll adventures appear in both stories and poems by Norwegian writers including such famous names as Henrik Ibsen.

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