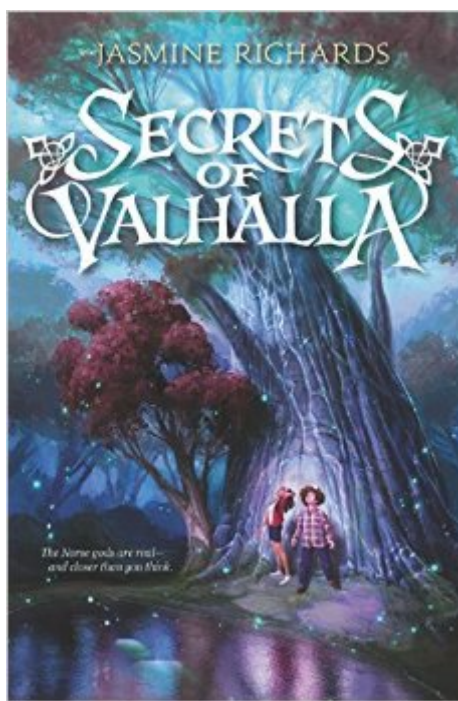


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Secrets Of Valhalla



Synopsis

Two friends awaken a world of myth and magic in this clever middle grade fantasy perfect for fans of Rick Riordan and Anne Ursu. It's not every day that you find a famous weatherwoman bound by magic to a tree deep in the woods. Or discover that the weatherwoman is in fact Sunna, the Norse Goddess of the Sun, and one of the seven day guardians who keep time in order. But that's just what happens to new friends Buzz and Mary—and it's only the start of their adventure. Now, as the people of Earth are forced to repeat the same Saturday over and over again, Buzz and Mary must journey to collect the Runes of Valhalla and awaken the other day guardians, before vengeful god Loki can get to them first.

Book Information

Series: Secrets of Valhalla (Book 1)

Hardcover: 320 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,145,564 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #147 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Norse #255 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Middle East #690 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Europe

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Jasmine Richards, author of the enchanting BOOK OF WONDERS, has penned a mythological masterpiece in the form of her new book, SECRETS OF VALHALLA. Buzz leads an ordinary life. Aside from his father's eclectic love of mythology, Buzz's days are filled with school and soccer games. That is, until he meets the quirky new girl, Mary. Buzz's acceptance of odd personalities draws Mary to seek out his friendship, and she happily accompanies him on his trip home from school. Along the way, Buzz and Mary stumble upon missing local weather woman,

Eleanor Bright. Tied to a tree, Eleanor pleads for the duo's help in freeing her from this hostile predicament. Little do they know how much this small act of kindness will change everything. Eleanor quickly informs Buzz and Mary that she is, in fact, an ancient Norse god named Sunna. Long ago, Sunna and a collection of gods and goddesses known as the day guardians engaged in a battle against Loki, the trickster god of Saturday. Though the day guardians won and imprisoned Loki, the battle left these mighty figures exhausted and nearly powerless. A prophecy issued by the head god, Odin, predicted that Loki and the day guardians would face off again. In order to better their chances, the guardians deposited their powers into a collection of stones known as the Runes of Valhalla, and allowed their sleeping souls to travel down the bloodlines of their most faithful followers. The day guardians now rest in an enchanted sleep within these host bodies. With Sunna unexpectedly held hostage by a sinister dragon, it is up to Buzz and Mary to gather the protected runes and awaken the sleeping gods.

I received *Secrets of Valhalla* in return for an honest review from the publisher HarperCollins. Buzz and Mary find the missing weatherwoman in the woods freeing her and finding out that she's not just the weather woman but a Norse Goddess. After the encounter with Sunna things start to get a little odd like the same Saturday replays over and over for them but something is a little off with each day after the first. The only way to fix everything is to free the day guardians by collecting all the runes and to stop Loki before it's too late. Buzz with the help of Mary set out to collect the runes but are quickly joined by Theo one of the boys in school who's caused trouble for Buzz in the past. They are also joined by Buzz's Uncle Mark who happened to have a couple of the runes that had ended up at the police station. They learn that Mark and Theo are hosts for the day guardians but without the correct rune the guardian is suppressed. They travel the different worlds searching for the runes before Loki can get them. Do they have what it takes to beat Loki or will they be too late? I like Buzz and Mary they work well together even when you add in Theo as well as Uncle Mark. It's been a while since I've read a middle grade book but the characters felt more mature than I had expected but I really like it. I felt that I was really able to connect with Buzz as well as Mary. I wasn't sure about Theo because he started out not a nice guy but at the book progressed he redeemed himself. It's interesting seeing how the day guardian's took over their host bodies when the time came. My husband happened to be looking over my shoulder while I was checking out the new books on Edelweiss when I happened to land on this one.

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