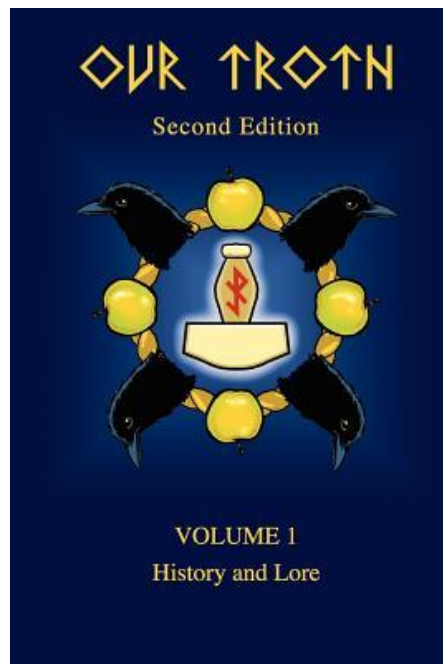




History and Lore (Our Troth, #1)

Kveldúlf Hagan Gundarsson

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Our Troth is the single most comprehensive book available on the reborn religion of Heathenry -- the pre-Christian religion of the Germanic peoples. First published in 1993 but out of print for years, Our Troth is back in print, featuring updates and additions from its original compiler, Kveldulf Gundarsson, and from many other Heathen writers, all edited by well-known author Diana L. Paxson. Volume 1 covers the history and lore of Heathen religion, from its deepest Stone Age roots to its flowering today, with information on the Gods, Goddesses, and other beings that receive honor and worship, and the ethics of being Heathen.

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From Reader Review History and Lore (Our Troth, #1) for online ebook

Marty Dobbs says

Great great resource, I just question the sources that were used and how historically accurate the book is. They make a lot of unverifiable claims about the prehistorical ages that struck me as suspect.

Candee Wadsworth says

Great background to Asatru. Very in depth

david stenberg says

I purchased and read the entire series. Very disappointing. While there was a plethora of accurate information, and some neat Old Norse charms, etc. it's just this weird, watered down, re-constructionist version of the old religion. Definitely worth a read, but not something to base a potent religious system on.

Siegbald TheReader says

I would give 3.5 starts if it would be an option.

The book basically consists of two parts:

The first part is EXCELLENT work of historical background, and separated chapters of Gods/Deities/creatures the people of the Norse believed in. If it would be only this part, I would have given it 5 starts.

Then the second part of the book I mostly skipped...They basically tell you how you HAVE TO be a practitioner, according to them.

Without having any historical records of the rituals, assemblies, etc, they should be more carefull claiming what and how you HAVE TO do.

Amy says

The absolute best book on Asatru out there! History, interpretations of the gods in modern times (with evidence from sources), and a wealth of information. If you or someone in your life is interested in the path of Asatru, this book - and it's second volume, 'Living the Troth' - is a fantastic and extremely helpful addition to your library.

Neil says

Nonsense.

Parnell says

Extensive and well-researched, I found the book enlightening, I learned many things about my ancestor's religion and way of life I did not know. I also feel a deeper connection with my ancestral heritage.

The book needs a good editor, though. Many glaring typos exist, the arrangement of certain chapters felt odd to me. The typography wasn't bad but it could have used a touch from a good typographer.

The scope of the book felt impressive and I appreciate the extensive source material references at the back of the book (what they cutely named "the book hoard").

At times the book felt like a slog, presenting a wide array of researched information on each topic. I don't think this was bad since their stated goal was to present this information with as much historically researched knowledge as possible but it felt like the author(s) also got bored writing at certain times. A good editor and some light restructuring might help.

I very much liked the final chapter on the thews (virtues).

Todd Keyser says

The better of the two volumes as this one leans more to the scholarly side and less conjecture and unsupported opinions.

Tim Peters says

Wer sich hierzulande dem Thema moderne heidnische Religion oder „Ásatrú“ nähern möchte, hat es nicht leicht, geeignete Literatur zu finden. Die spärlichen akademischen Veröffentlichungen sind dem Laien eher schwer zugänglich und zeichnen oft ein verzerrtes Bild des Neuheidentums. Unter den Publikationen aus neuheidnischen Kreisen selbst findet man neben reichlich wunschträumerischer Esoterik zwar auch die eine oder andere Perle - aber ein wirklich umfassendes Grundlagenwerk lag bis dato nicht vor.

Für den anglo-amerikanischen Raum haben Kveldúlf Gundarsson und die Organisation The Troth mit der Herausgabe von „Our Troth“ hier unschätzbare Pionierarbeit geleistet. Ohne das Rad neu zu erfinden, hat Kurt Oertel als konkurrenzloser Kenner der Materie sich des Materials angenommen und es akribisch übersetzt, auf den neuesten Stand gebracht und, nicht zuletzt, an die hiesigen Verhältnisse angepasst.

Entstanden ist dabei ein optisch ansprechender Band, der inhaltlich so umfassend ist wie kein zweites Werk mit diesem speziellen Themenschwerpunkt. Der Bogen reicht dabei von den theoretischen Grundlagen – Archäologie, Geschichte, Mythologie – über die Wiederkehr heidnisch-religiöser Vorstellungen in der

Neuzeit, bis hin zu einer Darstellung der aktuellen Situation des gelebten Heidentums international und insbesondere im deutschsprachigen Raum.

Hier finden Neugierige ohne jegliches Vorwissen ebenso wie lange praktizierende Ásatrú-Anhänger einen reichen Quell an Information. Der Text ist allgemein für jedermann verständlich, aber auch Angehörige der akademischen Zunft müssen die Lektüre nicht scheuen, steht er doch auf sicheren quellenkundlichen Füßen. „Ásatrú: Die Rückkehr der Götter“ ist damit zweifelsohne das lang ersehnte Standardwerk in Sachen neues Heidentum, an dem sich alle bisherigen und künftigen artverwandten Veröffentlichungen werden messen lassen müssen und das auf jeden Fall in keiner heidnischen Büchersammlung fehlen darf.

Falls sie wirklich jemals fort waren – dieses Buch beweist: Die alten Götter sind zurück!

Mrs. Bunny says

Take everything with a grain of salt. It's useful from a Heathen perspective, but far from perfect. Also the writing quality varied- sometimes it was entertaining and other times it felt like I was never going to finish the chapter.

Äsruþr Cyneapsson says

An amazing compilation of academic studies of Norse/Heathen mythology and revivalist religion. The text covers everything that either the newcomer to Heathenry or the well-verse and seasoned Asatruar may ever wish or need to know.

The assessment of the myths, symbolism and deities compiled here is likely to be the most well balanced and academically accurate that you are liable to find in any library.
