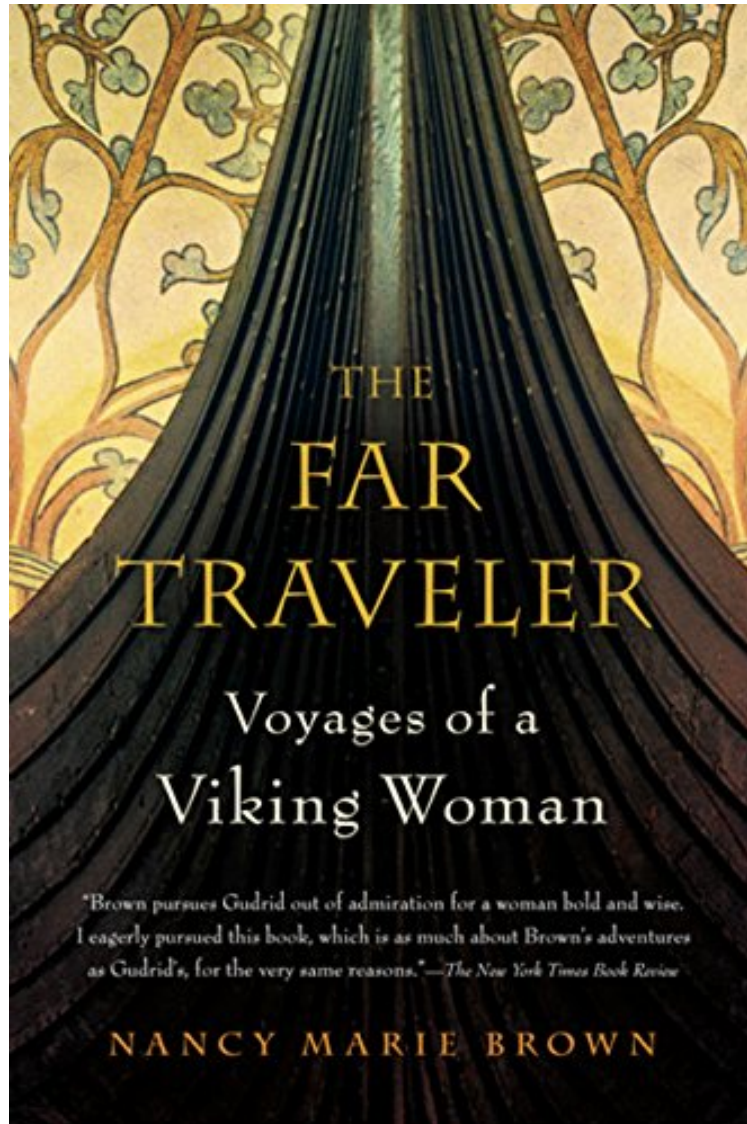


(Get free) The Far Traveler: Voyages of a Viking Woman

The Far Traveler: Voyages of a Viking Woman

Nancy Marie Brown

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#103283 in Books Mariner Books 2008-10-06 2008-10-06Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .78 x 5.311, .65 #File Name: 0156033976320 pagesGreat product! | File size: 16.Mb

Nancy Marie Brown : The Far Traveler: Voyages of a Viking Woman before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Far Traveler: Voyages of a Viking Woman:

12 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Gudrid Who?By KathleenAlthough there are a few interesting stories and facts in this book, it is not well organized overall, and the internal organization of the chapters was precarious. You might start out with an interesting tale of, say, Eric the Red, then suddenly find yourself reading a lesson on how to build a turf house in such detail that you forget completely about Eric the Red, the ostensible subject

of that chapter. Then it might jump to some other off-topic subject before giving a passing nod to poor neglected Eric at the end. Apparently, neither the author nor her editor ever heard of transitions. Far too much space was devoted to the author's egocentric experience of being an amateur archaeologist, in detail ad nauseam. Overall, there was precious little information about Gudrid Thorbjornsdottir beyond "might have" or "would have" inferences, and a few contradictions hit one in the face. The author would have been better off taking herself out of the picture and presenting the book as a general "life of Icelandic women in 1000 AD." I've read dozens of works on the Viking period of history by respected sources. Given the egregiously misleading title, I found this book sometimes frustrating, often boring and, generally, disappointing. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. This was such an enjoyable book to read. A ...By Joseph Schuman This was such an enjoyable book to read. A thorough, scholarly erudition of a woman's life in Norse culture in 1000AD. Every sentence was relaxing in a way that can only be explained as "seeing through eyes long ago". I looked forward each night in bed to read more. One can sense that long ago wave breaking bow on, the knarr rising up, the winds filling the sail. I never before thought how sails were made on these now gone ships. Such educated explanations of viking times is a treasure. Nancy Brown is my heroine of those long ago frozen seas. O'Iceland, O'Greenland, O'Vinland, tharr they be! I want to go so visit Iceland and hang out... may Odin grant my wishes, eh? 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A must-have! By Heather OBrien Nancy M. Brown does a wonderful job at bringing history to life through her very capable writing and storytelling ability. She also does a great job at keeping the cultural integrity in place regarding the landscapes and people that she is discussing. She doesn't take away from, or gloss over, their flaws nor does she neglect their accomplishments. Her other book "Song of the Vikings" is one that I have recommended to many people because of just how in-depth she is when writing about her subject matter. I highly recommend both this book, and 'Song of the Vikings' for anyone that is interested in heathenry, history, or learning more about the Viking Age and how their stories got their foundations.

Five hundred years before Columbus, a Viking woman named Gudrid sailed off the edge of the known world. She landed in the New World and lived there for three years, giving birth to a baby before sailing home. Or so the Icelandic sagas say. Even after archaeologists found a Viking longhouse in Newfoundland, no one believed that the details of Gudrid's story were true. Then, in 2001, a team of scientists discovered what may have been this pioneering woman's last house, buried under a hay field in Iceland, just where the sagas suggested it could be.

From Publishers Weekly While most medieval women didn't stray far from home, the Viking Gudrid (985-1050) probably crossed the North Atlantic eight times, according to Brown. Rather than just a passenger, Gudrid may have been the explorer on North American expeditions with two different husbands (one was the brother of Leif Ericson, who discovered America 500 years before Columbus). Brown (*A Good Horse Has No Color*) catches glimpses of Gudrid in the medieval Icelandic sagas which recount that her father, a chieftain with money problems, refused to wed Gudrid to a rich but slave-born merchant; instead he swapped their farm for a ship and a new life in Greenland. Specifics about her life are sparse, so Brown, following in Gudrid's footsteps, explores the archeology of her era, including the splendid burial ships of Viking queens; the remains of Gudrid's longhouse in a northern Icelandic hayfield; the economy of the farms where she lived; and the technology of her time, including shipbuilding, spinning wool and dairying. But the plucky and adaptable Gudrid remains mysterious, so this impressively researched account will interest serious students of Icelandic archeology, literature and women's history more than the general reader. Map. (Oct.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "... [A] marvelously sneaky history of the Viking mind. A nimble synthesis of the literary and the scientific that will charm even readers who didn't know they were interested."