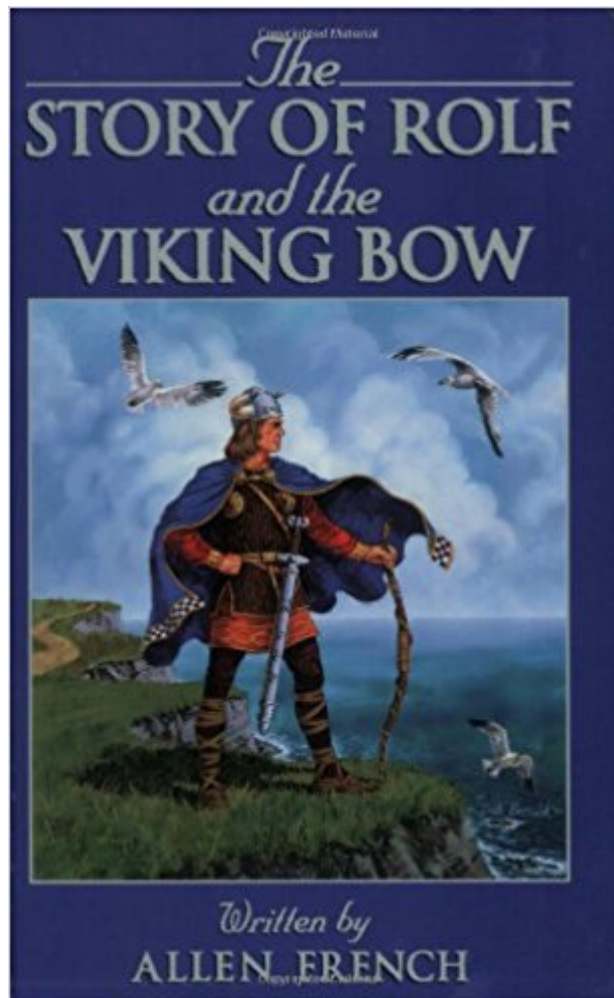




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# The Story Of Rolf And The Viking Bow (Living History Library)



## Synopsis

Rolf, son of Hiarandi the Unlucky, is a character who exemplifies the effect of Christ's teachings upon the Icelandic people during their heroic age. The book is set in Iceland in the days when Christianity has come to the island though the old customs still linger. Hiarandi, at the urging of his wife, does an unprecedented thing: he lights a signal fire on a dangerous point of his land, thereby challenging the accepted custom which places lucrative salvage at higher value than the saving of life. However, the life that is saved that night causes his own death and the unjust outlawing of his son Rolf. Rolf's response to this injustice creates a suspenseful, thought-provoking tale difficult to put down.

## Book Information

Series: Living History Library

Paperback: 244 pages

Publisher: Bethlehem Books; Reprint edition (June 1, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1883937019

ISBN-13: 978-1883937010

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 5.6 x 0.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #118,479 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Medieval](#) #414 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Values](#)

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

Allen French was born on November 28, 1870, in Boston, Massachusetts. He graduated from Harvard University in 1894 and for several years, beginning in 1908, taught English at his alma mater. His first interest, however, was history, and his contributions to historical writing are many and varied. Of special interest to readers of his *Story of Grettir the Strong* are his books *Rolf and the Viking Bow*, and *Heroes of Iceland*, an adaptation of *Njal's Saga*. Also of particular interest to young readers are his *Sir Marrok: A Tale of the Days of King Arthur*, *The Red Keep: A Story of Burgundy in the Year 1165*, and *The Lost Baron: A Story of England in the Year 1200*. The latter two books are

illustrated by N. C. Wyeth and Andrew Wyeth. ...

My 12-yr-old son was the one who chose that his was an "I loved it" rating -- he loved the storyline and the story of strong friendships. As the mom, I appreciate a book that still builds on a strong moral base (human life over wealth, repeated forgiveness, the need to learn from life lessons, the need to be repentant, the value of appreciating others) while successfully teaching us things about cultural history that we didn't fully appreciate before. The use of the courts in Rolf's homeland, the use of lawyers and the necessity of knowing the law, the ways the law tried to be fair, the tradition of looting for wealth being more important to many than saving human lives and the concept of "fostering" children at other courts/houses/lands are all included in this story. This book is written in an old world style as if it is trying to copy the tone of the sagas and it makes reference to the sagas which I also considered valuable for my son's education.

Such a great book! I LOVED this story. I bought it because we're learning about Vikings in our homeschool and I started reading it without the children... I couldn't put it down! I won't mind re-reading it with them either. Actually, I can't wait. It's such a great adventure story and it doesn't lag around, over explaining everything like some books do. The book itself is well constructed. No flimsy pages. It's printed on good paper. It's bound well and the cover and back are nice and sturdy.

HERE ALLEN FRENCH HAS OUTDONE HIMSELF! THE STORY, WHILE FICTION, READS LIKE IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED. AN EXCELLENT AND OFTEN SURPRISING 'MORAL TALE.' THE AUTHOR SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN CHARACTERS THAT REALLY EXISTED, LIKE SNOREY OF ICELAND, AND WOVEN A BELIEVABLE BUT THRILLING TALE FROM IT ALL! THIS IS THE TIME WHEN SOME OF THESE PEOPLES ARE CONVERTED TO CHRISTIANITY, AND SOME ARE STILL PAGAN. ALSO, THE AUTHOR INCLUDES SOME OF THE SUPERSTITIONS COMMON AMONG MEN OF THE DAY, EVEN CHRISTIANS. THE SCENE WITH THE 'BERSERKERS', THE BARE SHIRTERS, RIPPING OFF THEIR SHIRTS AND GOING INTO A KIND OF MAD FRENZY BEFORE ATTACKING, AND ONLY ABLE TO BE KILLED WITH SILVER TIPPED ARROWS IS PARTICULARLY GRIPPING! RQ

Bought for homeschool during study of Viking era/Holy Roman Empire period. My son liked the writing style: no romance, an adequate amount of fighting, lots of intrigue. :)

Purchased for my son, he then encouraged me to read it. I'm glad I did. Its a good story with many lessons that can then be discussed with your child. If you're considering this book I give it a hearty child/parent recommendation.

This is a good book, but the Old English can sometimes trip us up. It has good content and allows the reader to see what it must have been like to live back then.

My son will read this for school this year!

While the story might be great, we couldn't get past the first chapter with the Old English. So, we didn't bother reading the rest.

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