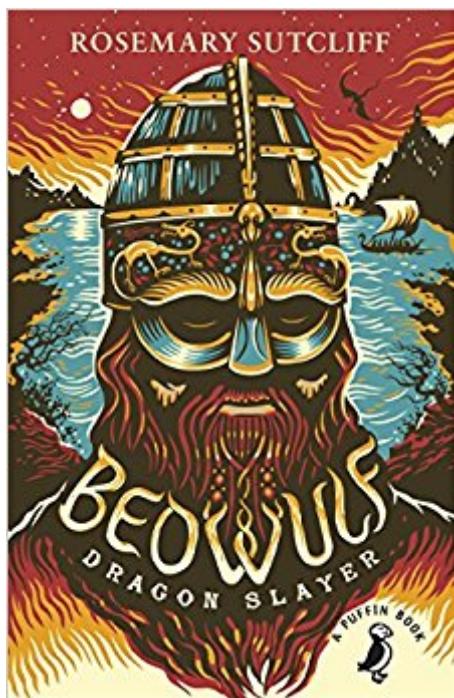


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Beowulf, Dragon Slayer (A Puffin Book)



Synopsis

In this thrilling retelling of the Anglo-Saxon legend, Rosemary Sutcliff recounts Beowulf's most terrifying quests: against Grendel the man-wolf, against the hideous sea-hag and, most courageous of all, his fight to the death with the monstrous fire-drake. An extra section in the back includes author info, activities and quizzes, a glossary, fascinating facts, and more.

Book Information

Series: A Puffin Book

Paperback: 464 pages

Publisher: Penguin UK; Reissue edition (April 1, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0141368691

ISBN-13: 978-0141368696

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.4 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.1 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #228,579 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Norse #1803 in Children's Books > Children's Books > Classics

Age Range: 9 - 11 years

Grade Level: 4 - 6

Customer Reviews

Rosemary Sutcliff is universally considered one of the finest writers of historical novels for children. Her books include *Black Ships Before Troy*, *The Wanderings of Odysseus*, and *The Eagle of the Ninth*. She was a recipient of the Carnegie Medal, she was highly commended for the Hans Christian Andersen Award, and she was awarded the OBE for services to Children's Literature and the CBE in 1992.

This is a wonderful version of the Beowulf epic, adapted for children. Although it is prose, it has a lyrical cadence that really evokes the the original poetic form in many instances throughout the story. The vocabulary, likewise, gives an accurate sense of the original (in translation) and can be challenging for a child who has only been exposed to modern children's books that use easier language. I read a poetic translation of the original immediately before reading this adaptation, and this is so true to the feel of the real thing that it's an excellent preparation for those who aren't quite

ready for the poetic form, yet quite a work of art in its own right. Sutcliff is an amazingly talented adapter of classic epic works. Do keep in mind that, though it is retold for children, it is still the same story and doesn't pull its punches -- the description "for children" is more an indication of the reading level than the content level. There is still blood and gore and the whole range of violence of the original, just in simpler form.

Ms. Sutcliff has again blown the dust from the stories which have lain dormant on library shelves for so long and made them come alive. Beowulf has never been so exciting. His epic battles with three of the most horrifying creatures in British literature are amazingly terrifying and suspenseful but they are also profoundly human. Ms. Sutcliff allows feelings of sadness, trust, and loyalty to seep through the pages of the old story and into her hero's heart. She makes Beowulf not only into a great king and hero but into a great man as well.

Rosemary Sutcliff takes the material from the epic poem Beowulf, and turns it into a prose novel aimed at young readers. She follows the man through the three major confrontations he has with some very serious beasties. A story about dedication, bravery, duty and honor, and those who choose to uphold it.

This is rubbish. It is very predictable and bores you until you've had too much and if it is in an English class, you want to be in as many terrible extra curricular things as possible even if you hate them just to get out of the lesson just so you do not have to read this terrible book. I would give it 0 stars, -1 stars or even -20000000000000000000 stars if I could for it wasting hours of my life but this only lets you put 1+ stars. It starts in this really old language, using words such as "mead cups" and "sleeping benches" and isn't even slightly modernised meaning that children would usually just find it hard to understand even though it has got a children's plot. This person just stabs a dragon and then the dragon's mother comes and they stab them too and they pass round mead cups and sleep and end of story, using no details whatsoever. It's completely pointless and terrible and I DO NOT RECOMMEND THIS BOOK TO ANYONE AT ALL

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