



Lord of the Runes

Sabrina Jarema

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In this exciting new series, the dramatic world of the Vikings is brought to life in vivid, historical detail. As brave warriors fight to defend family honor and tradition, they discover unexpected passion with memorable women who only further their resolve for justice . . .

Following his father's murder, Eirik Ivarson plunges into a maelstrom of brutal warfare. As outsiders threaten his homeland and all he holds dear, Eirik vows to maintain his focus and avenge the *jarl*'s death. In his quest for revenge, he will leave everything behind, all he knows, and all he loves.

Asa Sigrundsdottir, a spirited shieldmaiden with warm brown eyes, is wary of the golden-haired warrior discovered half-frozen in a storm. It is clear Eirik is a man of valor, bestowed with the gift of reading runes and destined for greatness. And despite the shadows in her past, he chooses her to help him on his journey. But when their bond is tested, it will take the strength of a hero to keep their love alive . . .

Lord of the Runes Details

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From Reader Review Lord of the Runes for online ebook

Melanie A. says

There were some real highs and lows for me while reading this one. Though it started out a bit slowly, by about the 30% mark I was hooked and thoroughly enjoying myself. I loved the setting and the historical details that brought the viking world to life. And the dynamic between Eirik and Asa and the carving of the runes was sensual and captivating. Unfortunately it kind of went downhill from there. The rest of the story was overexplained and lacking in subtlety, and there were really no more relationship building moments between the main characters. Having said that, the viking world in fiction is not overly common and its vibrant portrayal alone made this book worth reading.

Jessy MpdI says

Lien de mon avis ici ? <https://wp.me/p5AuT9-49q>

Mention Spéciale Belle Découverte

Une lecture où j'ai eu beaucoup de mal à accrocher au début et où j'ai bien faillit abandonner. Mais j'ai tenu bon et contre toute attente cela m'a beaucoup plu...

Un univers que je découvre et pour une première rencontre c'est une belle surprise. Avec une grande finesse, Sabrina Jarema nous plonge dans les contrées fascinants des mystères des runes chez les peuples Nordiques.

Bien qu'au début j'ai eu un peu de mal avec les noms typiquement nordiques, très vite je me suis laissée happer par l'histoire en elle-même. Une intrigue habilement menée et riche en sensations et rebondissements. Le petit plus ? Je tiens à saluer l'immense travail de recherches de l'auteure sur les us et coutumes et les croyances des Vikings.

Et c'est à travers ce décor exceptionnel, que nous allons faire connaissance d'un magnifique beau duo torturé par les démons du passé. Un héros qui en va plaire à plus d'une. Un guerrier redoutable et un lecteur de rune. Une héroïne fort courageuse qui grâce à ses frères essaie de surmonter ce terrible tourment. Deux forts caractères qui ont du mal donné leur confiance, qui vont de défier mais qui au fil du temps vont s'approprier...

En bref... Mention Spéciale Belle Découverte pour cette romance bien originale. Un voyage palpitant qui allie à merveille la magie des runes, les cultures nordiques, de l'action, une bonne dose de tension, de la sensualité et des émotions vives. Tout ce qu'il faut pour passer un excellent moment.

Gigi staub says

Following his father's murder, Eirik Ivarson plunges into a maelstrom of brutal warfare. As outsiders threaten his homeland and all he holds dear, Eirik vows to maintain his focus and avenge the jarl's death. In his quest for revenge, he will leave everything behind, all he knows, and all he loves.

Asa Sigrundsdottir, a spirited shieldmaiden with warm brown eyes, is wary of the golden-haired warrior discovered half-frozen in a storm. It is clear Eirik is a man of valor, bestowed with the gift of reading runes

and destined for greatness. And despite the shadows in her past, he chooses her to help him on his journey. But when their bond is tested, it will take the strength of a hero to keep their love alive . . .

Review:

I am glad I am getting on this brand new series in the beginning.

For this first time Author I think she did an excellent job! The story was exciting and had lots of great elements. I liked that it was set during the time of the Vikings. It starts out very action packed. With Eirik's village being taken over by the Outcasts, his father, the Jarl is killed and his mother and sister are taken hostage with the rest of the village. This sets Eirik on a trek to get to his cousin and bring back help. He ends up in Asa's village where he waits out winter and heals. While he is there he grows close to Asa and her family and village. Asa has been scarred by past events, but has built a shield around herself by bottling her emotions and becoming a strong warrior. I liked the two sides of her, soft and tough. Eirik is a warrior but upstanding, once he meets Asa not once does another catch his eye. I like the mystical aspect of the story in Eirik and his family being rune masters. That Asa and Eirik share this mystical link through the carving of runes on the dragon head. The Outcasts come to Asa's village and the after they are defeated, Eirik goes to his cousin to garner help. Then they all go to rescue Eirik's village. You need to read the book to see what happens. So I got to stop this review it is going on and on....lol But I just touched on the highlights.

In my opinion this is an exciting, action-packed romance. This is a very strong start to this series with strong interesting characters and an engaging story line.

4.5Stars

I received a copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for a fair and honest review.

Jewelrvmuse says

***ARC via NetGalley for a honest review

"Lord of the Runes" by Sabrina Jarema is the first book in the "Viking Lords" series.

This story is set in an era where Vikings set out on voyages to trade or capture fortunes, slaves and land. The action starts right off in the first pages.

Eirik watches his father's murder as a battle for his home rages around him by outcasts bent on taking what he holds dear.

Escaping capture after killing the man who murdered his father but not the one who planned taking his home, he promises himself he will stop at nothing to free his mother and sister and regain his legacy. In route to gain assistance from his relative he goes off course and nearly dies in a blizzard. When found, Eirik is nursed back to health by a jarl's sister and shieldmaiden, Asa.

It is discovered that Eirik has the ability to read the runes for divination and knows the protective runes that Asa has dreamed she needs for her dragon shiphead carving. These runes brings them together in magical ways neither expected.

As evil scheming rears its head, love, trust and honor are revealed in the course of regaining what was lost and new alliances are made.

A well written story of romance and action. The series should be a great read as the characters introduced in this first book seem to need their stories told.

AnnMarie says

Lord of the Runes is the first book in the 'Viking Lords' series by Sabrina Jarema. It is the first book that I have read by this author, and it definitely will NOT be my last.

This is the story of Eirik Ivarson, the son of a Jarl. After the loss of his wife and baby he spends 3 years away from his home trying to come to terms with his grief and guilt. He hasn't long returned home when 'outcasts' raid, fighting to take over his home and lands. It's an unexpected raid as it's so late in winter, and it's one that Eirik, his father, and men aren't prepared for. They lose the fight and Eirik has to watch his father being slain. He himself barely escapes capture when he kills the man who slay the Jarl. He is determined to avenge his father's death, to rescue his mother and sister who have been taken captive amongst the other villagers who didn't fight, and to take back his home. In order to do that he has to battle the dire winter weather, freezing temperatures and blizzards to reach his cousin who will have the man power and ships needed to return in the Spring to oust the 'outcasts'.

Before he can make it there he nearly dies in a blizzard but thankfully is found and taken into a stranger's keep. He is unconscious most of the time and it is up to the Jarl's sister Asa, to nurse him back to health. During his time unconscious they try to see what he has on his person that might explain who he is. They find a bag of Runes. People who can read the runes are revered and the Jarl is even more determined that Eirik recovers lest they are cursed for not helping him.

Asa is shieldmaiden, a female warrior. She's had something happen to her in her past that has made her realise that she will never be able to marry or have a relationship with a man. She is settled with that fact and is happy fighting with her family as and when necessary. She can't help however noticing that Eirik is a fine figure of a man, and once he recovers she finds that she is quite taken with him.

Eirik too feels the pull of attraction. Jarl Magnus watches quietly from afar, knowing that Eirik is a stranger and that he has secrets, also knowing that he won't be good enough for his sister because he isn't a Jarl or royalty. He should warn Eirik off, but it's a wonder for him to see Asa allow a man to even touch her hand, and he is willing for now to see how things progress between the couple. Eirik is to stay with them for the winter, until then he won't be able to make it to his cousin. So he settles in to life in their keep as best he can. His mother is a Mistress of the Runes, and she has taught him to harness their powers and to read them properly. As a way to earn his keep he offers to do readings for anybody who is interested. He also offers to help Asa carve some runes for protection in a Dragon head that is to be sold to be put on the prow of a ship. During their 'carving' sessions a magical bond forms between them both and Eirik is determined to marry Asa once he has avenged his family and takes on his official title and role as Jarl.

First he has to get to his cousin and fight the battle. Can he win back his home, save his people, and the heart of Asa. There are a couple of people in Magnus' home that will do everything in their power to stop him doing all three! Will they be discovered before it's too late?

This book really has the WOW factor for me. I couldn't read it quickly enough, I was hooked from the very first page. Eirik and Asa are both such strong characters despite having suffered heartache in the past. It was so lovely reading how their feelings for each other helped heal not just themselves but also each other. And of course apart from the romance there was the Viking raids and the excitement of the battle to enjoy, though not so much in the beginning when poor Eirik's father was slain. You definitely run the gamut of emotions reading this book. The magic of the runes was an absolute delight to read about and brought that added extra to the story. Making it not just a wonderful romance, but a mystical one as well. I loved this story and can't

wait to read the next in the series.

I was given a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

Sariah says

...une lecture appréciable qui remplit parfaitement son rôle. Le seigneur des runes est le premier livre d'une série ; j'espère avoir l'occasion de découvrir l'histoire de l'ensemble des membres de la famille d'Asa et d'Eirik...

<http://www.sariahlit.com/2018/05/le-s...>

Maria11 says

I started out really liking this story and then winter set in and it dragged like no tomorrow. I mean like longer than the winter in the north....boring.

The plot was very predictable. The terrible thing that happened to Asa was terrible, but not something that should have made her feel so damaged...but who am I to judge. I just didn't feel the pull between the H and h. There was little romance between them....insert yawn.....

I liked the mystical part it was interesting. The story was full of Norse history and culture.

Received a copy from the publisher through NetGalley.

April says

Lord of the Runes by Sabrina Jarema is a thrilling Medieval Viking Romance. # 1 in the new and exciting "The Viking Lords" series. WOW! This certainly promises to be a thrill ride of an adventurous series.

Well written with well-developed, engaging and captivating characters. The storyline is somewhat unique, masterfully written, with intrigue, treachery, brutal warfare, betrayal and the promise of vengeance and love. The secondary characters definitely help carry the story to completion. So many twists and turns, some, the reader will not see coming.

Eirik Ivarson is plunged into a brutal maelstrom of retribution and vengeance when his father, the Jarl, is murdered. He vows revenge, and seeks his cousins assistance for retribution. But, he gets lost in a blizzard, on his way to his cousin, where he is found, frozen and near death, by the beautiful shieldmaiden, Asa. Eirik is a man of valor, has the gift of reading runes,(rune caster) and is destined for greatness.

Asa Sigrundsdottir, is a spirited, feisty, young woman, whose brother is a Jarl. Due to a tragic event in her past, Asa becomes a shieldmaiden. Which is why her brother's teach her how to fight, and protect herself to never be vulnerable again.

Together, Eirik and Asa find love, friendship, comfort, acceptance and make powerful alliances. But will they be able to accept their fates, destiny and find their HEA? Or will the shadows of their past defeat them?

Can Eirik prove to Asa she can trust him with her body and her heart? The journey ahead of them will be treacherous, dangerous and they will need each other's strength to survive.

A fast paced tale with many facets, dangerous intrigue, grief, and learning to let go of the past to find a HEA.

A well thought out story, where the reader can see how Eirik and Asa grow, become close and fight for what they want. Powerful, emotionally charged, compelling and captivating. I absolutely enjoyed, "Lord of the Runes"!

A page turner and a keeper! Viking Romance and danger, never a dull moment within these pages.

Fans of Viking Romance, Historical fiction, warfare, treachery and love, will definitely enjoy "Lord of the Runes". What a spell-binding adventure!

I can hardly wait for the next installment. Which, I hope will be Magnus, Asa's oldest brother, and Jarl and Silvia, Eirik's sister, who feels she she is fated to be alone and given to the church. Will the runes change her heart?

Received for an honest review from Net Galley.

Rating: 5

Heat rating: Mild

Reviewed by: AprilR

Melann says

On est plus sur de l'Aventure que de la Passion ! Même si finalement, l'aventure en Norvège l'hiver, il y en a peu mdr ?

C'est donc une lecture lente, qui manque de fluidité, avec beaucoup de longueur dans la narration.

Le couple est sympathique, mais classique. Et même dans leur relation, c'est très long...

Julie Drucker says

Really enjoyed this book. Story line was well written and the characters were sharp! Love it when there is just enough description in a book that allows the reader to use their imagination to picture the scene, like a movie in your mind. Recommended reading to anyone looking for a Viking story with a splash of romance. Liked the ending because it didn't end in a cliff hanger but made you want to read the next book coming out! Only real criticism I can give is maybe a little more detail with the battles to add a bit more pizzazz, otherwise, I felt this was a good book and worth the read. Not so darn long it takes for ever to read ;this one is just perfect!! Kudos to the author for a great book!!

Ninou d'IOTM says

je l'ai juste dévoré, la plume de l'auteure est vraiment agréable à lire.

j'aime beaucoup me perdre vers d'autres temps, d'autres lieux, et j'ai pris beaucoup de plaisir avec ce premier tome.

d'ailleurs si vous souhaitez tenter le genre historique, vous pouvez y aller les yeux fermés (ou presque lol). ce que j'apprécie le plus, c'est la dignité et l'honneur qui priment avant tout pour les personnages, des valeurs qui se perdent par les temps qui courent.

côté cuisine légère ça reste soft, rien de très sulfureux car la flamboyante rousse luttera autant sur le champ de bataille que contre les élans de son cœur.

Caydee says

The debut of Lord of The Runes, the first book in The Viking Lords series by Sabrina Jarema, is a true historical adventure no reader can possibly resist. Her storytelling establishes her as a master craftsman of words and their mystique by luring us into a time in history that brushes otherworldly realms while remaining tethered to the earth and the people of the North.

She has no qualms about throwing us into the middle of a rousing battle that ends with a heart-wrenching loss of a loved one to get us started. This sends our hero, Eirik, on a perilous journey through the frigid unknown where not only the strangers but also the elements may prove deadly. All to avenge his family's name and ensure their and his village's safety.

Viking, Eirik Ivarson is on a quest for revenge but the gods have plans for him that require the gifts they blessed him with and he rejected. But now the gods are urging him to reach out, to traverse that ethereal plane and share his knowledge with those of the village that rescued him during a winter storm. He swore he'd never cast a rune again, but the gods will have their way, even if the enticement they use is a wary but beautiful shieldmaiden named Asa who carries her own battle scars--on the inside.

Jarema's debut reads as if she's been writing about Vikings for years. Flawless. Tempting and engaging. The details of the daily lives of the people, the casting of the runes, the battles, and the rules governing the Northmen make them so realistic and likable. She has woven every word together to create a tapestry of story so compelling it will sweep you up and take you sailing right along with Eirik and Asa on this emotional and very dangerous adventure in their quest for honor, justice, revenge, and maybe the most powerful force of all the realms--love.

A masterfully written story full of vivid and evocative moments that will have you reading as fast as you can to discover what the next challenge Asa and Eirik will have to conquer. Well done Ms. Jarema. An outstanding read!!!!

I received an ARC copy from NetGalley in exchange for an honest and unbiased review. (The book was so fabulous, I bought my own copy.)

Romina says

I loved this book. Even do I knew it was about Vikings I was so excited and pleasantly surprised when places and names from Vikings (the TV series) were named. Looking forward to the next book in the series.

DarkAthena59 says

Une histoire de viking, teintée d'une dose de magie, qui si elle souffre de quelques longueurs, surtout au début de l'histoire, reste captivante. La romance semble presque au second plan par rapport à l'action, mais les héros sont touchants à s'apprivoiser.
Belle lecture.

Regan Walker says

Rune Warrior Meets Shield Maiden

Set in Norway in winter 850 AD, this is the story of Asa Sigrundsdottir, a shield maiden, and Eirik Ivarson, the warrior she discovered frozen on his horse in the snow. Eirik had fled his home when outcasts attacked and killed his father, the jarl. Struggling with one of the attackers, he went over a crest into the sea.

Revived at Asa's home, Eirik returns the kindness her people have shown him by reading the runes for the people, as he learned from his mother, and helping Asa carve the runes into the dragonhead she is working on for the stem of a longship.

Asa is afraid of a man's touch from an incident six years' earlier. The author was very slow to reveal what it was. From the beginning, I assumed it was a rape (Eirik assumed it was abuse). Anyway, at the suggestion of her brother, Asa learned a warrior's skills to be able to protect herself. In doing so, she earned the respect of the warriors, a shield maiden fighting alongside them.

Eirik tells no one he is a jarl or even where he comes from, which seemed odd, but blends in with the other warriors, fighting when the village is attacked by outcasts. He spends much of his days carving a stone tribute to Asa's dead father, the former jarl of her people. Her brothers wonder just where he goes each day, but no one follows him to the nearby shed where he works.

Eirik had to be the most gentlemanly Viking I've ever encountered: polite to all, sensitive to Asa's every mood, caring of her dark past which he thinks was abuse, and willing to do whatever he can for her with never a cross word. Asa did nothing to encourage his affection. It seemed to be mostly an attraction on his part until the end.

The story reflects the author's considerable research into the Norsemen's pagan beliefs and religion. Beautifully written, much of the story is taken up with the description of applying the magical runes to Asa's dragon head that seems to come alive under Eirik's touch. One could have wanted more description of the setting, the winter landscape, the wildlife (never heard a wolf; never saw a dog; the men went hunting and brought back elk, but we didn't see the hunt or the elk), and even the inside of the longhouse where most of the story took place I wanted more description. (A picture of what the runes looked like would have been great adds, too.) The characters are well developed, especially Asa's twin brothers who might have their own stories as the series develops, and Estrid, Asa's jealous cousin who meant her ill.

Recommended for those who love Viking stories steeped in Norse mythology.
