

Edda: A Little Valkyrie's First Day of School

By Adam Auerbach



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Edda is a Valkyrie (an ancient Norse goddess who guides and protects heroes). She lives in a magical land called Asgard where she has everything she wants. Well . . . almost everything. Edda wants to find a friend her own age. Edda's wise papa knows of a place where she can make friends: a place on Earth called "school."

School is very different from Asgard. Edda's not sure if she likes it at first. But then she remembers that Valkyries are very brave. Even little Valkyries. Edda learns that being different is what makes her special and she begins to make new friends.

A Christy Ottaviano Book



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

PreS-Gr 3—Young Edda is a Valkyrie (a brave woman, according to Norse mythology) who happily spends her days on Asgard doing pretty much as she pleases, including searching for unruly monsters. Then she decides she wants to play with someone her own age. Her father has the solution: kindergarten...on Earth. As she enters the classroom, Edda realizes that even Valkyries aren't immune to moments of nervousness, but her wise, gentle father reassures Edda that she is indeed brave. At first, school is nothing like she imagined. There are many new rules: sitting still, waiting your turn, sharing. Yet by day's end, Edda has made a new friend and has stories to share with her family in Asgard, inspiring one curious dragon to join Edda in class the following day. Narrator Susie Berneis perfectly captures Edda's range of emotions. VERDICT This small story about a big moment in a child's life is a perfect classroom resource to explore a variety of themes: taking turns, sharing, friendship, and respect.—Cheryl Preisendorfer, Twinsburg City Schools, OH

Review

"Auerbach hilariously depicts often-grumpy Edda, always wearing armor and a winged helmet among her T-shirt-claud classmates, in spare and cheerful line drawings." *Booklist*

"Kudos to author-illustrator Adam Auerbach --or, rather, a celebratory goblet of mead to him--for pairing a traditional school story with Norse mythology. . . . The tricky adjustments between the familiarity of home and the new disciplines of school play out amusingly in Mr. Auerbach's spare, comedic illustrations." ?The Wall Street Journal

"The struggles of Edda's first day bring a needed spark to the book, eliciting giggles through their humorous but sympathetic rendering of a little girl struggling to fit in . . . It might inspire the more timid little Valkyries." ?BCCB

"Auerbach--an accomplished editorial artist with an approachable line drawing style and a sly, sympathetic wit--makes a terrific children's book debut in this folklore-meets-first-day story. Edda is a fresh, funny twist on the kid who can't quite find a grove." *Publishers Weekly*

"Wagner's operas inspired this Valkyrie-themed look at the first day of school." ?Kirkus Reviews

About the Author

ADAM AUERBACH is an illustrator and graphic designer from Brooklyn, New York. He was inspired to create *Edda* while listening to Richard Wagner's "Ring Cycle," a series of operas based on Norse mythology. Adam has always loved the stories of the rugged Norse gods and monsters.

Adam's illustrations have appeared on book covers and in numerous print publications, including *The New York Times* and *School Library Journal*. *Edda* is his first children's book.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Harley Fabry:

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to typically the Mall. How about open or even read a book entitled Edda: A Little Valkyrie's First Day of School? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time along with your favorite's book, you can wiser than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have some other opinion?

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