

Characters

Narrators 1,2,3 and 4

4 Viking women

12, Viking warriors

monk

- Narrator 1 Somewhere in Norway approximately 1200 years ago
- 1st viking Gather round any men who are looking for excitement and adventure
- 1st woman Oh no! Here we go again. All the men will be rushing off to go on another adventure
- 2nd woman Well, I don't know about you but I'll be glad to get rid of my husband. All he does is moan, moan, moan about how little land he has got here.
- 3rd Woman My husband is always going on about the weather here. He says anywhere is bound to be an improvement, he's heard of some place called Britain that has better weather.
- 4th woman My Bjorn says that everyone has been talking about a new land called Greenland that has got lots of room for everyone, he says we should pack up and go there.
- 1st woman I've been told by someone that it's not green at all but nearly all ice and snow, they only called it that to fool us!
- 1st viking Are you ready and willing to sail to a distant land?
- Men Yes!
- 1st viking Are you willing to work long hours?
- Men Yes!
- 1st viking Are you prepared to die in battle?
- Men YES!!!
- 1st viking Then you are fit to be viking warriors.

SONG Viking Warriors

Narrator 1	Meanwhile in the North of England on an Island called Lindisfarne, a Monk who lived in the monastery was feeling very uneasy.
Monk	I can't sleep lately! Whirlwinds blowing around my habit, lightning crashing from the sky and Father Damien has seen Dragon's heads floating on the sea, I've told him to stop drinking the mead. Wait a minute what's that I can see on the water? They look like ships with the heads of serpents and dragons! Oh no now I'm seeing things too! I'd better go and have a lie down I think.
Narrator 2	The vicious Vikings stole all the treasure from the monasteries, killed some of the monks, took some back as slaves and threw the others in the sea to drown.
2 nd Viking	We were fantastic boat builders. Here's out ten top tips for boat building.
3 rd Viking	ONE- choose a spot near the sea.
4 th Viking	TWO- choose your trees carefully, make sure they are the shape you want.
5 th Viking	THREE- pick straight oak trees to make the keel.
6 th Viking	FOUR- build ribs at right angles to the keel
7 th Viking	FIVE- cut down a few dozen pine trees for the planks.
8 th Viking	SIX- drill holes in the planks to take the nails.
9 th Viking	SEVEN- nail the planks to the ribs
10 th Viking	EIGHT- overlap the planks till you have built the complete boat.
11 th Viking	NINE- find a cow or a sheep and make ropes from its hair, dip the ropes in tar and push them into the gaps to make them watertight.
12 th Viking	TEN - carve a <u>really ugly</u> face on the front!

SONG Viking Boats

Narrator 2	When Viking warriors died bravely in battle they believed that women called Valkyries swooped down from the sky and carried their bodies up to a place called Valhalla where they fought all day and drank all night.
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All the Viking Women Men! Honestly!

Narrator 3 Sometimes their bodies were placed in their longships which were then either buried with all their possessions in or set alight and pushed out to sea.

Women What a terrible waste of a perfectly good longship.

2nd woman We were important too. When all these men disappeared we were left in charge of the farm and had to do all the hard work.

3rd woman We also weave all our own clothes and blankets.

Narrator 4 At night all the village would have gathered around a huge fire to listen to the wonderful storytellers. They told many stories about the Gods they believed in and the things they got up to. This is a play about a wicked God called Loki who was always playing nasty tricks on the other Gods.

Play about Balder

Narrator 3 Here are a few more interesting Viking facts;

Man We invented ice skates and skis

Woman We invented hot steam baths like saunas and rolled in the snow afterwards

Man We played a boardgame similar to chess

Woman We made soap out of mashed up conkers

Man We discovered America before Christopher Columbus!

Woman We had a famous king called Canute who sat at the edge of the sea and ordered it to go back, it didn't and he got very wet feet!

Narrator 4 We hope you have enjoyed finding out about Vikings.
Hands together and eyes closed.

The Death of Balder

Characters

Narrator

Balder

Frigg

Loki

Hoder

Hermod

Hel

Narrators 1 - 10

- Narrator 1 Balder, the sun God was loved by everyone for his goodness and his gentleness.
- Balder I am very tired, I think I will lie down for a sleep.
- Narrator 1 Balder stirs restlessly in his sleep while having a nightmare
- Balder I have just had the most awful dream I must go and tell my mother.
- Narrator 1 Balder goes to visit his mother who is sitting weaving
- Balder I have had a terrible dream that I am going to be killed by someone.
- Frigg Do not worry my precious boy, I will never let anyone harm you.
- Narrator 2 Frigg then went to everything on the earth, including plants and rocks and asked them to promise not to harm her son and they all promised they would not.
- Narrator 2 So Balder became invulnerable.
- Narrator 3 The Gods enjoyed throwing things at him and laughing when their missiles fell off him and didn't even scratch him.
- Narrator 4 One of the gods was the evil and wicked Loki and he was jealous of Balder and decided to find out what his weakness was.
- Loki If I disguise myself as an old woman I can ask Frigg what she has done to protect her son.

Loki I've just been having fun with your brother and his friends. We've been playing the 'throw everything at Balder' game. I've never seen you join in with it.

Hoder I can't join in because I am blind and cannot see where I am throwing things. I might throw something at the wrong person and cause them serious damage.

Loki Well that would be a terrible thing to happen wouldn't it? No, No, we don't want anyone to get hurt do we?

Hoder It would be fun to be able to play the game.

Narrator 7 Loki then put his hateful plan into action.

Loki I know Hoder, what if I guide your hand while you are throwing and then you'll be sure not to do anyone else an injury.

Hoder That's very kind of you Loki, what a good friend you are.

Narrator 7 Loki then made a sharp arrow out of the mistletoe twig and put it into Hoder's bow.

Loki Ssh Hoder I can see Balder coming. Let's jump out and surprise him.

Narrator 8 Loki then stood beside Hoder and directed his aim towards Balder.

Narrator 9 The arrow flew straight and true and hit Balder who fell down dead.

Narrator 8 The gods were devastated when they saw what had happened to Balder and Balder's other brother Hermod went to plead with Hel who was Goddess of the underworld.

Hermod Please I beg you send my brother back to earth, don't keep him here with you. I didn't mean to harm him and my mother's heart is broken.

Hel On one condition.

Hermod Anything you say, I will do anything.

Hel Your brother may return to earth if every single living thing on earth calls for his return.

Hermod I will travel all over the earth and ask every single tree, rock, stone, animal and person to call for my brother's return.

Narrator 9 Hermod set off on his journey and everything he asked agreed to call for Balder's return from the underworld.

Narrator 8 He was very near the end of his journey when he met an old woman on the road.

Hermod Hello old women, I have asked everything on the earth to call for my brother Balder's return from the underworld. You are the last person I must ask before I return to get him.

Narrator 10 Hermod did not realise that this old woman was the evil Loki in his old woman disguise.

Hermod Will you join with every other thing on earth and call for my dear brother's return

Loki NO! NO! NO! I will not call for his return. Ha ha ha you fools!

Hermod You monster! The gods will have their revenge.

Narrator 10 And the gods did have their revenge, When they discovered what Loki had done, they chained him in a cave full of snakes.....but nothing could keep Loki out of mischief for long.

Narrator 9 But that's another story.

THE END