



# Giants of the Frost

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Taking a job on an isolated island in the Sea of Norway, scientist Victoria Scott wants a quiet place to finish her doctoral thesis. But Victoria isn't prepared for the strange shadows outside her cabin window, the rumors of a murderous hag who sucks one's soul during sleep, and the tales of mythic monsters lurking in the forest. More frightening than the islands nightmarish mysteries: to Victoria, everything is hauntingly familiar.

When an enigmatic stranger appears on the island, Victoria's sense of foreboding peaks. For she learns that they are connected by a conflict centuries old--one that can end only with her death...

## Giants of the Frost Details

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Author : Kim Wilkins

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# From Reader Review *Giants of the Frost* for online ebook

## **Alisa Kester says**

I'm not hugely interested in Norse mythology, but the premise of this book seemed too good to pass up. A lonely, isolated island, populated only by a scant handful of weather researchers, and haunted by the old hag who comes in our nightmares to sit on our chests and suck our breath...oh yeah, I can forgive a few Norse gods for a plot like this! And none of it disappointed; this was a solidly fascinating and unusual love story, full of legend and pathos.

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## **Jo says**

This is as much a romance as a thriller or a mystery. I loved every moment of it, and fell in love with Vidar in a way I wouldn't have thought possible.

I loved the intertwined threads of plots and fates, the cuts between Asgard and Earth, and the stories of passion gone in unforeseen directions.

As I was reading, I found myself growing every more concerned about the ending. It seemed impossible that the story could end happily, but I was concerned that a tragic ending would make me feel that the entire book had been pointless. I needn't have worried. Wilkins delivers a beautifully considered, authentic and (most of all) satisfying conclusion to what I would consider a love story of the ages.

I highly recommend this book to anyone with an interest in historical fiction, historical romance and Norse themed tales.

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## **Sheri says**

I had to pull myself through parts of this book but ultimately when I completed it I was very satisfied with the story. Kim wraps up all the loose ends nicely and she had a bit in the book with Loki, my favorite Norse God. I borrowed this book from a friend and wound up buying a copy for myself. It has a lot of detail and characters but I managed to not get too lost.

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## **Amelia Rockliff says**

Bolinda audiobook. I sat through 15 hours of shockingly written badly structured shittily narrated romantic star-crossed lovers crap and I didn't even get my fucking god damned happy ending.

Do I sound bitter? I am exceedingly bitter.

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## Jennifer says

DNF at 10%. This is a romance disguised as an actual story with smart characters and interesting mythology. I don't care about predestined, reincarnated blah, even with a skeptic female scientist as the main character. Actually, Victoria Scott (seriously? her name sounds like she should be a gothic romance writer from the 60s) apparently hates other women and only sees men as potential mates or creepers. Nor does she seem to have any interest in the geophysics she's apparently getting her PhD in. Look, I totally understand grad school burnout, but the fact that she finds a guy who wears musty sweaters more attractive than the geophysics of the cool remote island she's working on kind of floors me.

Side rant: I reeeaaally don't like the way this character is a scientist mostly because it was needed to get her out to said remote island for the romantic plot to work. Why not make her the ship's cook, in that case? It's possible to write interesting, convincing scientist characters whose curiosity and okay, borderline obsessiveness, are major plot drivers (ahem, **Annihilation**), but you definitely won't find one in **Giants of the Frost**.

I am thoroughly unimpressed in less than 1/10th of the book. Which is almost impressive in itself.

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## Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

Giants of the Frost turned out to be a slow read, but it was a very good book. I think that the use of Norse mythology was well done. I appreciate how Ms. Wilkins took Norse mythology and folklore and created something novel with these elements as a basis.

Although it took me a while to get sucked into the romantic aspects, admittedly a big part of this book, I enjoyed reading about the characters: Victoria, Vidar, Aud, and Loki, whose fates are entwined rather deeply. I also appreciated the secondary cast of characters, the norns (three sisters who weave the fates for the Aesir), Skripi (a forest wight who is a lot of help to Victoria), and Victoria's coworkers, especially Gunnar (who is a very good friend and source of information about Norse myths to Victoria), to name a few. It was interesting to see Victoria's journey from grounded, almost boneheaded skepticism (she calls herself a fundamental atheist), to a woman who believes that she is the reincarnated lover of the son of Odin. Loki was quite the scene stealer. Ms. Wilkins managed to take this scheming, perpetually joking and stealing trickster of Norse lore, and make him into an appealing antihero who definitely got my interest. Aud, who is the bondmaid of Vidar, really earned my sympathy. She made a bargain out of a mother's love that cost her a thousand years and is in love with Vidar, although she knows it will never be returned. I liked that the characters were complex, realistically selfish in their desires at times, and not always motivated to do the right thing; yet they did show good qualities that made me want the best for them.

Ms. Wilkins is a very good writer, drawing vivid pictures in my mind. My favorite parts were the retelling of Vidar's struggle to be reunited with his love. It reminded me of fairy and folktales in which a character goes on a quest and suffers greatly, for that which is their heart's desire. I admit that there were parts where my interest waned, but I was glad I kept reading, especially when it got to the more interesting parts with Vidar's quest. Although I was a bit ambivalent about the fated love aspect of this story (more from the execution since I normally love that in a romance), I admit that by the end of the book, I was crying and hoping that Victoria and Vidar would get their chance to be together and happy.

I didn't quite know what to expect with this book. I picked it up because of my interest in Norse mythology, and I'm glad I did. This book was expertly crafted, with gratifying depths of complexity; a rich tapestry woven from the threads of identifiably human emotion--both good and bad--and fascinating lore and legend. I'll definitely be reading more from this author.

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### **Emily Mcleod says**

Hands down one of my all time favourite books. I so clearly remember the day I got this, I was too poor to afford a full price novel, despite visiting the bookstore everyday for hours on end, it was \$10 in a sale bin out the front and I grabbed it and loved the storyline. I still think about reading it for the first time when I see the book on my shelf.

I loved the story, this is possibly my first introduction to viking mythology and Scandinavian folklore, as well as the interweaving of mythology and fiction.

The love scene was also fantastic for a nerdy 15 year old to come across. I certainly set the bar weirdly high haha.

Loved the ending, loved the turmoil, loved the schadenfreude. 11/10 stars.

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### **Savannah says**

The prose is lifeless, even when the protagonists claim to be overwrought. Much talking about emotions; not so much conveying them to the reader. Too much plot tension; not enough plot. Yawn.

Really, the only reason my eyes were exposed to all of the pages was flip\*flip\*flip.

For someone who likes the tedious genre of folktale-inspired leaden re-enactment, this will be just fine. And while it's a romance, the sex is inexplicit enough to feel okay handing the book over to any but the most sheltered of teens--it's definitely much more on the romance and less on the physical.

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### **Nafiza says**

Putting it on hold because I am not feeling it at the moment.

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### **Jessi says**

Kim Wilkins is one of my new favorite authors. My sister recommended her books years ago and I didn't get around to reading them until now.

I enjoyed *Giants of the Frost* even more than *The Autumn Castle* because the main characters were smarter and thus more likable. Wilkins is very good at giving all of her characters depth. The plot moved along at an

excellent pace. I loved the ties to Norse mythology. There were many interesting creatures, places, people, and items in this one because a good portion of it takes place in another realm.

I like the creepy elements Wilkins brings to her writing, but I couldn't read it at night, during the first eight or so chapters. I still shudder thinking about it.

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### **Krist?ne says**

I got as far as the middle and just had to say no and mark as dnf.

The premise was good, the characters were compelling at first but the more I read the less I enjoyed it. and to be honest I didn't expect it to get so frustrating to deal with, not just the characters, but plot wise some things were not well executed.

I got so tired of waiting for Victoria and Vidar to meet and when they did it turned out to be really disappointing.

The switching point of views didn't help the matter either.

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### **Echo says**

Of the books I've read so far this year, this is one of my favorites. The characters were amazing, the story was so intriguing I didn't want to put it down, and the writing was absolutely beautiful. I would definitely recommend this book to my friends who enjoy fantasy novels.

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### **Sarah says**

In thirty-five pages, there was 1) a love triangle revealed, wherein one of the possible couplings is entirely unlikely. 2) the words "two defenseless women" were used un-ironically. 3) despite claims of being entirely uninterested in love, the main character knows the eligibility of all the men, despite 4) all of the women hate her and all the men want her. I am officially out. Thirty-five pages was all it took-- even Norse mythology isn't worth this poorly disguised Twilight crap.

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### **Elizabeth Mueller says**

I really loved this book. Kim is so good at creating a world and making it real. I cried. I laughed. I vouched for my favorite characters. This book left me feeling good.

This is my second time I've read it.

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**Claudi Feldhaus says**

Spannend, mystisch, romantisch ... wieder mal alles dran, was ein großartiges Buch braucht.

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