

Thora Longbeard, Voyage Through Time

by Anne Maughan

Three Rivers Homelink

7th Grade

Johanna Davis

1330 words

Thora Longbeard,
Voyage Through Time.
by Anne Maughan

Allisa stared out the bus window. Sighing, she thought for the seventh time how she had gotten into the current situation. She had been in a country wide history test, the winners of which would go on a field trip to Norway. All fifty states had participated, each sending one student. Allisa was from Provo, Utah and when she had heard about the test, she was excited beyond measure. Allisa had pondered every question, From the Battle of Hasting to the Battle of the Bulge. The woman who tested them said that the trip would be wonderful, but now it seemed extremely dull.

After two hours of riding on a rickety bus, listening to love songs in Norwegian, Allisa was exuberant when they finally stopped. Unfortunately, Allisa was sitting in the back and had to stay seated to avoid the crowded melee of bodies that packed the aisles. A woman made her way against the stream of students, and sat down next to Allisa. Her hair grew to her knees and she wore a loose black dress, which made her look like she had just stepped out of a book about Norse Mythology.

"Are you hungry?" the woman asked .

"No," said Allisa

The woman ,who Allisa now recognized as the woman who tested her, leaned forward and whispered in her ear .

"Thora Longbeard is setting sail,

Try to find her, do not fail."

Then she pushed something deep into Allisa's pocket. As the woman quickly, yet gracefully left, Allisa felt the thing in her pocket. It was an ice cold ring.

When the aisle finally cleared, Allisa stood up. She walked along the aisle and out the door. The sun was shining weakly, glinting on a thin layer of snow that covered the ground. Allisa was standing a short way away from the group of children who were huddled near a huge rock. She hurried over to them, then realized that the rock was a building. As she joined the class, they shuffled into the building.

"This is the Svendson museum" The woman said. "The museum was built in 1911.It may look run down, but it has many artifacts found nowhere else in the world."

Everyone gasped as they entered. A huge Viking longboat took up nearly half of the room and there were display cases along every wall. An old man came out of a side door and whispered to the woman. She smiled at him, then said, "You children can wander around while I talk. If you want, you can go in the boat."

Allisa walked slowly towards the ship. It felt as if something were drawing her there. Her feet stepped slowly on the gangplank and walked up it. She sat down on a wooden bench and closed her eyes .

"Put it on ," a voice whispered in her mind.

Allisa did not know why she obeyed the voice. As the cold ring slipped on, she thought she saw a rush of black out of the corner of her eye. Then everything went dark .

The calling of gulls was the first thing Allisa heard. Then a voice said:

"Thora."

Allisa's eyes flew open. She was on the ship, but instead of being filled with children, it was filled with Vikings! She gasped and the girl next to her asked:

"What's wrong Thora?"

Allisa turned quickly to her right and saw a girl her own age with blond hair that grew to the middle of her back, staring at her .

"I think she fell asleep Vivan ," said a voice behind Allisa. Turning to her left, she gawked at the woman from the bus! The woman looked as strange as ever. While Allisa rudely stared, the woman whispered, "You are Thora Longbeard, daughter of Olaf Longbeard, head of the Longbeard Tribe."

Allisa quickly closed her mouth. From her study of Viking History, she knew the Longbeard tribe was very important and to disgrace them, especially if she was as important as a princess, was not a good idea.

"Vivan is your servant and your best friend. Treat her well," the woman whispered.

"Why are you whispering Fulla?" asked Vivan .

Suddenly, a cry from the bow interrupted Fulla's reply .

"Ship ahead! It bares the sail of Od Svendson."

Olaf Longbeard , a tall, strong man, with a blonde beard so long it was tucked into his belt, strode forward, peering at the quickly approaching ship.

"Prepare to fight!" he bellowed.

Vivan and Allisa were hustled to the back of the ship. Soon both of the ships were side by side. Vivan was looking up to make sure no one jumped onto their sail when she screamed, "Valkyries! Valkyries are circling!"

Allisa stopped breathing, everything stopped. When everyone could see them, Od Svendson's men started yelling, "They circle the Longbeard's ship. We shall win this fight!"

Then the noise was deafening. Men shouting, swords clashing, and amidst it all, Valkyries riding their horses down, picking up dead men, and flying off. Od Svendson's boat crashed into Olaf Longbeard's, splinters and boards flew everywhere. Fulla grabbed a board, threw it in the water and pushed Allisa and Vivan in after it. They grabbed the board and were soon swept away by a fast current. The last thing they saw was Fulla stretching up her hand and being pulled on to a Valkyrie's horse.

After floating several hours, Allisa and Vivan witnessed an amazing sight. The Valkyries were galloping up a rainbow! It stood in the middle of the ocean with nothing holding it up. Upon it stood two people, a man and a girl. Each Valkyrie stopped their horse, nodded to the man and continued their ride through a large gate that seemed to be leading to a cloud. One Valkyrie dropped off a person who had been riding the horse as well.

"Fulla!"

Both Allisa and Vivan cried together. Fulla hugged the girl who was with the sentinel, and they both walked to the base of the rainbow. The girl had brown hair past her waist with golden tips. She helped Vivan up off of the board then smiled at her.

"Greeting, Thora and Vivan," the girl stated. "My name is Thira, daughter of Thor." Turning to Vivan, she said, "You will be my servant because your Mistress, Thora, must go home."

Then Thira held out her hand to Allisa, and when Allisa grabbed it she was surprised how easily the girl pulled her off the board. Suddenly she felt the ring slip off of her finger. As the world turned dark she heard a voice chanting:

"Thora Longbeard is sailing home,

Yet soon she will come back to roam."

Allisa opened her eyes with a start. She was back at the museum. Next to her stood a boy with black hair, keen blue eyes and a friendly expression.

"Are you okay?" he asked.

She swiftly nodded, then kneeled down on the floor. Allisa could feel the boys eyes on her as she searched for the ring. To lighten the mood she said :

"My name is Allisa, what is yours?"

"Sam," replied the boy.

Allisa found the ring, then tore a lose string off of her coat, threaded it through the ring and tied the string's ends together to form a rough necklace.

"Do you want me to show you what I was doing?" she asked Sam. Sam nodded and she thrust the necklace over their heads.

Immediately it was black, but Thora Longbeard knew she would soon hear the sound of gulls. She did, and so did Sam. They stood at the base of the rainbow, staring at the gates of Asgard. Thira daughter of Thor, son of Odin, looked out the gate at the two figures on the rainbow. She smiled and ran to tell all of their coming, for Thora Longbeard of Midgard was coming to Asgard.

I, Anne Maughan, give the Cavalcade of Authors, permission to publish my story and photo on their website.