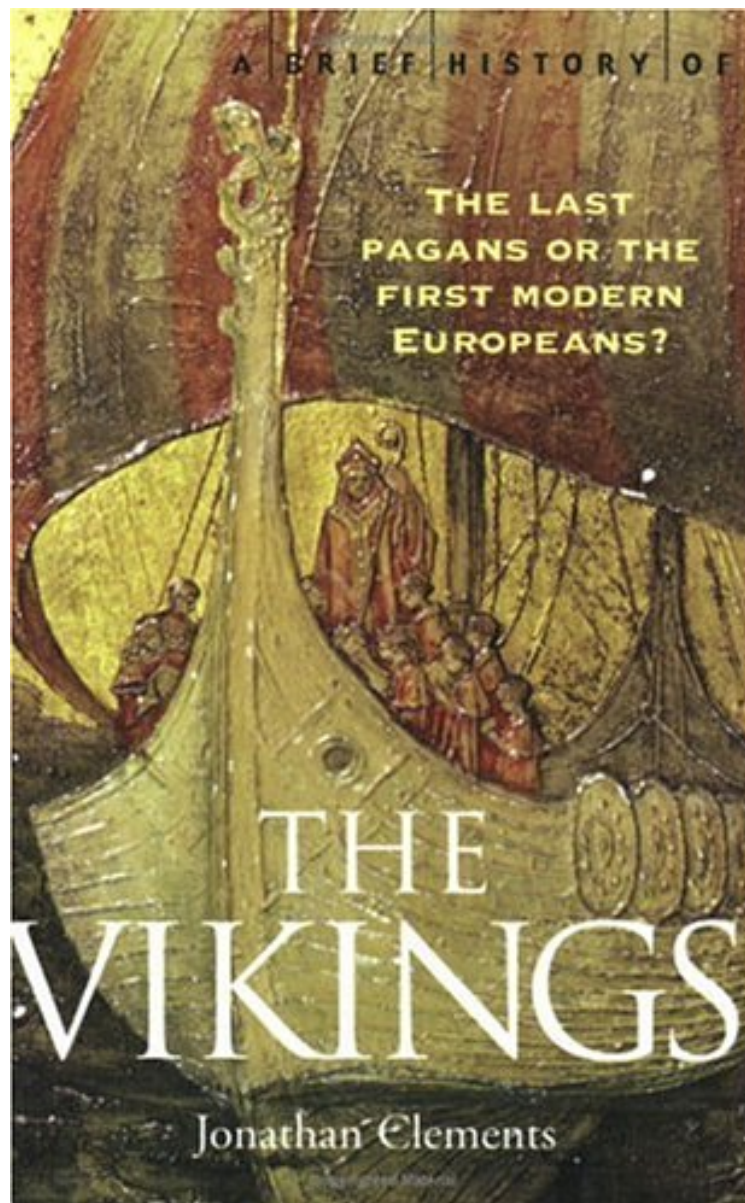


[Download] A Brief History of the Vikings: The Last Pagans or the First Modern Europeans? (Brief History Series)

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Jonathan Clements

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Jonathan Clements : A Brief History of the Vikings: The Last Pagans or the First Modern Europeans? (Brief History Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A

Brief History of the Vikings: The Last Pagans or the First Modern Europeans? (Brief History Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyed thoroughly - must read if you have an interest in VikingsBy KenEnjoyed this book, detailed enough to give an understanding of the exploits of the Vikings, but not so detailed that it is hard to maintain interest. Lots of additional reading suggested in the book if you are looking for more details on a specific person or event.Definitely a must read for anyone interested in the history of the Vikings, England, Ireland, or any of the Norse countries.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Quick ReadBy ChekkI liked it a lot, as Vikings are a subject that I always find interesting. No new ground here really, other than the author makes sure to point out that the Vikings were travelling to North America with frequency, a 1000 years ago, and the only negative I can remember is his quick dismissal of the Kensington Stone. Thats a mistake, it is no hoax, and I think if the book had been published much later, the authors attitude towards this amazing and historically relevent artifact would be much different. I think you will enjoy this book if you decide to buy...14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Fresh IdeasBy Ruth LawlerThe author's conversational style and sense of humor make this book easy and enjoyable to read. Adding recent DNA evidence cements up areas concerning which peoples settled the various parts of Britain and the world. Viking history has been told in many books, yet this one adds new slants to old history. In concluding, the author reminds us that we might respond as lawlessly as the "barbarian" Vikings in similar hardship conditions, their warmer climate, and without our modern supports of government, welfare and insurance. Indeed, he says, other people now exploit the resources of distant lands for us.

Between the eighth and eleventh centuries, the Vikings surged from their Scandinavian homeland to trade and raid along the coasts of Europe. Their influence extended from Newfoundland to Baghdad, their battles were as far-flung as Africa and the Arctic. But were they great seafarers or desperate outcasts, noble heathens or oafish pirates, the last pagans or the first of the modern Europeans? This concise study puts medieval chronicles, Norse sagas and Muslim accounts alongside more recent research into ritual magic, genetic profiling and climatology. It includes biographical sketches of some of the most famous Vikings, from Erik Bloodaxe to Saint Olaf, from King Canute to Leif the Lucky. Extending beyond the traditional Viking age' of most books, A Brief History of the Vikings also places sudden Scandinavian population movements in a wider historical context. It presents a balanced appraisal of these infamous sea kings, explaining both their swift expansion and its supposed halt. Supposed because the Vikings never really went away. Instead, posits Clements, they became a part of who we are today.

About the AuthorJonathan Clements is the author, co-author or translator of over thirty books, including *Pirate King*, *The Moon in the Pines* and *Confucius*. He divides his time between Finland and England.