

Story 1

Elisabet

Elisabet is a 16 year old girl living in south of Norway. Her mother died one year ago, after being sick for a long time. Ever since Elisabet's mother died her father has been very strict to her, telling her what she could or could not do. She needs to clean the house, make breakfast and dinner and look out for her four little brothers every day. She only gets to meet her friends that live on the next farm, once a week. Her father, Olafur, is one of the greatest and strongest Vikings in Norway. He is not very much at home, because he is very often away in other countries, fighting in battles and serving the king of Norway. Elisabet thinks it is very unfair that she has to stay at home and take care of the household, when many of the boys that go to battle with her father, are about the same age as her. And she knows, that when her brothers grow up, they will get to go away and travel, while she will be left behind. Elisabet dreams about traveling to foreign countries explore the big world and meet new people and fight in battles.

One day, she decides to change her look and dress in a boy's clothes so she can travel to other countries and get all the privileges that boys have. She was called Stranburf since that very moment. She leaves her family, her home and her country to live a life like a Viking boy. She goes to a longship with fifty Vikings. She sails through the Atlantic Ocean. On the tenth day, the boat arrives in the Galician coast, at the city of A Coruña. The Vikings are very violent, so they kill all the local people except one 17 year old boy called Breogán. When Elisabet (or Stranburf) is going to kill him, she notices that Breogán is very handsome, so she suddenly falls in love with him.

Elisabet has a problem; of course he thinks she is a boy. The other Vikings, who traveled with her, have not seen him yet. She knows that they will kill him or make him a slave if they will find him. She gives him a sign to indicate that he should follow her. He hesitates because he thinks that she is like the other Vikings, the Vikings that killed all the people in the city. They run into the forest until they get to a big lake. They settle down by the lake and they start a conversation. After they have talked for a while, it turns out that Breogán is actually from Norway, and was taken from his real family and sold to a rich family in Galicia, when he was 11 years old.

Elisabet tells Breogán the whole story, when she left her family and home in Norway so she could explore the world. She also tells him the truth about that she is actually a girl. They talk together for the rest of the day, and it turns out that they get along nicely and they have many things in common.

Near the lake, Breogán and Elisabet found a little house. They discovered that there were a Galician family inside, but the landlord looked like a Nordic person. Elisabet and Breogán got into the house and that man got really surprised when he saw the young couple. He said:

- Oh my god! Elisabet! I know you! You are in my dreams! You are the girl who is going to make peace between the Galicians and the Vikings!

She thought he was crazy, but he was sure that Elisabet was the girl of his dreams. Elisabet was puzzled. She didn't know what she might do in this situation. She had a problem again...

The next day, Elisabet and Breogán went to the place where there were Vikings, to try to make peace between the Galicians and the Vikings. When they arrived there, the Vikings looked at them so rarely. Then Elisabet shouted all that she wanted to do. The Vikings listened to her and decided to make peace between the Galicians and the Vikings but only if the Galician people gave money to them. Elisabet accepted this and she went to her country with her new friend, or boyfriend...



Story 2

Emil from Trondheim and His Father

This is a story about a boy. He lived in Norway in the Viking age in 882. His name was Emil and he is 15 years old. He lives in Trondheim with his parents and his little brother, Olav. He lived in a city where a powerful king rules over the people. He aspires to be the king's assistant when he grows up. He is now travelling with his father to Galicia so his father can show him what its like to be a viking. At nights his father tells him stories about giant and vicious monsters who live deep in the sea. He tells him about ships who have gone out to sea but never returned. It takes him some time but at last he falls asleep, dreaming of terrible creatures of the sea.

Emil dreamt a very strange dream. He was walking on the beach and it was very hot, so he decided to have a bath. In the water he noticed that someone was watching him. Suddenly, a big squid took him deep into the sea and it and tied him up with ropes and knots. Several minutes later, when the monster wasn't there, a giant octopus appeared and helped him. Emil told him what had happened and both of them went to look for the giant squid. It took them several hours to find it and when they finally found it the monster was angry. Right then, Emil woke up. What would this strange dream mean?

Emil decided to not think about the dream since it couldn't mean anything. He went up on the deck and saw his father, looking scared. "What happened?" Emil asked his father. "We just saw a huge tentacle rise from the ocean for about 2 seconds! Then it just dissappeared again!" Emil stood there looking at his father for a few seconds, scared to death. His father saw his scared expression and said "Don't worry Emil, we'll be just fine." "Okay" said Emil, although he didn't really believe his father. Was the fact that he dreamt of a squid just a coincidence or something else?

This was something more than a dream, when they were arriving in Viking settlement, they saw a port and a group of worried people. When they got off the boat, his dad asked: What happened? The people told him that two boats left the port but only one of them returned, because the other one

was attacked by a big squid. When Emil heard those news he realized that his dream was true! In this moment Emil and his father sailed off to look for the other boat.

When they were sailing in the middle of the sea, the boy saw some pieces of wood and other floating objects. On a barrel there was an exhausted man. They took him out of the water and covered him with blankets and gave him some tea. Later, the man woke up and he told them a story about the attack of a big squid.

On the way home everyone was very shaken. They were always thinking about the squid, hoping it wouldn't find them. Emil was going to sleep when he heard a bang. It was like something was trying to break the ship. He ran up on the deck and met his father. It was pouring rain and very windy. Emil had never seen his father so scared in his life. He was shouting orders at the crew which was running around the ship in terror. He asked his father what was happening. "Well Emil, we're under attack" Emil's father said. "Who's attacking us?!" Emil shouted, because the wind was so loud. "The question isn't who" his father said, "but what..." Right then a giant tentacle rose from the sea and slammed into the middle of the boat. It grabs Emil's father by the foot and lifts him. Emil sees this, terrified, his father hanging in the air, screaming. He looks around and sees his father's sword on the floor. Emil runs to it, grabs it and turns around. Now more tentacles have risen from the sea and three sailors are hanging, like Emil's father. Emil runs to his father, jumps up and cuts the tentacle holding him clean off. Emil hears a thud as his father falls to the ground, a squeal from the sea and then the squid was gone. All the sailors on Emil's boat survived and they never heard of the squid again.



Story 3

Kira the Slave

This is a story about a girl named Kira. She was taken away from her family when she was 9 years old to be a slave for the Vikings. The chief that took her was named Bjark, he was strong and he was handsome but his nose was bigger than his middle finger. They were on a ship heading to Iceland from Greenland. Kira met another girl her age on the ship. Her name was Ella and she was from Norway. On their way a storm hit the ship. Kira and Ella got really scared because they had heard a story of a sea monster who has taken down many ships. But then the storm passes and they get home to Iceland safe and sound. They went to the village where Bjark lives. And when they were about to go to sleep an earthquake started.

Kira and Ella escaped and tried to cross the river, but the water took them away. The river finished in a lake. In the mouth of the river there was a village. Kira and Ella were rescued by a fisherman from the village near the harbour. When the earthquake finished Bjark didn't find the girls in the house and he started to look for them. The fisherman was named Fannar. He was tall and strong but he lacked one finger in the left hand. The girls went with the fisherman to his house. There Kira and Ella could eat and rest.

But the next day the village was under attack by a dragon named Yodilo. He killed Fannar and all of his friends. Kira and Ella escaped but Ella lost her right arm. The dragon died because Ella's arm was poisoned and he ate it. Now Ella and Kira had a ship because they stole it. The girls were on the ship in search in a place to be safe from the Vikings. They wanted to tell other people about their adventure. They reached a strange island where they could dock the boat and get some food because they were hungry. On this island they were going to find many dangers. It wasn't a desert island at all.

Kira and Ella found a boat and went to Galicia. Kira met a boy named

Martín and married him. Ella found a girl named Helga they also got married but had to leave Galicia and they went to Vínland because it was not legal in Galicia to marry the same gender. But they lived happy ever after.



Story 4

Beiner and Giermund

Beiner was a little Viking boy who lived in a little village in northern Iceland. He lived with his father, Giermund who was a well known, fierce Viking, known for his courage and battle skills. His mother was named Borga. She was an independent woman who stood up for herself and did not let anyone walk over her.

Beiner was about fourteen years old when he realized his destiny to become the next Viking leader of northern Iceland. His father had trained him all his life to be ready to take his role. He taught him how to handle a sword and build a strong defence against enemies.

One cold winter night, his father Giermund was lying in bed, when he had a strange dream. He dreamed about a flock of eagles, strong and powerful as they flew towards his kingdom. Suddenly a little bird faced the eagles and with such courage he swiped them all out, leaving no one left alive. The enemy had been destroyed by a single, tiny bird. Giermund knew that this dream meant something and he suspected it would come true later on.

Four months later Giermund was still training Beiner. One day Giermund received a letter. It said that the neighboring kingdom Vaalakur had declared war on them. The first attack would be in one week's time at the frontier between the two kingdoms. During one week the village prepared for the war, Beiner was very excited because he thought that he would fight the invaders, but his father told him that he wasn't totally prepared to fight so he should stay with the mothers.

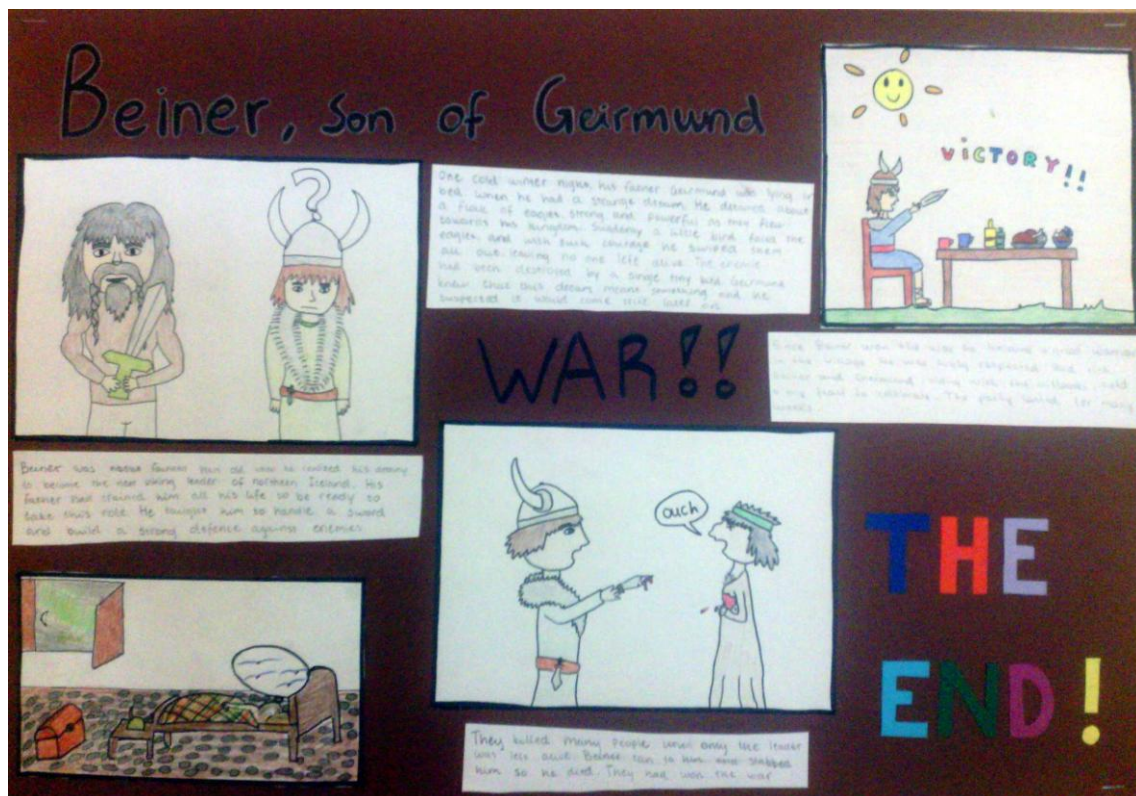
Beiner was sad because he wanted to fight. He prepared a tactical plan in secrecy. The day the war broke out all the villagers were prepared with their bows, arrows, shields and spears. At the top of Hnjatur mountain stood Beiner, entirely sure that today would be his day of glory.

In the distance he could see the enemy army march closer and closer to mountain. He raised his sword to declare he was ready to fight. As the army entered the village, he could hear the battling noises coming from the village. He got up on his horse and rode down the mountain. Beiner did not care what his father said about him fighting, this was his day and he was going to fight, no matter what.

Geirmund saw Beiner coming and he ran to him and said: Beiner you are not ready, what are you doing here? Beiner ignored his father and rode straight past him into the enemy's army. He ran into one of the enemy and cut his head clean off. In that moment Geirmund realized that Beiner was ready. He went to Beiner and fought by his side.

They killed many people until only the leader was left alive. Beiner ran to him and stabbed him so he died. They had won the war.

Since Beiner won the war he became a great warrior in the village. He was highly respected and rich. Beiner and Giermund, along with the villagers, held a big feast to celebrate. The party lasted for many weeks.



Story 5

The Chest

They had been traveling for three days when they finally arrived. He hadn't been there in 4 years, yet he remembered every detail of the place. It was a hot summer afternoon and there wasn't a cloud to be seen on the sky.

They tied the horses in the stalls before heading inside. His horse was so cooperative that he was done long before any of the other men. He couldn't wait to meet her again, so he ran to the front doors. He forgot to knock, because he felt like it was still his home. It had been his foster home until he was 12 years old, when he moved back to his family. There was nobody inside. The women were either washing the clothes in the river or watching the kids who were outside playing in the sunshine and the men were either working or helping his father and brothers with the horses.

A sound silenced his thoughts. Her laughter. It came from outside. He looked around until he finally placed her, sitting in the grass, fiddling with a dandelion. Her long, blonde hair shone in the sun and blew over her shoulders as she flung her head back, laughing. Her green eyes shone like emeralds. He hadn't realized how much he had missed her until that very moment.

"Anna!" he shouted. She looked up, but didn't spot him right away.

"Kveldulf? Is that you?" she smiled.

Then he saw him. A boy sitting beside her, holding her hand. His first instinct was to run, and he did. Anna was still looking for him. He ran as fast as he could back to the house. He was ashamed. Of course she hadn't waited for him, she probably just thought the past meant nothing to him. It probably meant nothing to her. A childish crush, that's all.

He heard her open the door. "Kveldulf? Are you in here?" she asked. He had to think fast. He spotted a wooden chest, used for dirty clothes, but

now it was empty, because the women were out washing them. He quickly opened it and jumped inside. "Kveldulf?" he heard her walking past. He waited until her voice had completely faded away to carefully open the chest and step out.

Something was wrong. This wasn't the old turf house. He had never seen anything like the things that stood before him there.

In front of him, a weird, black box with a glass lid and people moving and talking inside it. The clothes they were wearing were ridiculous. They were in all kinds of colors, colors Kveldulf had never seen before, not even on the flowers growing in the field behind their home. Beside him, a window out of which he saw carriages on wheels that moved without any horses or men pulling them. And what was even weirder was the small boy standing in front of him.

Kveldulf remained still for a long time, he was looking at the magic box but without losing sight of the little boy who was in front of him. Kveldulf decided to ask the boy about his name. "Sigfus," the little boy answered. They sat down in a red sofa that was in that sinister room. They spent all evening and all night watching the people moving inside the magic box and listening to the sound of all the horseless carts outside. When Kveldulf fell asleep Sigfus left the room and vanished without saying anything. Later Kveldulf woke up and looked at the chest, he wanted to go back, so he stepped in and suddenly appeared in his forest house.

Luckily there weren't any other people in the house, even though he heard the sound of children laughing nearby. Kveldulf took a bath and ate breakfast quickly, he wanted to return to the strange room, but this time not alone. It was early, so he decided to look for someone who would go into the chest with him.

When he stepped outside to go look for his brothers, he bumped into someone. It was Anna. She greeted him, smiling, and asked him why he was in such a hurry. He didn't mean to, but before he could stop himself he had told her the whole story. Skipping the part about why he hid in the chest of course. Every detail wasn't necessary.

Anna looked stunned. "We have to go tell everyone!"

She was already running before Kveldulf could as much as mumble. "No! Anna!" he shouted and sprinted after her. They couldn't tell anyone. That was the point. She had to help him keep the chest hidden. If Anna would tell people that Kveldulf had apparently traveled into the future they would instantly link him to sorcery, which could lead to a death sentence. No, he had to stop Anna.

He finally caught up with her, but it was too late. She had already told her father and two older brothers about Kveldulf and the chest. Her father usually was a calm and centered man, but Kveldulf could see fear shining through his eyes.

"Is this true, what Anna is telling me, Kveldulf?" Anna's father asked, stepping back.

"Sir, I can explain," Kveldulf started.

But Anna's father, being one of the fiercest Vikings in Iceland, didn't listen to explanations. He had already called his men and told them to take Kveldulf away. Kveldulf tried to fight the men but they were too big, too strong. He saw Anna, desperately trying to convince her father to listen to what Kveldulf had to say, and her father actually, surprisingly, didn't seem to know what to do. But he didn't say anything.

Kveldulf had an attack of rage and he took the father of Anna by beard while he escape of the big men that hold him and they drag to the chest, keep inside it and closed it. Two weeks after the man continued inside, but Kveldulf gave water and food, but never saw the man, because the chest moved to future.

Anna father's, Teitur, told to Kveldulf the adventures when he stayed in the future.

Teitur invited Kveldulf one day to go to the future, they felt very good, they went to the airport and travelled to London and there visited many places, they stayed all the day in the centre, and at the night they went to the chest.

When they got back they told everybody about the future and now the people believed them because Teitur was the greatest Viking in Iceland. They took some stuff from the future but they didn't know how to use it so they ended up wrecking all the stuff.

They were afraid some people might come from the future and attack them so decided to ruin the chest. After that, Anna and Kveldulf became closer and ended up marrying each other. They had a huge wedding and it lasted for many weeks, and they all lived happily ever after.

