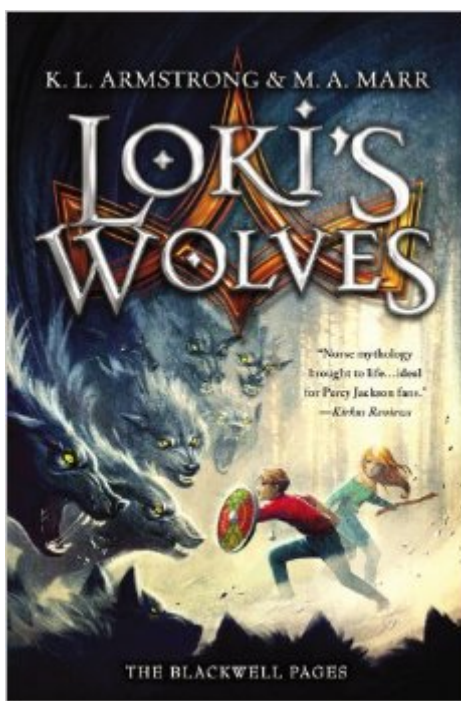


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# Loki's Wolves (Blackwell Pages)



## Synopsis

"The runes have spoken. We have our champion...Matthew Thorsen."Matt hears the words, but he can't believe them. He's Thor's representative? Destined to fight trolls, monstrous wolves and giant serpents...or the world ends? He's only thirteen. While Matt knew he was a modern-day descendent of Thor, he's always lived a normal kid's life. In fact, most people in the small town of Blackwell, South Dakota, are direct descendants of either Thor or Loki, including Matt's classmates Fen and Laurie Brekke. No big deal. But now Ragnarok is coming, and it's up to the champions to fight in the place of the long-dead gods. Matt, Laurie, and Fen's lives will never be the same as they race to put together an unstoppable team, find Thor's hammer and shield, and prevent the end of the world. In their middle grade debut, K.L. Armstrong and M.A. Marr begin the epic Blackwell Pages series with this action-packed adventure, filled with larger-than-life legends, gripping battles, and an engaging cast of characters who bring the myths to life.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 680 (What's this?)

Series: Blackwell Pages (Book 1)

Paperback: 374 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (April 15, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316204978

ISBN-13: 978-0316204972

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (120 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #47,268 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in Â Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Norse #1259 in Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship #1950 in Â Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Review courtesy of Dark Faerie Tales. Quick & Dirty: This is the story of three children who have been chosen to save the world. The book is full of Norse mythology including gods and horrible

monsters. This book is a must read. Opening Sentence: Matt walked through the center of Blackwell, gym bag in hand, jacket thrown over his shoulder. The Review: This story is mostly about three children named Matt, Fen, and Laurie who are from a small town in South Dakota, called Blackwell. The story is told in all three of the characters' voices. These children are special because they are descendants and champions of the long-dead gods Thor and Loki. Matt, Laurie and Fen must work together to find the other children who are champions of other gods, find objects with magical properties and save the world from Ragnarok. Ragnarok is what the Norse called the apocalypse. During their travels they meet many creatures, good and bad from the old myths including trolls and valkyries. Matt Thorsen is the main character of our story. He is a descendant and champion of the god Thor. The Thorsen's all have the power of Thor's hammer but Matt's is much more powerful. Matt has the power to sense when something bad is close by, such as trolls. He is thirteen years old and the youngest child in his family. As such, his parents think that he should be just like his older brothers, but he is nothing like them, so he feels like a disappointment to his parents. While most of the members of the Thorsen family play football, Matt would rather be wrestling or boxing, which comes in very handy when he is chosen as Thor's champion. I liked Matt, he was not like most kids his age but maybe that was because he was the son of a sheriff.

LOKI'S WOLVES begins a new middle grade fantasy series by veteran authors Kelly Armstrong and Melissa Marr. This series will mine Norse mythology for its world building. This first volume was very much an introduction to the series and the characters. Matt Thorsen, a thirteen-year-old eighth grader, has always known he was a descendant of Thor. His family and his town are immersed in Norse traditions and mythology and are town leaders. His grandfather is the mayor and his father the Chief of Police. But Matt didn't know that he was to be the Champion when Ragnarok, the end of the world, came again. He certainly doesn't feel ready or qualified. He feels even less ready when he overhears his grandfather and the other elders say that they expect him to win but to die in the trying. Fen Brekke also knows that he is a descendant of Loki. He can turn into a wolf. But his home situation is bad. His parents are gone and he is passed from relative to relative for fostering. His only friend, and the only person he really cares about, is his cousin Laurie. Laurie doesn't know about being a descendant of Loki. Her mother is ordinary and her father drifts in and out of her life. Laurie is constantly trying to keep Fen out of trouble and Fen is determined to protect her from all dangers. Fen and Matt don't get along. But if Matt wants to rewrite the myths and survive Ragnarok, he and Fen will have to put aside their differences so that the descendants of Thor and of Loki can work together to save them all. This story is a journey story wherein Matt, Fen and Loki try to gather

allies who will help them in their upcoming fight. With limited guidance from the Norns, they head off to gather allies while running from the wolf pack that wants Fen to join.

Please understand that all my reviews focus on the interests of my middle school students. I never do a full plot synopsis in a review and try to give as little away as possible. My advice is that you don't go into this book ready to compare it to another series; just do yourself a favor and read it and let Armstrong and Marr take you on a gut-wrenching adventure! I think you will be glad you did, no matter your age. The action is relentless from almost the very beginning. The basic premise of the story is that Ragnarok, Norse legend's Armageddon, is occurring again, and the gods' descendants will take their place on the world-ending stage (since the gods were inconveniently killed in the original version). Matt Thorsen is a thirteen year old (who just finished the eighth grade) ancestor of Thor while Fen Brekke (about the same age) is the descendant of Loki. Each are chosen to represent their god-ancestors. This time, however, Fen (Loki) is determined to be on Matt's (Thor's) side, partly because his cousin, Laurie, trusts Matt, and she is the only family Fen has (at least the only one who has been kind to him). As the story develops, the kids meet with other descendants and their powers begin to manifest. You can figure Matt's out easily enough (uh, he's Thor, folks), Fen can shape-shift into a wolf, and the other descendants have their own powers. The mystery is Laurie; she definitely has some power from Loki, but I suspect she has a lot more than she knows or the others suspect. The troupe of descendants must face incredibly fierce enemies (in a very sad turn of events, even Matt's own family) as they try to figure out how to use their powers.

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