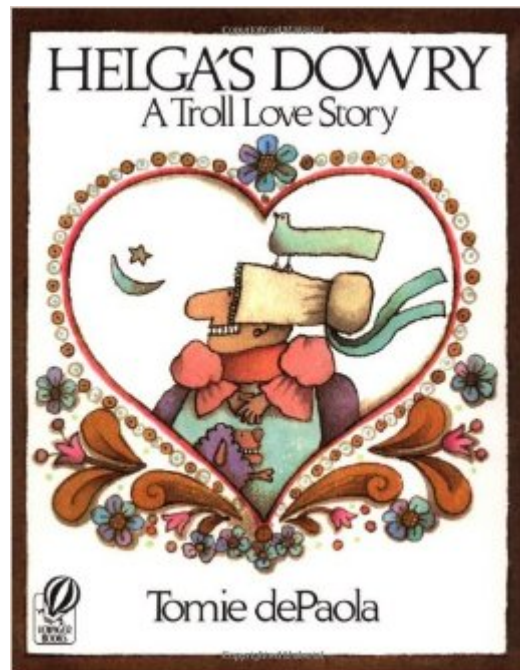


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# Helga's Dowry: A Troll Love Story



## Synopsis

Helga, a troll, must somehow acquire a dowry with which to marry or, by the god Odin's command, be doomed to wander the earth forever. Richly colored pictures capture the droll humor of [Helga's] clever, determined fight to garner impressive riches. --Booklist

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD640L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Sandpiper; 1 edition (September 1, 1977)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0156400103

ISBN-13: 978-0156400107

Product Dimensions: 10 x 8 x 0.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.1 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,246,634 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #95 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > European #156 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Norse #42722 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

This was one of my absolutely favorite books as a child, and I still love reading it to my daughters. Helga is beautiful but poor, and her sweetheart chooses to marry the plain but rich Inge unless Helga can earn a dowry worthy of him. (You can see where this is going, right?) Helga is devastated and heads down into the human world to earn her own dowry. While the humans she interacts with are lazy and vain, and there is a small moral there, the greater moral is Helga realizing her own value. And she's not the only one. Someone has been keeping an eye on her, and though Helga has earned her dowry, it turns out she didn't really need it anyway. There is nothing not to love about this book. :)

A great little book in which Helga goes out and earns the money for her dowry after the prince tells her they can't marry without a dowry. Helga decides she's clever enough to earn her own dowry and succeeds. A nice little story about a girl who sets a high goal, works hard, and gets what she wants.

And it's not the prince.

This is a simple children's book that has the feel of an old Norwegian fairytale, with cameo appearances from one-eyed odin and the trolls of scandinavian folklore. Helga is a troll who takes matters into her own hands and creates a dowry for herself to marry by...to hilarious result. Cited by some as a work of feministic fairytale but really just a great tale with an awesome moral, this is a must for any child's bookshelf, girl or boy. Your kids will remember it all their lives: I haven't seen the cover in 20 years, but I pictured it perfectly just before I searched for this page. J. Lyon Layden  
The Other Side of Yore

A spunky but impoverished female troll wants to marry, but she needs a dowry to do it--so she gets to work. This is a great, funny variation on your usual fairy tale. Helga is a determined, hard-working heroine, who is rewarded for solving her own problems. The story is pretty simple, but obviously it's a good message. This is a great book for little girls who will soon be reading chapter books about princesses who rescue themselves. There may be lots of chapter books with active heroines, but it's a pretty rare find for picture books. We need more stories like this one. Of course, since it's by Tomie De Paola, the illustrations are great, too.

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Young Arthur Ashe: Brave Champion (A Troll First-Start Biography)  
The Troll With no Heart in His Body  
Gabby Duran, Book 2  
Gabby Duran: Troll Control  
Aloha: Love, Suite  
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(Plume Books) The 5 Love Languages: The Secret to Love that Lasts Adult Coloring Book of Love: 55 Pictures to Color on the Theme of Love (Hearts, Animals, Flowers, Trees, Valentine's Day and More Cute Designs) Love Is a Mix Tape: Life and Love, One Song at a Time

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