

CONFRONTATION

An Axe of Iron Novel

By

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1. The young boys going for their first hunt was considered a rite of passage. What do we have in the 21st century that might compare to a rite of passage?
2. After Yola was killed by the moose, Ivar and Lothar were encouraged to prepare their friend for burial, “playing an active part fosters acceptance of your friend’s death.” Compare this practice with any other throughout history or currently of which you are aware.
3. The Northmen appeared to be especially cognizant of what the gods might be telling them. Identify some instances when deep premonitions preceded an activity.
4. Compare the quote, “the gods are in control of everything,” with the Christian belief of today.
5. The Northmen knew the boys needed to be raised to become men. Over the generations the role of men has evolved. Do you think it is important today to raise boys to become men and if so, how?
6. Halfdan and Gudbjartur were strong leaders. What characteristics did they demonstrate that would be useful in today’s leaders?
7. Why do you suppose the dream of assimilation had merit in fact?