



D.S. BREWER

Studies in Old Norse Literature



Poetry in Sagas of Icelanders

MARGARET CLUNIES ROSS

First full analysis of the skaldic verse appearing in the family sagas of Icelanders, considering why and how it is deployed.

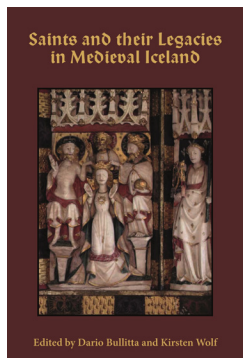
Sagas of Icelanders, also called family sagas, are the best known of the literary genres that flourished in medieval Iceland. Modern critics often praise their apparently realistic descriptions of the

lives, loves and feuds of settler families of the first century and a half of Iceland's commonwealth period (c. AD 970-1030), but this ascription of realism fails to account for one of the most important components, the abundance of skaldic poetry, mostly in *dróttkvætt* "court metre", which comes to saga heroes' lips at moments of crisis. These presumed voices from the past and their integration into the narrative present of the written sagas are the subject of this book.

8 line illus.; 240pp,

August 2022, 9781843846390,

HB, £60/\$99



Saints and their Legacies in Medieval Iceland

EDITED BY DARIO BULLITTA & KIRSTEN WOLF

An examination of hagiographical traditions and their impact.

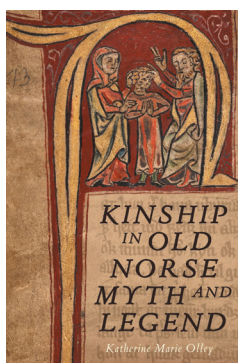
Icelanders venerated numerous saints, both indigenous and from overseas, in the Middle Ages. However, although its literary elite was well acquainted

with contemporary Continental currents in hagiographic compositions, theological discussions, and worship practices, much of the history of the learned European networks through which the Icelandic cult of the saints developed and partially survived the Lutheran Reformation remains obscure. The essays collected in this volume address this lacuna by exploring the legacies of the cult of some of the most prominent saints and holy men in medieval Iceland.

9 b/w & 8 line illus.; 402pp,

July 2021, 9781843846116,

HB, £75/\$99



Kinship in Old Norse Myth and Legend

KATHERINE MARIE OLLEY

This wide-ranging study offers a new understanding of Old Norse kinship in which the individual self was expanded to encompass its kin.

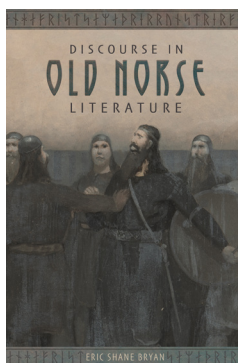
Family interactions in Old Norse myth and legend were often fraught, competitive, even violent as well as

loving, protective and supportive. Focusing particularly on intergenerational relationships in legendary sagas, the *Poetic Edda* and *Snorra Edda*, this book reveals not only why ambivalence was so characteristic of mythic-heroic kinship relations but how they were able to endure, even thrive, in spite of such pressures.

258pp,

July 2022, 9781843846376,

HB, £70/\$99



Discourse in Old Norse Literature

ERIC SHANE BRYAN

An examination of what dialogues and direct speech in Old Norse literature can convey and mean, beyond their immediate face-value.

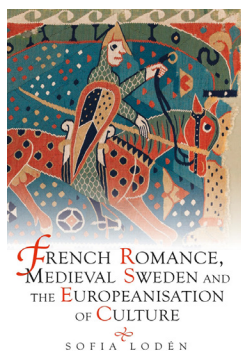
Scholars have long recognized that the wealth of verbal exchanges in Old Norse sagas presents the modern reader with

the opportunity to speak face-to-face, as it were, with these great voices of the past. However, despite the importance of verbal exchanges in the sagas, there has been no full-length study of discourse in Old Norse literature since 1935. This book meets the need for such a study by offering a literary analysis based on the adjacent field of pragmatic linguistics, which recognizes that speakers often rely upon cultural, situational, and interpersonal context to communicate their meaning. Saga writers, this book argues, were masters of this type of indirectness in speech. It aims therefore to unlock the depth and subtlety of discourse in Old Norse literature and to leave readers with an understanding of how principles of pragmatics were employed throughout the sagas. A wide body of Old Norse materials is examined, including many of the best-known sagas.

276pp,

June 2021, 9781843845973,

HB, £60/\$99



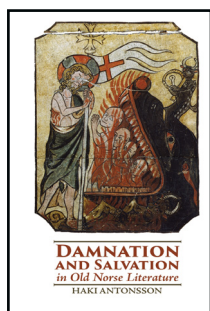
French Romance, Medieval Sweden and the Europeanisation of Culture

SOFIA LODEN

The adaptation of French texts into medieval Swedish reveals the progress of a Europe-wide literary culture.

Translations of French romances into other vernaculars in the Middle Ages have sometimes been viewed as “less important” versions of prestigious sources, rather than in their place as part of a broader range of complex and wider European text traditions. This consideration of how French romance was translated, rewritten and interpreted in medieval Sweden focuses on the wider context. It examines four major texts which appear in both languages, including *Le Chevalier au lion* and its Swedish translation *Herr Ivan*, analysing them through the lens of different themes: female characters, children, animals and masculinity. The author argues that French romance made a major contribution to the Europeanisation of medieval culture, whilst also playing a key role in the formation of a national literature in Sweden.

228pp,
February 2021, 9781843845829,
HB, £60/\$99

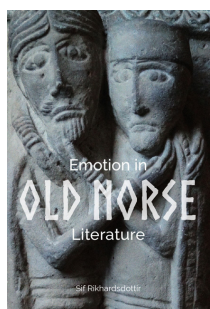


Damnation and Salvation in Old Norse Literature

HAKI ANTONSSON

A full survey of the “Last Things” as treated in a wide range of Old Norse literature.

272pp, July 2018,
9781843845072, HB, £60/\$99



Emotion in Old Norse Literature Translations, Voices, Contexts

SIF RIKHARDSDOTTIR

Draws on Old Norse literary heritage to explore questions of emotion as both a literary motif and as a social phenomenon.

223pp, October 2017,
9781843844709, HB, £60/\$99

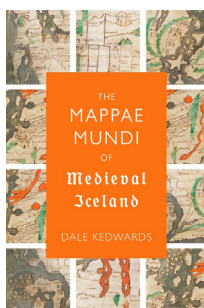
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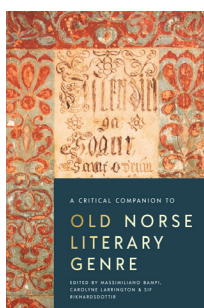


The Mappae Mundi of Medieval Iceland

DALE KEDWARDS

An innovative, interdisciplinary approach to the understudied Icelandic *mappae mundi*.

23 colour illus.; 256pp, September 2020, 9781843845690,
HB, £60/\$99

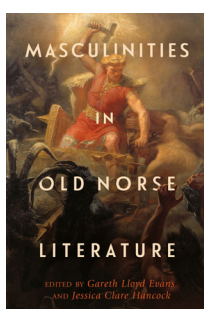


A Critical Companion to Old Norse Literary Genre

EDS. MASSIMILIANO BAMPI, CAROLYNNE LARRINGTON & SIF RIKHARDSDOTTIR

A comprehensive guide to a crucial aspect of Old Norse literature.

6 b/w, 1 line illus.; 389pp, July 2020,
9781843845645, HB, £60/\$99



Masculinities in Old Norse Literature

EDS. GARETH LLOYD EVANS & JESSICA CLARE HANCOCK

First full investigation of masculinities in Old Norse-Icelandic literature.

285pp, July 2020,
9781843845621, HB, £75/\$99



The Saint and the Saga Hero Hagiography and Early Icelandic Literature

SIÂN E. GRØNLIE

A compelling argument that far from developing in a literary vacuum, saga literature interacts in lively, creative and critical ways with one of the central genres of the European middle ages.

1 colour illus.; 318pp, November 2017,
9781843844815, HB, £75/\$130

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