



The Poetic Edda: Volume III Mythological Poems II

By Ursula Dronke



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This volume presents four of the most intricate and fascinating mythological poems of the *Poetic Edda*, with parallel translations and individual introductions and commentaries. 'Havamal', notable for its unforgettable flashes of beauty and despair, explores the nature of human knowledge. 'Hymiskvita' is the boisterous tale of the giant Hymir. 'Grimnismal', the lay of Grímnir, the Visored God, is a dramatic monologue spoken by Óðin. The final poem, 'Grottasöngur', is the song of two girls kept as slaves by King Fróti to work at his magic grindstone. Ursula Dronke provides new and illuminating textual readings of these celebrated works.



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Review

The strength of Dronke's edition undoubtedly lies in its literary interpretation of the text and its English translation Margaret Clunies Ross, *Journal of English and Germanic Philology*

About the Author

Ursula Dronke is Emeritus Vigfusson Reader in Ancient Icelandic Literature and Antiquities, University of Oxford and Emeritus Fellow, Linacre College, Oxford. Her publications include *The Poetic Edda: Volume I: Heroic Poems* and *Volume II: Mythological Poems* (both Clarendon Press), and *The role of sexual themes in Njals saga: The Dorothea Coke memorial lecture in northern studies* (Viking Society for Northern Research).

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