



Women In Old Norse Society

Judith Jesch



Women In Old Norse Society:

Women in Old Norse Society Jenny Jochens, 2014-12-02 Jenny Jochens captures in fascinating detail the lives of women in pagan and early Christian Iceland and Norway their work sexual behavior marriage customs reproductive practices familial relations leisure activities religious practices and legal constraints and protections Much of this information also applies to everyday life in the entire Germanic world Conveying the experiences not only of aristocrats but also of ordinary farmers the author draws from her extensive knowledge of the oldest and fullest record of the Germanic tribes *Women in Old Norse Society* places particular emphasis on changing sexual mores and the impact of the imposition of Christianity by the clergy and the Norwegian kings It also demonstrates the vital role women played in economic production homespun was used for every conceivable domestic purpose the lengths of cloth became the standard of measurement for local commercial exchange and were used to obtain commodities abroad Jochens's masterly command of the Old Norse narratives and legal texts enables her to provide a rich social history that includes the fullest analysis to date of pagan and Christian marriage and the first comprehensive study of infanticide in the North **Women in Old Norse Society (Ithaca & London 1995)**

[anmeldelse] , 1997 *Women in Old Norse Literature* J. Friðriksdóttir, 2013-03-12 Old Norse texts offer different ideas about what it is to be female presenting women in diverse social and economic positions This book analyzes female characters in medieval Icelandic saga literature and demonstrates how they engaged with some of the most contested values of the period revealing the anxieties of both the authors and audiences *Old Norse Women's Poetry* Sandra Ballif Straubhaar, 2011 The rich and compelling corpus of Old Norse poetry is one of the most important and influential areas of medieval European literature What is less well known however is the quantity of the material which can be attributed to women skalds This book intended for a broad audience presents a bilingual edition Old Norse and English of this material from the ninth to the thirteenth century and beyond with commentary and notes The poems here reflect the dramatic and often violent nature of the sagas their subject matter features Viking Age shipboard adventures and shipwrecks prophecies curses declarations of love and of revenge duels feuds and battles encounters with ghosts marital and family discord and religious insults among many other topics Their authors fall into four main categories pre Christian Norwegian and Icelandic skaldkonur of the Viking Age Icelandic skaldkonur of the Sturlung Age thirteenth century additional early skaldkonur from the Íslendingasögur and related material not as historically verifiable as the first group and mythical figures cited as reciting verse in the legendary sagas fornaldarsögur *Old Norse Images of Women* Jenny Jochens, 2016-11-11 Working from the Poetic Edda the Prose Edda and Old Norse prose narratives and laws Jenny Jochens argues for an underlying cultural continuum of a pagan pantheon and a set of heroic figures shared by the Germanic tribes in Europe Britain Scandinavia and Iceland from A D 500 to 1500 *Old Norse Images of Women* explores the female half of this legacy which involves images both divine and human In a society marked by sharp gender divisions women were frequently portrayed as one of four

conventional types The warrior woman was exemplified by the valkyrie sheildmaiden or maiden king The wise woman was a prophetess or sorceress The avenger is best seen in Gudrun whose focus of revenge shifted from husband to brothers Last there were the whetters or inciters who appear both in the Continental setting as Brynhildr and as ubiquitous figures in medieval Icelandic literature ranging from Norwegian queens to humble milkmaids

Women in the Viking Age Judith Jesch,1991 Through runic inscriptions and behind the veil of myth Jesch discovers the true story of viking women Well illustrated closely argued and fascinating GUARDIAN This is the first book length study in English to investigate what women did in the Viking age both at home in Scandinavia and in the Viking colonies from Greenland to Russia Evidence for their lives is fragmentary but Judith Jesch assembles the clues provided by archaeology runic inscriptions place names and personal names foreign historical records and Old Norse literature and mythology These sources illuminate different aspects of women s lives in the Viking age on the farms and in the trading centres of Scandinavia abroad on Viking expeditions and as settlers in places such as Iceland and the British Isles Women in the Viking Age explores an unfamiliar aspect of medieval history and offers a new perspective on Viking society very different from the traditional picture of a violent and male dominated world JUDITH JESCH is Reader in Viking Studies at the University of Nottingham

Viking Women Lisa Hannett,2023-01-31 Let s travel in time together a thousand or so years back and meet Viking women in their hearth lit world How did these medieval viragoes live love and die How can we encounter them as flesh and blood beings with fears and feelings not just as names in sagas or runes carved into stone In this groundbreaking work Lisa Hannett lifts the veil on the untold stories of wives and mothers girls and slaves widows and witches who sailed settled suffered survived and thrived in a society that largely catered to and memorialised men Hannett presents the everyday experiences of a compelling cast of women all of whom are resourceful and petty hopeful and jealous and as fabulous and flawed as we are today Lisa Hannett is an award winning Canadian Australian writer and academic

Women and Weapons in the Viking World Leszek Gardela,2021-09-02 Invigorating Garde a reappraises the connections between women and violence in an early medieval society that has left few texts to guide us Studies in Late Antiquity This book sets out to investigate the idea of the armed woman in the Viking Age through a comprehensive and cross cultural approach and weaves a nuanced picture of women s lives in the Viking world The Viking Age c AD 750 1050 is conventionally portrayed as a tumultuous time when hordes of fierce warriors from Scandinavia wreaked havoc across the European continent and when Norse merchants traveled to distant corners of the world in pursuit of slaves silver and exotic commodities Until fairly recently Norse society during this pivotal period in world history has been characterized as male dominated with women s roles dismissed or substantially downplayed There is however ample textual and archaeological evidence to suggest that many of the most spectacular achievements of Viking Age Scandinavians in craftsmanship exploration cross cultural trade warfare and other spheres of life would not have been possible without the active involvement of women and that both within the walls of the household and in

the wider public arena women's voices were heard respected and followed Lavishly illustrated this pioneering book explores the stories of the female warrior and women's links with the martial sphere of life in the Viking Age using literature and archaeological evidence from Scandinavia and the wider Viking world to examine the motivations and circumstances that led women to engage in armed conflict Women and Gender in Medieval Europe Margaret Schaus, 2006 Publisher description

A Companion to Old Norse-Icelandic Literature and Culture Rory McTurk, 2008-03-11 This major survey of Old Norse Icelandic literature and culture demonstrates the remarkable continuity of Icelandic language and culture from medieval to modern times Comprises 29 chapters written by leading scholars in the field Reflects current debates among Old Norse Icelandic scholars Pays attention to previously neglected areas of study such as the sagas of Icelandic bishops and the fantasy sagas Looks at the ways Old Norse Icelandic literature is used by modern writers artists and film directors both within and outside Scandinavia Sets Old Norse Icelandic language and literature in its wider cultural context

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