

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910463262603321
Titolo	Narration and Hero : Recounting the Deeds of Heroes in Literature and Art of the Early Medieval Period // edited by Victor Millet, Heike Sahn
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin, [Germany] ; ; Boston, [Massachusetts] : , : De Gruyter, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	3-11-033815-7 3-11-036977-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (460 p.)
Collana	Reallexikon der Germanischen Altertumskunde - Ergänzungsbande, , 1866-7678 ; ; Band 87
Classificazione	GE 2688
Disciplina	830.9/002
Soggetti	German literature - Middle High German, 1050-1500 - History and criticism Heroes in literature Narration (Rhetoric) Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"This volume presents contributions to the conference "Narration and Heroes: Narrative Option Recounting the Deeds of Heroes in Literature and Art of the Early Medieval Period" which was held in Santiago de Compostela in September 2011."--Preface.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
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Sommario/riassunto

By the early middle ages vernacular aristocratic traditions of heroic narration were firmly established in Western and Northern Europe. Although there are regional, linguistic and formal differences, one can observe a number of similarities. Oral literature disseminates a range of themes that are shared by narratives in most parts of the continent. In all the European regions, this tradition of heroic narration came into contact with Christianity, which led to modifications. Similar processes of adaptation and transformation can be traced everywhere in this field of early European vernacular narrative. But with the increasing specialization of academic fields over the last half century, inter-disciplinary dialogue has become increasingly difficult. The volume is a contribution to renew the inter-disciplinary dialogue about common themes, topics and motifs in Nordic, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Germanic literature, and about the different methodologies to explore them.
