

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910780557903321
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Titolo	Viking poems on war and peace : a study in Skaldic narrative // R. G. Poole
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 1991 ©1991
ISBN	1-282-05640-9 9786612056406 1-4426-8308-2
Edizione	[2nd ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (236 p.)
Collana	Toronto Medieval Texts and Translations ; ; 8
Disciplina	839/.61
Soggetti	Old Norse poetry - History and criticism Narration (Rhetoric) - History - To 1500 Civilization, Medieval, in literature Vikings - Politics and government Peace in literature War in literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction. Lausavisur and other verses -- Excursus : the present historic tense in poetry -- The poems. Þjóolfr Arnorsson : The battle of the River Nissa (from Sexstefja) -- Frigerarflokkr : The peace negotiations between Haraldr and Sveinn -- Lismannaflokkr : The campaigns of Knutr and Þorkell in England -- Darraarljo : A Viking victory over the Irish -- Three Reconstructed Poems. Torf-Einarr's revenge -- Egill's duel with Ljotr -- Eirkir Visja : A battle on the heath.
Sommario/riassunto	The Old Norse and Icelandic poets have left us vivid accounts of conflict and peace-making in the Viking Age. Russell G. Poole's editorial and critical analysis reveals much about the texts themselves, the events that they describe, and the culture from which they come. Poole attempts to put right many misunderstandings about the integrity of the texts and their narrative techniques. From a historical perspective, he weighs the poems' authenticity as contemporary documents which

provide evidence bearing upon the reconstruction of Viking Age battles, peace negotiations, and other events. He traces the social roles played by violence in medieval Scandinavian society, and explores the many functions of the poet within that society. Arguing that these texts exhibit a mind-style so vastly different from our own present 'individualism,' Poole suggests that the mind-set of the medieval Scandinavian could be termed 'non-individualist.' The poems discussed are the 'Darradarljód,' where the speakers are Valkyries; 'Lidsmannaflokkur,' a rank-and-file warrior's description of Canute the Great's siege of London in 1016; 'Torf-Einarr's Revenge'; 'Egil's Duel with Ljótr,' five verses from the classic Egils saga Skallagrimssonar; 'A Battle on the Heath,' marking the culmination of a famous feud described in a very early Icelandic saga, the Heidarviga saga; and two extracts from the poem Sexstefia, one describing Haraldr of Norway's great fleet and victory over Sveinn of Denmark, and the other the peace settlement between these two kinds. The texts are presented in association with translations and commentaries as a resource not merely for medieval Scandinavian studies but also for the increasingly interwoven specialisms of literary theory and anthropology.
