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	Sommario/riassunto	Alfred the Great's early English kingdom was the only one to resist Viking conquest. His reform program strengthened the kingdom and enabled it to hold fast against the Vikings. But texts are largely silent on the process of reform. There has been a tendency to assume that these reforms would obviously be beneficial, but Alfred's elites were not to know that in advance. What motivated them to do as their king bid them?This book analyzes how objects and behaviours shaped aristocratic response to the reform program, using assemblage theory and social practice theory. The Alfred Jewel (as shown on the cover) exercised a powerful persuasive agency in Alfredian reform. Broadening

the frame of inquiry beyond textual evidence, giving objects and behaviours their due, permits a richer and more nuanced understanding.