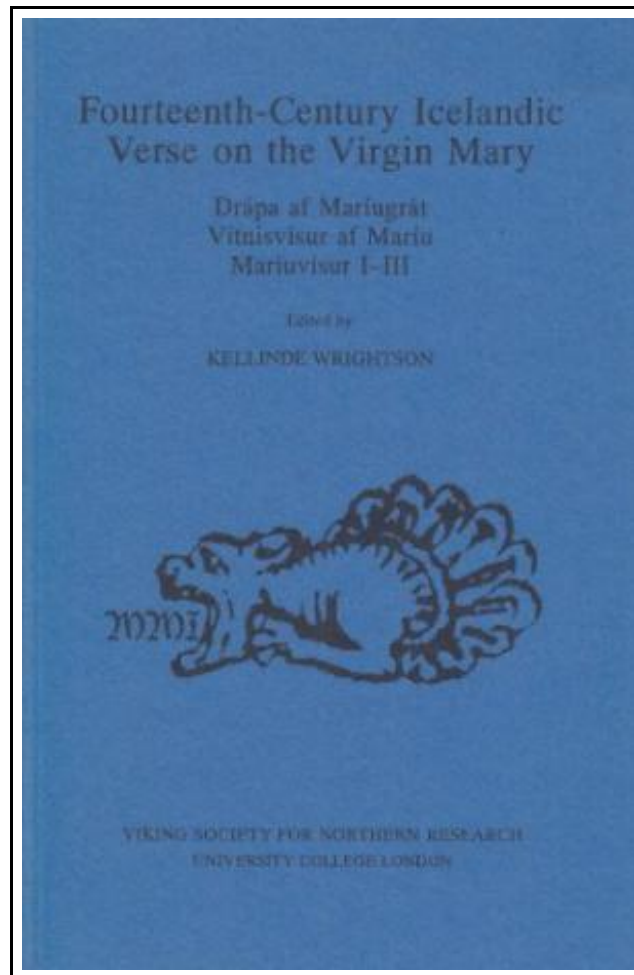


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Viking Society for Northern Research. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Fourteenth-century Icelandic Verse on the Virgin Mary: Drapa Af Mariugrat, Vitnisvisur Af Mariu Mariuvisur I-III, Kellinde Wrightson, **FOURTEENTH-CENTURY ICELANDIC VERSE ON THE VIRGIN MARY** The five skaldic poems in this volume are among the finest examples of medieval literature composed in the vernacular in honour of the Virgin Mary. They are part of an extensive corpus of Old Icelandic Marian texts which is significant not merely for its size, but, more importantly, for its contribution to our understanding of the cult of the Virgin in Western Europe. Dated to the late fourteenth century, the lamentation poem *Drapa of Mariugrat* and the miracle poems *Vitnisvisur of Mariu* and *Mariuvisur I-III* are among the earliest extant evidence of Old Icelandic Marian poetry. There has been no lack of attention paid to these texts by scholarly editors publishing in languages other than English, from Jon Porkelsson's Danish edition of fragments of the poems in 1888, to Bernhard Kahle and Hans Sperber's German editions in 1898 and 1911 respectively, through to Finnur Jonsson's Danish edition and translation in 1912-15 and Ernst A. Kock's Swedish edition in 1946-49. While valuable in their particular ways - for instance, both Kahle and Sperber discuss the metrical features in detail - these editions have not addressed the main issues associated with this group of Marian vernacular poems. These five skaldic poems, for example, have never been edited as a set on their own, separate from other religious poetry, yet, like so much Marian literature, especially the miracles, these Old Icelandic texts lend themselves to such treatment. Nor did any of the past editions include a glossary for these texts, which contain many words and phrases associated with the Mary cult and the monastic culture in which they...



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