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# The Earliest English Poems



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## Description :

Anglo-Saxon poetry was produced between 700 and 1000 AD for an audience that delighted in technical accomplishment, and the durable works of Old English verse spring from the source of the English language. Michael Alexander has translated the best of the Old English poetry into modern English and into a verse form that retains the qualities of Anglo-Saxon metre and alliteration. Included in this selection are the heroic poems such as Widsith, Deor, Brunanburh and Maldon, and passages from Beowulf; some of the famous riddles from The Exeter Book; all the elegies, including The Ruin, The Wanderer, The Seafarer, The Wifes Complaint and The Husbands Message, in which the virtue of Old English is found in its purest and most concentrated form; together with the great Christian poem The Dream

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**De Penguin : The Earliest English Poems** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Earliest English Poems:

of the Rood. Extrait Riddle 25 I'm the world's wonder, for I make women happy - a boon to the neighbourhood, a bane to no one, though I may perhaps prick the one who picks me. I am set well up, stand in a bed, have a roughish root. Rarely (though it happens) a churl's daughter more daring than the rest - and lovelier! - lays hold of me, rushes my red top, wrenches at my head, and lays me in the larder. She learns soon enough, the curly-haired creature who clamps me so, of my meeting with her: moist is her eye! Swings by his thigh a thing most magical! Below the belt, beneath the folds of his clothes it hangs, a hole in its front end, stiff-set and stout, but swivels about. Levelling the head of this hanging instrument, its wielder hoists his hem above the knee: it is his will to fill a well-known hole that it fits fully when at full length. He has often filled it before. Now he fills it again.

Presentation de l'auteur Anglo-Saxon poetry was produced between 700 and 1000 AD for an audience that delighted in technical accomplishment, and the durable works of Old English verse spring from the source of the English language. Michael Alexander has translated the best of the Old English poetry into modern English and into a verse form that retains the qualities of Anglo-Saxon metre and alliteration. Included in this selection are the heroic poems such as Widsith, Deor, Brunanburh and Maldon, and passages from Beowulf; some of the famous riddles from The Exeter Book; all the elegies, including The Ruin, The Wanderer, The Seafarer, The Wifes Complaint and The Husbands Message, in which the virtue of Old English is found in its purest and most concentrated form; together with the great Christian poem The Dream of the Rood.