

Contents

01. Preface	7
02. Introduction: The Futhark	11
03. The Older and Younger Futhark: Changes and Uses	17
04. Secret or Cryptic Runes	26
05. The Meaning of Runes in a Religious Context	31
06. The Oldest Runic Inscriptions.	40
A.	
07. Gods and Powers in the Older Futhark	45
B.	
08. Sacrifices and Enchantments	51
C.	
09. Runes on Early Amulets	60
D. Amulets	60
E. Gold bracteates	69
10. Magic Formulae and Magic Words	85
F. Fuþark	85
G. Alu	90
H. Salu	96
I. Laukar	97
K. Laþu	99
L. Ota	100
M. Other Possible Magic Words	101
11. Heathen and Christian Religion in the Anglo-Saxon Futhorc	102
N.	103
12. Gods and Mythological Beings in the Younger Futhark	116
O. Heathen Gods	116
P. Other Supernatural Beings	129
13. Magic Formulae in the Younger Futhark	134
INDIGENOUS FORMULAE	134
Q. The ‘Thistle’	134
R. Nauð	140
S. Sexual Charms and Curses	144
T. Various Charms	145
LATIN AND HEBREW CHARMS	147
U. General	147
V. The Magic Formula <i>sator arepo tenep opera rotas</i>	148
W. The Magic Word <i>agla</i>	155
X. The Magic Formula <i>khorda – inkhorda – khorda(i)</i>	159
14. Runes, Death, Memory and Inheritance	162
Y.	

15. Christian Prayers in Runes	172
Z.	
PRAYERS FOR THE SOUL	173
PRAYERS FOR LIGHT AND PARADISE	176
PRAYERS TO ST. MICHAEL	177
PRAYERS TO MARY	178
STANDARD PRAYERS	181
SACRAMENTALIA I	182
SACRAMENTALIA II	184
SACRAMENTALIA III	186
RUNIC PRAYER CROSSES	187
16. Selective Bibliography	190
a) Abbreviated Editions and Other Sources Used	190
b) Research Literature	192
17. Indices	213
a) Inscriptions by Place	213
b) Inscriptions by Country	218
c) Inscriptions by Material	221
d) Important Key Words	223

List of Illustrations

Ill. 1: Stenkvista Kyrka rune-stone (O 12)	10
Ill. 2: Bracteate IK 128 Nebenstedt I-B (E 27)	16
Ill. 3: The inscription from the Kragehul spear-shaft (A4)	21
Ill. 4: The Kowel lance-head (A 3)	25
Ill. 5: <i>Hahal</i> -runes from the Rök stone	28
Ill. 6: <i>Hahal</i> -runes from the top of the Rök stone	28
Ill. 7: Twig runes from Maeshowe	28
Ill. 8: Ice-runers from from the <i>Isruna Treatise</i>	29
Ill. 9: Various forms of cryptic runes from Bergen examples	30
Ill. 10: The Ribe skull-fragment (B 6)	37
Ill. 11: The Inscription on the Pforzen silver buckle (C 7)	59
Ill. 12: Bracteate IK 185 Tjurkö(II)-C (E 39)	84
Ill. 13: The Brandon silver disc-headed pin (N 2)	102
Ill. 14: The Madla lead cross (Z 21)	212
Ill. 15: The Kävlinge lead plate (Z 15) with benediction	224