

“The lore of skalds, warrior ideals, and tales of ancient kings”: A Bibliography on *Gerpla*

ALEC SHAW

ABSTRACT: This bibliography takes its title from a passage in *Gerpla*, which occurs when the protagonist, Skald Þormóður, arrives in Norway after nearly freezing to death in Greenland. Bereft of wealth, health, and companions, Þormóður still proudly praises the literary traditions of Iceland, in defiance of the skeptical locals. Considering *Gerpla*'s editions, translations, reviews, and scholarship allows for an overview of the sizable impact of Halldór's “little book.”

RÉSUMÉ: Cette bibliographie tire son titre d'un passage de *Gerpla*, lors duquel le protagoniste, le scalde Þormóður, arrive en Norvège après avoir failli mourir de froid au Groenland. Privé de richesse, de santé et de compagnons, Þormóður continue à louer fièrement les traditions littéraires de l'Islande, au mépris des habitants sceptiques. Considérer les éditions, traductions, critiques et études de *Gerpla* permet d'avoir un aperçu de l'impact considérable du « petit livre » de Halldór.

Alec Shaw is an MA student in linguistics at the University of Iceland.

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öfðum vér á brott við oss úr Noregi eigi fé, heldur skáldment og garpskap og sögur fornkonúnga; vér færðum til Íslands höfuð Mímis og Boðnarker; en þér sitjið daufir eftir, skáldum sneyddir, bögmæltir og án frægðar af sjálfum yður. Mun Noregur ekki frægð hljóta um aldur utan þá er hann þiggur að Íslendingum.

(*Gerpla*, first edition, 379)

[We took no possession from Norway apart from the lore of skalds, warrior ideals, and tales of ancient kings. To Iceland, we brought Mímir's head, and Boðn, the vessel of the mead of poetry, yet here you remain, dull-witted, bereft of skalds, and speaking a corrupt language, with no glory of your own making. Norway will never have any glory, apart from what Icelanders bestow on it.]

(*Wayward Heroes*, 402)

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