

Summary

The present study examines the transmission history of the story of Hrómundur Gr(e)ipsson in Icelandic. It investigates four works dealing with the story of Hrómundur: two in metrical form, *Griplur* and *Hrómundar rímur Greipssonar* (RHG), and two in prose, the seventeenth-century saga (17HsG) and the nineteenth-century saga (19HsG). The focus of the study is the existing tradition of the story of Hrómundur and not a quest for the lost medieval saga, which has been the subject of most previous research. Various manifestations of the story are examined from the perspective of material-philological transmission studies: an approach developed at the crossroads of material philology and transmission history.

One of the most significant findings to result from this study is the discovery of a new *Hrómundar saga Greipssonar* (19HsG), previously unknown to scholarship. While 17HsG appears to be a summary of the *rímur*, presumably made in response to seventeenth-century antiquarian interest in the history of Scandinavia, 19HsG seems to be an attempt to write an entertaining saga with a strong narrative thread, but with little regard for faithfulness to the sources. The saga-writer of 19HsG freely utilized both *Griplur* and the older saga in order to create a coherent narrative about Hrómundur. At the same time, the saga-writer also added material, the origins of which certainly lie outside the HsG-tradition as we know it today.

The results of the present research are not limited to 19HsG, however. Through an analysis of textual and material features of the saga, 19HsG has been placed in the broader context of other works that tell the story of Hrómundur and the manuscripts that preserve them. While the relationship between *Griplur* and 17HsG was already well established in previous scholarship, this study expands the knowledge of Hrómundur related material by revealing the relationships among all four manifestations of the story, as well as establishing the first complete stemmas of 17HsG and *Griplur*.