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Bede and Aethelthryth: An Introduction to Christian Latin Poetics (Paperback)

By Stephen J. Harris

West Virginia University Press, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Bede and Aethelthryth asks why Christians in Britain around the year 700 enjoyed Latin poetry. What did they see in it? What did they get from it? This book attempts to reconstruct the horizon of expectation of a highly learned, Latin-speaking nun as she encounters a fifty-line poem by the Venerable Bede, the Hymn to Aethelthryth. The reconstruction is hypothetical and derived from grammatical manuals, learned commentaries from the early medieval period (especially Servius's commentary on Virgil), and a wide variety of aesthetic observations by classical and medieval readers. The first four chapters describe basic expectations of a reader of Christian Latin poetry. The fifth chapter places the Hymn in its context within Bede's Ecclesiastical History. A few pages after Bede records his hymn, Caedmon will recite his own hymn under the watchful eye of Whitby's Abbess Hild, who was a friend of Aethelthryth. Both hymns are attempts to reform the lyric traditions of pagan Rome and pagan Anglo-Saxon England in the light of Christian teaching. The last three chapters contain a line-by-line commentary on Bede...



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Reviews

This book is really gripping and interesting. Of course, it is actually perform, still an interesting and amazing literature. You will not truly feel monotony at whenever you want of your time (that's what catalogues are for concerning when you request me).

-- **Claud Schaden**

Excellent electronic book and valuable one. We have read and so i am sure that i am going to likely to study again once more in the foreseeable future. I am just happy to inform you that here is the very best book i have read during my personal lifestyle and might be the greatest book for possibly.

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