

The Reminiscences of Old Norse Myths, Cults and Rituals in Old Russian Literature

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Long-time intense cultural interrelations between Northern and Eastern Europe in the Viking Age made for the formation of the so-called “retinue (warrior) tradition” interpreted in the Russian *Primary Chronicle* (c. 1010-20) as the history of the first princes of Rus and the Old Russian state. However various the origins of each plot might be (Slavic, Germanic, Byzantine, Oriental), the tradition is permeated with the beliefs and practices inherent to the culture of Varangians and has many parallels in the *fornaldar sögur*. They can be recognized more distinctly in the tales about the deeds and death of Prince Oleg (cf. *Örvar Odds saga* et al.), the revenges of Princess Ol’ga, etc.