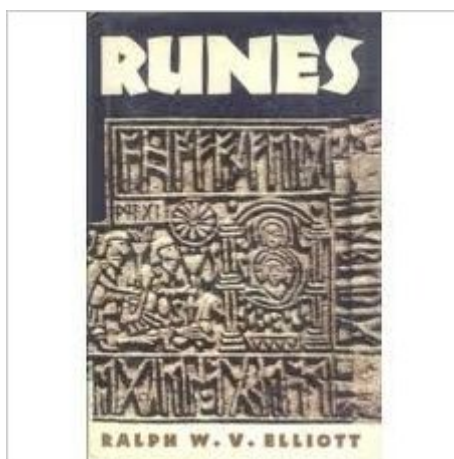


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Runes: An Introduction



Synopsis

This book is intended to serve as an introduction to the study of runes in general and of English runic inscriptions in particular.

Book Information

Hardcover: 124 pages

Publisher: Praeger; New edition edition (January 15, 1981)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0313228701

ISBN-13: 978-0313228704

Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 6.2 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,038,587 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #93 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Divination > Runes](#) #705 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Geography](#) #847 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Archaeology](#)

Customer Reviews

Elliott is an academic Runologist, but unlike Page, Plowright, or even Pollington, he is not afraid to admit the magical nature of the Runes. While he does not go into as much detail as Thorsson, he does give a pretty decent academic take on it. And unlike the above three authors, he does not go out of his way to distance the Runes from magic or attack and trivialize those who use them as such. As for *Runes: An Introduction*, Elliott does a great job of introducing and giving examples of how the Runes most likely moved from one place to another and how they evolved along the way. From the far north to Germany, Elliott surveys many of the important finds in each region. A more in depth comparative study can be found in *Texts & Contexts of the Oldest Runic Inscriptions (Northern World)* by Tineke Looijenga. I like how Elliott moves through the different cultures, touching in with a few standard inscriptions, offering some likely reasons for the changes in the Runes, and tossing in a little history once in a while to give life to what he's talking about. Another thing I really liked about Elliott's book is the 26 picture plates offered at the end of his book. These Runic objects show us what early magical items looked like. Having read Page, Plowright, Pollington, and Thorsson, it seems redundant to read Elliott because the above mentioned authors quote or expound upon what Elliott has offered. At the same time Elliott still gives us a few gems the others left out. Out of all the authors mentioned, Elliott gives the most

thorough discussion of the Runes from an evolutionary perspective.

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