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Unless otherwise indicated, all quotations from Old English poetry are taken from *The Anglo-Saxon poetic records*, edited by G. P. Krapp and E. van K. Dobbie (New York 1931-53), 6 volumes, by kind permission of Columbia University Press.

Footnotes have been limited to specific references; books and articles which have influenced the work in a more general way are listed in the Bibliography. The translations of the verse passages are intended to be literal rather than elegant; they are included simply as an aid to readers with a limited knowledge of Old English.