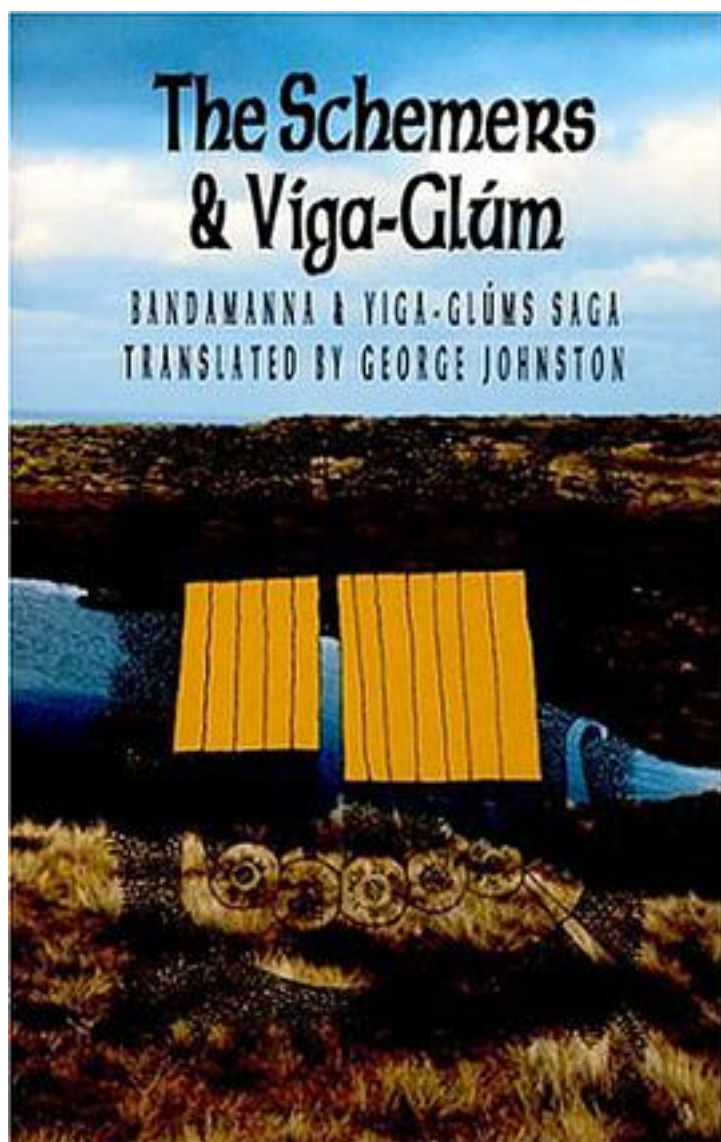


The Schemers and Viga-glum



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George Johnston, renowned for his fine translations of "Old Icelandic" tales such as "The Saga of Gisli" and "Thrand of Gotu", takes a look at two orally-preserved stories from the middle of the ninth to the eleventh century. The first, "The Saga of the Schemers", is unique in that the work is wholly imaginative and its mood is comic whereas most are weighted on the side of passion and tragedy. The second, "The Saga of Viga-Glum", leans more traditionally on the story of a known Icelandic chieftain of the tenth century. Yet it cannot be read as history; fictional and folktale motifs have been worked into reports of actual events, and supernatural elements, belonging to pagan mythology and worship, have held their place in the telling. This is an accurate and thoughtful translation executed by a master.

作者介绍:

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