

# Poems of Love and War

## 1. 'The earl bore his banner'

Arnor Thordarson (11th century)  
trans. Judith Jesch (b. 1954)

HOWARD SKEMPTON

$\text{♩} = \text{c.}92$

**SOPRANO**  
**ALTO**

*mf*

The earl bore his ban - ner on to an - cient En - glish ground, his

**TENOR**  
**BASS**

*mf*

8

troop red - dened ea - gle's tongue as he made flags ad - vance.

16

Flames shot up; halls col - lapsed; his men made re - fu - gees; the

24

foe of boughs spewed smoke and threw light to - wards the sky.

Duration: 8 mins

Music © Oxford University Press 2020. Text by Judith Jesch from 'Viking Poetry of Love and War',  
The British Museum Press © 2020 The Trustees of the British Museum.

Printed in Great Britain

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, MUSIC DEPARTMENT, GREAT CLARENDON STREET, OXFORD OX2 6DP  
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## 4. 'Giver of captured gold'

Arnor Thordarson (11th century)  
trans. Judith Jesch

$\text{♩} = c. 126$

**SOPRANO  
ALTO**

*mp*

Gi-ver of cap - tured gold, you risked your gaz - elles of the ra - ging

**TENOR  
BASS**

*mp*

9

storm on the churn - ing sea, and you spent your life most - ly un - der

19

soaked sails. The 'Bi - son' quick - ly car - ried you, a keen hawk, in its

28

stern - quar - ters. More splen - did king will ne - ver steer a sup - ple ship, my

## 9. 'Praise the day at evening'

Anonymous (from the *Poetic Edda*)  
trans. Judith Jesch

$\text{♩} = c.88$

**SOPRANO  
ALTO**

*mp*

Praise the day at eve - ning, the wife when she's cre - ma - ted, a

**TENOR  
BASS**

*hum*  
*p*

*hum*

*p*  
*hum*

*hum*

5

sword when it's test - ed, a girl when she's mar - ried,

*sim.*

*sim.*

9

ice when you've crossed it, beer when you've drunk it. Chop