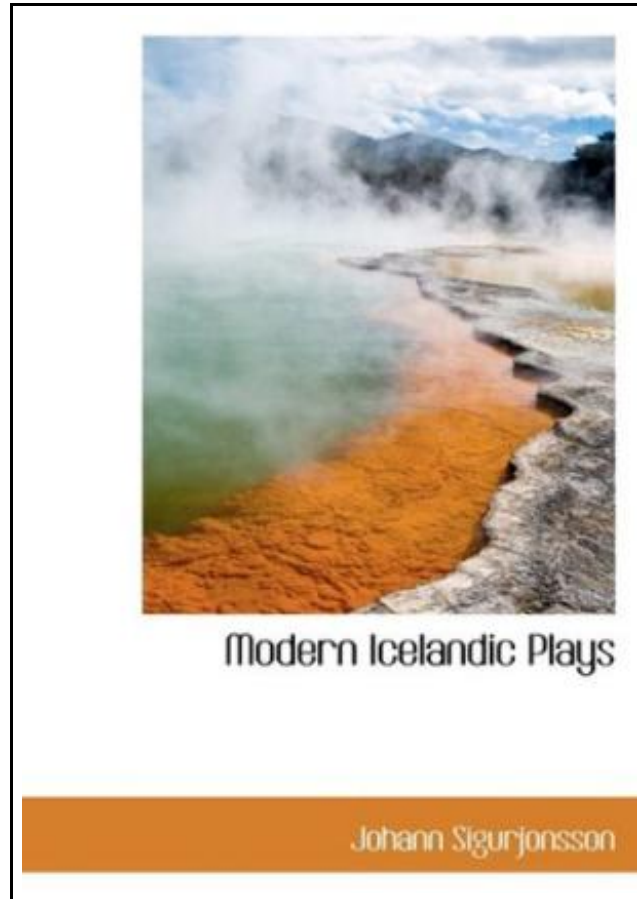


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Reviews

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BiblioLife. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 140 pages. Dimensions: 8.0in. x 5.0in. x 0.3in. an excerpt from the: INTRODUCTION BOTH volumes of the Scandinavian Classics selected to appear in 1916 are by natives of Iceland. They belong, however, to periods of time and to modes of writing remote from each other. Snorri Sturluson, the greatest of Icelandic historians, was born in 1179. His Prose Edda, the companion-piece of the present volume, is a Christian account of Old Norse myths and poetic conceptions thus happily preserved as they were about to pass into oblivion. More than seven hundred years separate Jhann Sigurjnsón from Snorri, and his work is in dramatic, not saga form. But even as in outward appearance modern Iceland is not unlike ancient Iceland, so the Icelandic writers of the present have marked kinship with the past. Despite many centuries of relative neglect, the old traditions lived on, cherished by scholars, until now, at the beginning of the twentieth century, the Icelandic mind appears to be again reascent and creative. Einar Jnsson, the sculptor, has his counterpart in the domain of letters in such recent writers as Jnas Jnasson, Emar Hjrleifsson, Gudmundur Magnsson, Jnas Gudlaugsson, Gunnar Gunnarson, and Gudmundur Kamban, while every important fjord and valley can claim its own poet or novelist. As yet, the most distinguished performance of these younger authors is the play printed in this volume, Eyvind of the Hills (Bjrg-Ejvind og hans Hustru), by Jhann Sigurjnsón. Among literary phenomena Eyvind of the Hills is a surprise, almost as though Iceland woke to find her naked mountains clothed in forest in a night. Let Sigurjnsón tell his life story in his own words: I was born June 19, 1880, on a large farm in the northern part of Iceland. Our household...



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