

The Kalevala

translated and read by **Keith Bosley**

The *Kalevala* provides a compelling insight into the myths and folklore of Finland. Compiled by Elias Lönnrot in the 19th century, this impressive volume follows a tradition of oral storytelling that goes back some 2000 years, and it is often compared to such epic poems as Homer's *Odyssey*. However, the *Kalevala* has little in common with the culture of its Nordic neighbours: it is primarily poetic, it is mythical rather than historic, and its heroes solve their problems with magic more often than violence.

This version uses the acclaimed translation by Keith Bosley, who is one of the acknowledged experts on the *Kalevala*. Highly popular and accessible, his is widely regarded to be the authoritative text.



A poet and acclaimed translator from Finnish, **Keith Bosley** is a Corresponding Member of the Finnish Literature Society and has been knighted by the Order of the White Rose in Finland. He has translated a large number of works in addition to the *Kalevala*, including the award-winning anthology *Finnish Folk Poetry: Epic*. He was an announcer for the BBC World Service for over 30 years.

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