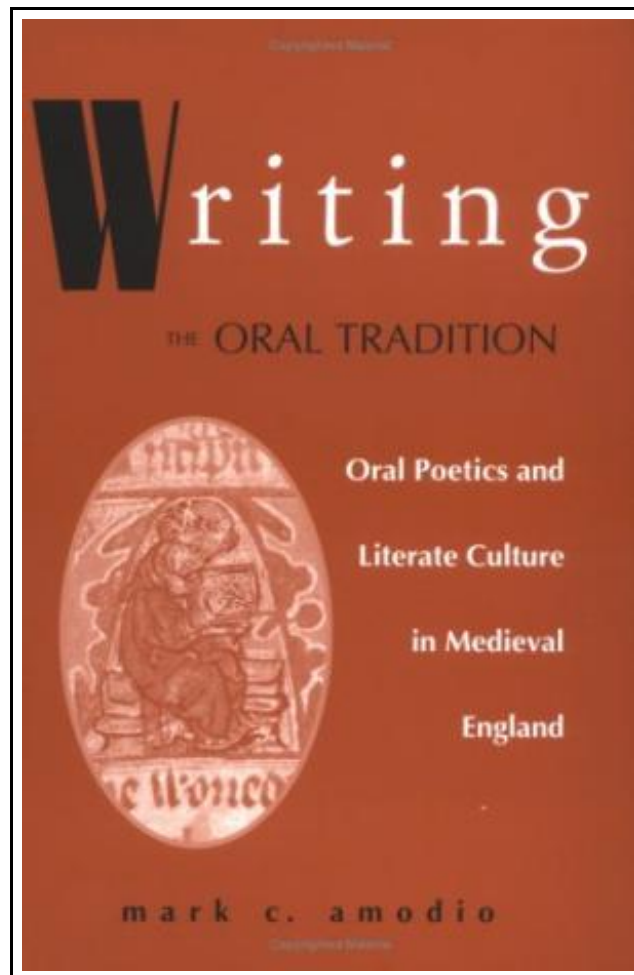# Writing the Oral Tradition: Oral Poetics and Literate Culture in Medieval England

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Reviews

The publication is great and fantastic. It is probably the most remarkable book i actually have read through. Its been printed in an exceedingly easy way and it is merely right after i finished reading through this publication where in fact altered me, modify the way i think.
(Tomasa Witting)

WRITING THE ORAL TRADITION: ORAL POETICS AND LITERATE CULTURE IN MEDIEVAL ENGLAND

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University of Notre Dame Press, United States, 2005. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New.. 231 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Mark Amodio s book focuses on the influence of the oral tradition on written vernacular verse produced in England from the fifth to the fifteenth century. His primary aim is to explore how a living tradition articulated only through the public, performance voices of pre-literate singers came to find expression through the pens of private, literate authors. Amodio argues that the expressive economy of oral poetics survives in written texts because, throughout the Middle Ages, literacy and orality were interdependent, not competing, cultural forces. After delving into the background of the medieval oral-literate matrix, Writing the Oral Tradition develops a model of non-performative oral poetics that is a central, perhaps defining, component of Old English vernacular verse. Following the Norman Conquest, oral poetics lost its central position and became one of many ways to articulate poetry. Contrary to many scholars, Amodio argues that oral poetics did not disappear but survived well into the post-Conquest period. It influenced the composition of Middle English verse texts produced from the twelfth to the fourteenth century because it offered poets an affectively powerful and economical way to articulate traditional meanings. Indeed, fragments of oral poetics are discoverable in contemporary prose, poetics, and film as they continue to faithfully emit their traditional meanings. Writing the Oral Tradition will appeal to specialists and students interested in medieval literature, medieval cultural studies, and oral theory.

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