

The Gododdin

author: Gillian Clarke

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Synopsis

author	Gillian Clarke
readBy	Ceri Wyn Jones, Gillian Clarke
inLanguage	english

The timeless and compelling 'word-music' of one of Britain's oldest cultural treasures is captured in this new bilingual edition.

The Gododdin charts the rise and fall of 363 warriors in the battle of Catraeth, around the year AD 600. The men of the Brittonic kingdom of Gododdin rose to unite the Welsh and the Picts against the Angles, only to meet a devastating fate. Composed by the poet Aneirin, the poem was originally orally transmitted as a sung elegy, passed down for seven centuries before being written down in early Welsh by two medieval scribes. It is composed of one hundred laments to the named characters who fell and follows a sophisticated alliterative poetics. Former National Poet of Wales Gillian Clarke animates this historical epic with a modern musicality, making it live in the language of today and underscoring that, in a world still beset by the misery of war, Aneirin's lamentation is not done.

Reader's comments

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