The book argues that the 20th-century encounter with Old English constitutes 'an enormous transfer of poetic energy', one that has a marked and lasting effect on the evolution of poetry in English. Discover the world's research. 19+ million members. Arnaut's sequence al sieu servir / Sui (lines 32-33), which might be rendered as "in her service / I am", once again uses paronomasia to identify forms referring to the persons of the 6. Charles Hartman suggests that the line unit is a way of "increasing the density of accents", in particular because "the energy required to start again each new line tends to throw unwonted stress on one of its first words" (Hartman, 1996/Hartman, [1980: 56]). Jones convincingly argues that Old English poetry constitutes a "shadow tradition" that has exerted a unique and hitherto unacknowledged influence on twentieth-century poetry. (Forum for Modern Language Studies). Of poetic energy from Old English into twentieth-century poetics. Jones has fashioned an important book that rewrites crucially important, yet often wilfully neglected, aspects of the history of twentieth-century vernacular poetics in these islands. It represents an outstanding critical achievement. (Professor John Thompson, Queen's University, Belfast). ...informative and useful detailed and informative a wonderful tool for teaching. (Teachers of Old English in Britain and Ireland). Synopsis. twentieth-century poetry in Englishâ€(242). Criticisms of such a groundbreaking and stimulating book can be few. Some of the metrical analyses are perhaps overly dense, and the use of â€œSaxonistâ€ instead of â€œAnglo-Saxonistâ€ is irritating. However, the biggest criticism is also high praise: throughout the book, the reader is continually left wanting more, whether further expansion of a particular line of inquiry or discussion of how an author's work relates to and fits in with that of other poets whose work there is not space to treat. This book is surely required reading for anyone interested in