

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The number of people who have expressed interest in my siblings project over the years, who have suggested sibling stories, made sibling observations or answered my sibling questions, is enormous. And I am sorry for any omissions in the list that follows. Thanks in particular are due to: Frank Romany and Roger Lindsay for psychoanalytical and psychological leads; Elizabeth Archibald, Frank Brandsma and Kate McClune for Arthurian suggestions; Judy Quinn, David Clark, Jóhanna Friðríksdóttir, Guðrún Nordal, Ármann Jakobsson and Jo Shortt Butler for Norse siblings; Judith Jesch for runic material; Katharine Earnshaw, Gervase Rosser and Cyril Edwards for translation help; Alex Feldman for a chance reference to the *Gesta Romanorum*; Ceridwen Lloyd-Morgan for Welsh conversations; Tom Lambert for late Anglo-Saxon sworn-brothers, and John Pitcher for much miscellaneous advice over many years. Nigel Palmer, Keith Busby, Helen Cooper, Will Sweet have all, in different ways, made productive and helpful suggestions. I should also acknowledge the helpful comments made by anonymous publishers' readers, and the many valuable suggestions, particularly those relating to the thorny area of medieval demography, offered by Pete Biller for York Medieval Press. Caroline Palmer has been encouraging and enthusiastic about the project. Thanks too to Tim Bourns for help with the index.

Thanks are due also to many conference, lecture and seminar organizers, among whom are Steve Mitchell at Harvard, the CCASNAC team of 2010, Richard North, Jessica Stoll, and the audiences, students and conversation partners who have listened to me talk about and who have talked themselves about siblings and inlaws over the years. St John's College granted me a year of sabbatical leave to work on the early stages of this project, and I am grateful for the College's continuing support of my research.

This book is dedicated to my own sibling, my brother David, and to my former affine Tina Brandenburg.