

## ABSTRACT

The submitted work concerns itself with the analysis and interpretation of the Utgarðaloki character on the basis of eddic mythology in which it appears. The introductory chapter focuses on primary sources and secondary literature, bringing together the results of the previous research which partly lend the structure to this work. The key primary text used is the myth about Þórr's journey to Utgarðaloki which is contained in the *Younger Edda* of Snorri Sturluson. Other versions of this narrative are also taken into account so that it may be possible to reconstruct the image of this character in its entirety and highlight its complementary aspects. This is the subject matter of the second chapter. Among these versions I have included Snorri's parallel myth about Þórr's journey to Geirrøðr, Saxo Grammaticus's narrative about Geruthus and Utgarthilocus from his work *The History of the Danes*, the *Tale of Þorsteinn Bæjarmagn* (belonging to the saga literature) and, used to a lesser extent, the skaldic poem *Þórsdrápa*. The third and fourth chapters compare Utgarðaloki to Óðinn and Loki - other mythological characters who share many common traits with him. Finally, in the concluding chapter I bring forward my own concept of Utgarðaloki as a mediating element between the two aforementioned deities, using the Levi-Strauss method of structural analysis.

KEY WORDS: Old Norse religion, Utgarðaloki, Óðinn, Loki, eddic mythology, structural analysis