The present source book offers a survey of all types of runic inscriptions with religious or magical connotations from the earliest periods to the late Middle Ages, from runes on weapons and jewellery to runic gravestones and Christian runic amulets. It is intended as a scholarly answer against the common misconception of the supposedly dominant use of runes in magic. The present volume is structured in 15 units which enables its use as an aid to teaching without being excessively comprehensive.

In addition to the chapters on the different types of sources and the magical vocabulary, introductory chapters on the development of runes, a bibliography and several indices intend to make this volume an aid for the non-esoteric approach to the study of runes in a magico-religious context.

Cover-illustration by Clare Yarrington based on a carving from Bryggers Museum, Bergen.