

Sex Eroticism In Mesopotamian Literature

Proceedings of the 53th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale

When Heroes Love

Ishtar

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ROMAN PHILLIPS

Proceedings of the 53th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale Bloomsbury Publishing

The strange and enigmatic title "son of man" has intrigued biblical scholars for millennia. What does it mean and how does it describe Jesus in his role as the Christian messiah? Robin Jarrell surveys the mythological roots of the phrase in the ancient Mesopotamian Epic of Gilgamesh and traces its development from the mythology of the Egyptian queen Hatshepsut's birth narrative, to the Baal Cycle in Ugaritic literature, to the story of Pandora, and finally to the story of creation found in the book of Genesis. The key to unlocking the mystery of the phrase "son of man" is embedded in the story of the first "son of man"--Noah--with the reference to "the sons of God" who found wives among the "daughters of men" and whose offspring brought devastation to the earth and the reason for the flood. In the hands of the Christian gospel writers, the parallel "son of man" figure found in the Dead Sea Scrolls reemerges in the identity of the last "son of man"--Jesus of Nazareth.

When Heroes Love Penn State Press

This book initiates the reader into the study of Akkadian literature from ancient Babylonia and Assyria. With this one relatively short volume, the novice reader will develop the literary competence necessary to read and interpret Akkadian texts in translation and will gain a broad familiarity with

the major genres and compositions in the language. The first part of the book presents introductory discussions of major critical issues, organized under four key rubrics: tablets, scribes, compositions, and audiences. Here, the reader will find descriptions of the tablets used as writing material; the training scribes received and the institutional contexts in which they worked; the general characteristics of Akkadian compositions, with an emphasis on poetic and literary features; and the various audiences or users of Akkadian texts. The second part surveys the corpus of Akkadian literature defined inclusively, canvassing a wide spectrum of compositions. Legal codes, historical inscriptions, divinatory compendia, and religious texts have a place in the survey alongside narrative poems, such as the Epic of Gilgamesh, Enuma elish, and Babylonian Theodicy. Extensive footnotes and a generous bibliography guide readers who wish to continue their study. Essential for students of Assyriology, *An Introduction to Akkadian Literature* will also prove useful to biblical scholars, classicists, Egyptologists, ancient historians, and literary comparatists.

Ishtar Taylor & Francis

This volume is dedicated to Miguel Civil in celebration of his 90th birthday. Civil has been one of the most influential scholars in the field of Sumerian studies over the course of his long career. This anniversary presents a welcome occasion to reflect on some aspects of the field in which he has been such a driving force.

Some Wine and Honey for Simon Routledge

The Greek name Mesopotamia means 'land between the rivers.' The Romans used this term for an area that they controlled only briefly (between 115

and 117 A.D.): the land between the Euphrates and Tigris rivers, from the south Anatolian mountains ranges to the Persian Gulf. It comprises the civilizations of Sumer and Akkad (third millennium B.C.) as well as the later Babylonian and Assyrian empires of the second and first millennium. Although the 'history' of Mesopotamia in the strict sense of the term only begins with the inscriptions of Sumerian rulers around the 27th century B.C., the foundations for Mesopotamian civilization, especially the beginnings of irrigation and the emergence of large permanent settlements, were laid much earlier, in the fifth and fourth millennium. The second edition of the Historical Dictionary of Mesopotamia defines concepts, customs, and notions peculiar to the civilization of ancient Mesopotamia, from adult adoption to ziggurats. This is accomplished through a chronology, an introductory essay, a bibliography, appendixes, and hundreds of cross-reference dictionary entries on religion, economy, society, geography, and important kings and rulers.

A Brief History of Oral Sex Oxford University Press on Demand

In this original work, Stone studies the structure and social presuppositions of several narratives from the Deuteronomistic History in which sexual activity plays a significant role. Both narratological and anthropological tools are utilized in the textual analysis. Stone interestingly notes the link between sexual activity, gender and prestige structures; the emphasis on male contest and female chastity discussed by anthropologists of honour and shame; and the role of the exchange of women in relations between men. In each story, sexual practice is primarily related to male struggles for honour and power.

Sex, the World History Wipf and Stock Publishers

Celibacy is a commitment to remain unmarried and to renounce sexual relations, for a limited period or for a lifetime. Such a commitment places an individual outside human society in its usual form, and thus questions arise: What significance does such an individual, and such a choice, have for the human family and community as a whole? Is celibacy possible? Is there a socially constructive role for celibacy? These questions guide Dale Launderville, OSB, in his study of celibacy in the ancient cultures of Israel, Mesopotamia, and Greece prior to Hellenism and the rise of Christianity. Launderville focuses especially on literary witnesses, because those enduring texts have helped to shape modern attitudes and can aid us in understanding the factors that may call forth the practice of celibacy in our own time. Readers will discover how celibacy fits within a context of relationships, and what kinds of relationships thus support a healthy and varied society, one aware of and oriented to its cosmic destiny. Dale Launderville, OSB, is professor of theology at Saint John's University School of Theology 'eminary, Collegeville, Minnesota. He is the author of *Piety and Politics: The Dynamics of Royal Authority in Homeric Greece, Biblical Israel, and Old Babylonian Mesopotamia* (Eerdmans, 2003) and *Spirit and Reason: The Embodied Character of Ezekiel's Symbolic Thinking* (Baylor University Press, 2007).

Magdalene Mysteries Bloomsbury Publishing

In this masterful new study of the ancient poetry of the Song of Songs, Elaine T. James explores the Song's underlying interest in the natural world. Engaging with the fields of geography, landscape architecture, and literature, James critiques the tendency of scholars to reify a perceived dichotomy between "nature" and "culture" and instead argues that the poetic attention to landscape indicates an awareness of a viewer. Nature is here a poetic device that informs James's close-readings of agrarianism, gardens, cities, social control, and feminism and the gaze in the Song. With this two-fold emphasis on landscape and lyric, *Landscape of the Song of Songs* shows how the Song persistently envisions a world in which human lovers are embedded in the natural world, complexly enfolded in relationships of fragility and care.

Sacred Marriages Walter de Gruyter GmbH & Co KG

Mesopotamia is often considered to be the birthplace of law codes. In recognition of this fact and motivated by the perennial interest in the topic among Assyriologists, the 59th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale was organized in Ghent in 2013 around the theme "Law and (Dis)Order in the Ancient Near East." Based on papers delivered at that meeting, this volume contains twenty-six essays that focus on archaeological, philological, and historical topics related to order and chaos in the Ancient Near East. Written by a diverse array of international scholars, the contributions to this book explore laws and legal practices in the Ur III, Old Babylonian, Middle Assyrian, and Neo-Assyrian periods in Mesopotamia, as well as in Nuzi and the Hebrew Bible. Among the subjects covered are the Code of Hammurabi, legal phraseology, the archaeological traces of the organization of community life, and biblical law. The volume also contains essays that explore the concepts of chaos/disorder and law/order in divinatory texts and literature. Wide-ranging and cutting-edge, the essays in this collection will be of interest to Assyriologists, especially members of the International Association for Assyriology.

The Regulation of Sex-Themed Visual Imagery Society of Biblical Lit

Sex, the World History: Through Time, Religion, and Culture has three sections. Section I of the book is titled *The Ancient World: Early Europe to the Renaissance and Islam*. It is a daring exploration of human sexuality from the ancient to the modern world. Revealed are sexual practices and beliefs previously omitted or obscured from all historical telling. In a scathing condemnation of religion and its control of sex, the book explores complex relationships between spirituality and sexuality. The relatively recent fall of the mother goddess and her supremacy throughout most of human existence are detailed in both word and image. These pages share erotic artworks and explicit literary excerpts from throughout the world, painstakingly culled from the hidden treasure trove of cultures throughout history. *Sex, the Illustrated History* traces sexual attitudes from the transcendent to the bizarre throughout the world's cultures. Revealed for the first time is the bisexuality of the majority of human cultures. Before Christianity, Asia, the Pacific, Africa, the Americas, Europe, and most human cultures practiced male/male love along with male/female love. Lesbianism is also treated in depth. It offers, in very readable form, an encyclopedic tour of the sexuality of humankind. Section II entitled *Sex, the Illustrated History* begins a bold probe of human sexuality from Asia, Australia, Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia, ancient North and South America, and Africa, and it moves into the modern world. The analysis of gender truths and religion and its control of sex continues as the book pursues intricate relationships between spirituality and sexuality. The book is leagues beyond the classic *History of Sexuality* by Michael Foucault, which was written in the 1950s. Section III entitled *Sex, the Illustrated History* begins a courageous exploration of human sexuality from the Enlightenment to the current modern world. It also talks about Europe from the seventeenth century to the modern world, Victorian licentiousness, colonial North and South America to the current day Americas, world wars and sex slavery, Roman Catholic molestations, counterculture love, child brides and forced

marriages, and slavery and homosexuality through time. The book explores complicated relationships between modern spirituality and sexuality.

Orality and Literacy in the Demotic Tales Columbia University Press

Vita Daphna Arbel uses critical theories of gender to offer an alternative reading of the multilayered conceptualization of the Song of Song's feminine protagonist: "the most beautiful woman". Arbel treats "the most beautiful woman" as a culturally constructed and performed representation of "woman," and situates this representation within the cultural-discursive contexts in which the Song partly emerged. She examines the gender norms and cultural ideologies it both reflects and constructs, and considers the manner in which this complex representation disrupts rigid, ahistorical notions of femininity, and how it consequently indirectly characterizes "womanhood" as dynamic and diverse. Finally, Arbel examines the reception and impact of these ideas on later conceptualizations of the Song of Songs' female protagonist with a heuristic examination of Mark Chagall's Song of Songs painting cycle, *Le Cantique des Cantiques*. These compositions-selected for their diverse depictions of the Song's protagonist, their impact on European art, and their vast popularity and bearing in the broader cultural imagination-illustrate a fascinating dialogue between the present and the past about the "most beautiful woman" and about multiple femininities.

Multiple Originals Kregel Publications

The second half of the proceedings, *City Administration in the Ancient Near East*, is available here. A workshop volume is available here. In July 2007, the 53rd Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale (the annual meeting of the International Association of Assyriologists) was held in Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia. In Moscow, several hundred Assyriologists enjoyed the hospitality of the Russian State University for the Humanities. Dozens of papers on the topic "Language in the Ancient Near East," were delivered at the University. More than 50 of those papers are published in this 2-volume set.

Fallen Angels and Fallen Women Routledge

This volume celebrates the life and work of the late Simon B. Parker (1940-2006), the Harrell F. Beck Scholar of Hebrew Scripture at the School of Theology and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Boston University. Contributors Edward L. Greenstein Mark S. Smith Karel van der Toorn Steve A. Wiggins N. Wyatt Katheryn Pfisterer Darr David Marcus Herbert B. Huffmon Bernard F. Batto Tim Koch F. W. Dobbs-Allsopp Amy Limpitlaw

The Cultural Complex Oxford University Press

Lyombe Eko carries out an historical and cultural survey of the regulation of visual depictions of explicit human sexual conduct from their earliest appearance on the clay tablets of the valley of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in ancient Mesopotamia, to the tablet computers of Silicon Valley. *The Regulation of Sex-Themed Visual Imagery* analyzes the contemporary problem of the applicability of the human right of freedom of expression to explicit imagery in the face of societal interests in the regulation of representations of human sexuality. This book will be of interest to scholars, students, and broad audiences interested in comparative studies in pornography regulation, the history of pornography, the law of pornography and obscenity, and visual culture and history alike.

Sex in Antiquity Liturgical Press

Rivkah Harris's cross-cultural and multidisciplinary approach breaks new ground in assessing Mesopotamian attitudes toward youth and mature adulthood, aging and the elderly, generational conflict, gender differences in aging, relationships between men and women, women's contributions to cultural activities, and the "ideal woman." To uncover Mesopotamian perspectives, Harris combed through primary sources - including literature and myth, letters, economic and legal texts, and visual materials. Even such pivotal cultural influences as the Gilgamesh Epic and Enuma Elish are reinterpreted in an original manner.

Contributions of Selected Rhetorical Devices to a Biblical Theology of The Song of Songs Routledge

Expert biblical and practical advice for handling today's most challenging sexual issues Although modern culture constantly changes its views on sexuality, God's design for sexuality remains the same. Bringing together twenty-five expert contributors in relevant fields of study, Gary Barnes and Sandra Glahn address the most important and controversial areas of sexuality that Christians face today. From a scriptural perspective and with an irenic tone, the contributors address issues such as: • The theology of the human body • Male and female in the Genesis creation accounts • Abortion • Celibacy • Sexuality in marriage • Contraception • Infertility • Cohabitation • Divorce and remarriage • Same-sex attraction • Gender dysphoria An ideal handbook for pastors, counselors, instructors, and students, *Sanctified Sexuality* provides solid answers and prudent advice for the many questions Christians encounter on a daily basis.

Women in Ugarit and Israel Bloomsbury Publishing

This book examines many of the laws in the Torah governing sexual relations and the often implicit motivations underlying them. It also considers texts beyond the laws in which legal traditions and ideas concerning sexual behavior intersect and provide insight into ancient Israel's social norms. The book includes extended treatments on the nature and function of marriage and divorce in ancient Israel, the variation in sexual rules due to status and gender, the prohibition on male-with-male sex, and the different types of sexualities that may have existed in ancient Israel. The essays draw on a variety of methodologies and approaches, including narrative criticism, philological analysis, literary theory, feminist and gender theory, anthropological models, and comparative analysis. They cover content ranging from the narratives in Genesis, to the laws of Exodus, Leviticus, and Deuteronomy, to later re-interpretations of pentateuchal laws in Jeremiah and texts from the Second Temple period. Overall, the book presents a combination of theoretical discussion and close textual analysis to shed new light on the connections between law and sexuality within the Torah and beyond.

Celibacy in the Ancient World JHU Press

Elucidates the pros and cons of current Christian discussion on the question of homosexuality. Challenges partisan views and provides a balanced discussion.

Women in Antiquity Wipf and Stock Publishers

In *Orality and Literacy in the Demotic Tales*, Jacqueline E. Jay extrapolates from the surviving ancient Egyptian written record hints of a parallel oral tradition, focusing in particular on the corpus of Demotic narrative literature surviving from the Greco-Roman Period.

The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Gender Studies Eisenbrauns

When it comes to sex, the Bible is marred by inequality. To address the consequences of that, *What the Bible Says About Sex* asserts that modern perspectives on sexuality and gender should be separated from the more constraining, historical views of traditional biblical interpretation. What does the Bible say about sexuality? How have traditions of biblical interpretation influenced our understanding of sex and gender? *What the Bible Says About Sex* answers that and many other questions. Not shy, it analyzes why the Church claimed dominion over marriage, while the female body remained a source of potential evil. It wrestles with how sexuality is used, not only in the past but also in the present, to reinforce notions of honor, and how it can be used to manipulate others. Deftly, it handles a discussion of semen as both profane and the "seed of life." It looks brazenly at the pornographic and the erotic passages of the Bible, and how traditions of interpretation veiled them. With the Bible frequently invoked to support

arguments in the present age over the moral limits of sexuality and gender, having a greater awareness of what the Bible says about sex and how it is, and has been, interpreted is critical now more than ever. *What the Bible Says About Sex* is suitable for students, scholars, and the general reader with an interest in sexuality and the Bible, and sex and desire in both ancient and modern Christianity.

Mesopotamia Taylor & Francis

Scan any Old Testament Theology for its entry concerning the Song of Songs and you are likely to put the book down and walk away disappointed. In the majority of resources the Song is either missing entirely or is given scant pages that do not justice to its divine message. In this book Mark McGinniss seeks to remedy that situation by demonstrating the depth of theology in this ancient love song concerning desire, passion, and sex. Beyond the significant theology of the Song, this book demonstrates how the author of the Song of Songs employed certain literary devices for a specific rhetorical purpose to convey certain theological truths.