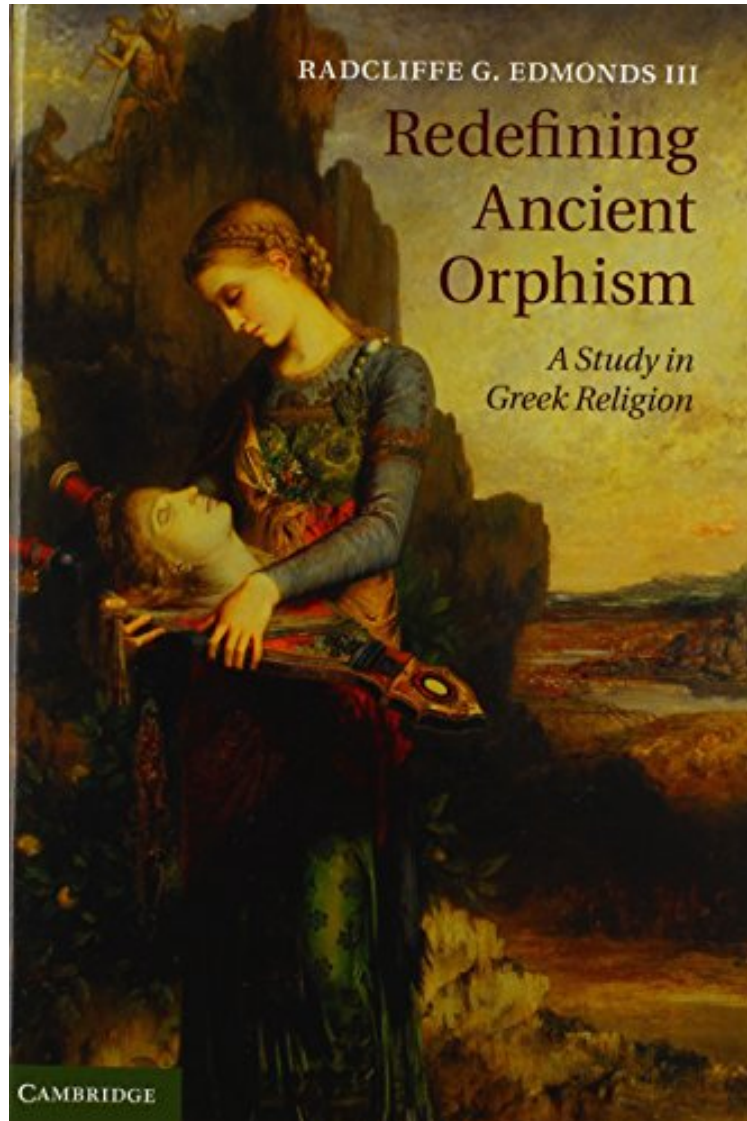


(Download) Redefining Ancient Orphism: A Study in Greek Religion

Redefining Ancient Orphism: A Study in Greek Religion

Radcliffe G. Edmonds III

**Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#3238643 in Books Edmonds III Radcliffe G 2013-12-16Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.98 x .98 x 5.98l, 1.60 #File Name: 1107038219464 pagesRedefining Ancient Orphism | File size: 62.Mb

Radcliffe G. Edmonds III : Redefining Ancient Orphism: A Study in Greek Religion before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Redefining Ancient Orphism: A Study in Greek Religion:

6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A Fresh Angle on an Old ProblemBy Laura Knight-JadczykExcellent review and analysis of Orphic literature that gives a more comprehensive angle on the phenomenon. Hopefully more "speculators" will read this and get some grounding before they take off into La-la Land, creating vast

conspiracy theories about secret religions. I do think the author would have benefited enormously from reading astronomers, Victor Clube and Bill Napier and their theories about the origins of religion in the Greek Dark Ages being cometary disasters. (The Cosmic Serpent). A lot of what Edmonds sees as "Orphism" would then make a lot more sense: a desperate attempt to stabilize the environment in the face of cataclysm, to appease the gods, to find the right button to push to make things normal once again.

This book examines the fragmentary and contradictory evidence for Orpheus as the author of rites and poems to redefine Orphism as a label applied polemically to extra-ordinary religious phenomena. Replacing older models of an Orphic religion, this richer and more complex model provides insight into the boundaries of normal and abnormal Greek religion. The study traces the construction of the category of 'Orphic' from its first appearances in the Classical period, through the centuries of philosophical and religious polemics, especially in the formation of early Christianity and again in the debates over the origins of Christianity in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. A paradigm shift in the study of Greek religion, this study provides scholars of classics, early Christianity, ancient religion and philosophy with a new model for understanding the nature of ancient Orphism, including ideas of afterlife, cosmogony, sacred scriptures, rituals of purification and initiation, and exotic mythology.

About the Author Radcliffe G. Edmonds III is Professor and Chair of the Department of Greek, Latin and Classical Studies at Bryn Mawr College. He is author of *Myths of the Underworld Journey: Plato, Aristophanes, and the 'Orphic' Gold Tablets* (2004) and editor of *The 'Orphic' Gold Tablets and Greek Religion: Further Along the Path* (2011).