



Ancient Fiction: The Matrix of Early Christian And Jewish Narrative (Symposium Series)

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The essays in this volume examine the relationship between ancient fiction in the Greco-Roman world and early Jewish and Christian narratives. They consider how those narratives imitated or exploited conventions of fiction to produce forms of literature that expressed new ideas or shaped community identity within the shifting social and political climates of their own societies. Major authors and texts surveyed include Chariton, Shakespeare, Homer, Vergil, Plato, Matthew, Mark, Luke, Daniel, "3 Maccabees", "The Testament of Abraham", "Rabbinic Midrash", "The Apocryphal Acts", "Ezekiel the Tragedian", and "The Sophist Aelian". This diverse collection reveals and examines prevalent issues and syntheses in the making: the pervasive use and subversive power of imitation, the distinction between fiction and history, and the use of history in the expression of identity. The contributors are Jo-Ann A. Brant, J. R. C. Cousland, Ruben Rene Dupertuis, Noah Hacham, Gerhard van den Heever, Ronald F. Hock, Tawny L. Holm, Sara R. Johnson, Jared W. Ludlow, Dennis R. MacDonald, Chaim Milikowsky, Judith B. Perkins, Richard I. Pervo, Gareth Schmeling, and Chris Shea.

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