

The Gods of Olympus: A History

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Reviews

Basically no phrases to explain. It really is filled with knowledge and wisdom You are going to like how the author create this book. (Gerald Conn)

THE GODS OF OLYMPUS: A HISTORY



Metropolitan. 1 Cloth(s), 2014. hard. Book Condition: New. The author of Inventing Homer and Homer in the Twentieth Century, classics professor Barbara Graziosi here offers an elegant and entertaining account of the evolution of Greek gods across the millennia, from antiquity to the Renaissance and into the present day. Even in antiquity, the gods of Olympus were said to be cruel, oversexed, mad, or just plain silly. Yet for all their foibles and flaws, they proved to be tough survivors, far outlasting classical Greece itself. In Egypt, the Olympian gods claimed to have given birth to pharaohs; in Rome, they led respectable citizens into orgiastic rituals of drink and sex. Under Christianity and Islam they survived as demons, allegories, and planets; and in the Renaissance, they triumphantly emerged as ambassadors of a new, secular belief in humanity. In her lively, original history, Graziosi traces the wanderings of these protean deities through a wide range of literary and archaeological sources, opening a new window on the ancient world, religion, and mythology and its lasting influence."Graziosi's knowledge is obvious, and easy to trust. Her writing is accessible and entertaining, her passion for her subject obvious; The Gods of Olympus will equally thrill longtime lovers of the classics, and appeal to readers seeking a friendly, engaging introduction."Shelf Awareness 291.

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