
The Gods Are Not To Blame

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The Gods are Not to Blame London : Oxford University Press

An adaptation of the Greek classic Oedipus Rex, the story centres on Odewale, who is lured into a false sense of security, only to somehow get caught up in a somewhat

consanguineous trail of events by the gods of the land.

The Gods are Not to Blame

The Gods are Not to Blame

Understanding The Gods are Not to Blame

A Detailed Interview with Ola Rotimi on His Award-winning Tragedy, The Gods are Not to Blame

The Gods Are Silent *Xlibris Corporation*

As a custodian of the gods was handed down to him by his father, Papa is popular and powerful, feared and revered as the most potent priest in the village of Adiembra; builds confidence in himself; and believes

there is no power above his gods. However, there is a problem that tears him apart: his last wife is unable to bear him a child. Papa consults a god in the North who makes his last wife conceive, with a condition to make a sacrifice every new moon. During labor, she struggles to live but dies. Papa soon forgets the pain and hurt of death as the beautiful baby girl grows. Papa forgets to perform the sacrifice on a few occasions as the god of the North asked. The god strikes, bringing punishment on the little girl with an abscess that causes her to decay till death. Papas boys rebel and elope, turning against him and his gods. In anger, Papa beats up wives and sends them

away to their families, living his life alone. He makes love to a prostitute during a visit to his friend. An ant falls from his penis; he bleeds until his health deteriorates. Papa loses connection with the gods and his family and consequently commits suicide.

The Gods are Not to Blame, a Play

No Gods But One
Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing

Berrigan draws clear parallels between Deuteronomy's time of mingled triumph and broken law and the present moment in history, uncovering the stories within the story of this complex biblical book.

Classics in Post-Colonial Worlds *OUP*

Oxford

Classical material was traditionally used to express colonial authority, but it was also appropriated by imperial subjects to become first a means of challenging colonialism and then a rich field for creating cultural identities that blend the old and the new. Nobel prize-winners such as Derek Walcott and Seamus Heaney have rewritten classical material in their own cultural idioms while public sculpture in southern Africa draws on Greek and Roman motifs to represent histories of African resistance and liberation. These developments are explored in this collection of essays by international scholars, who debate the relationship between

the culture of Greece and Rome and the changes that have followed the end of colonial empires.

American Gods

Harper Collins

Shadow is a man with a past. But now he wants nothing more than to live a quiet life with his wife and stay out of trouble. Until he learns that she's been killed in a terrible accident. Flying home for the funeral, as a violent storm rocks the plane, a strange man in the seat next to him introduces himself. The man calls himself Mr. Wednesday, and he knows more about Shadow than is possible. He warns Shadow that a far bigger storm is coming. And from that moment on, nothing will ever be the same...

Ola Rotimi's "The Gods are Not to Blame"

When the Gods Are Silent

Obsidian Tiger Inc

Theatre of the Gods

Random House

This is the story of M. Francisco Fabrigas, explorer, philosopher, heretical physicist, who took a shipful of children on a frightening voyage to the next dimension, assisted by a teenaged Captain, a brave deaf boy, a cunning blind girl, and a sultry botanist, all the while pursued by the Pope of the universe and a well-dressed mesmerist. Dark plots, demonic cults, murderous jungles, quantum mayhem, the birth of creation, the

death of time, and a creature called the Sweetie: all this and more waits beyond the veil of reality.

Living with the Gods

On Beliefs and Peoples *Penguin UK*

A panoramic exploration of peoples, objects and beliefs over 40,000 years from the celebrated author of *A History of the World in 100 Objects* and *Germany*, following the new BBC Radio 4 documentary and British Museum exhibition. Available for pre-order now. One of the central facts of human existence is that every society shares a set of beliefs and assumptions - a faith, an ideology, a religion - that goes far beyond the life of the individual. These

beliefs are an essential part of a shared identity. They have a unique power to define - and to divide - us, and are a driving force in the politics of much of the world today. Throughout history they have most often been, in the widest sense, religious. Yet this book is not a history of religion, nor an argument in favour of faith. It is about the stories which give shape to our lives, and the different ways in which societies imagine their place in the world. Looking across history and around the globe, it interrogates objects, places and human activities to try to understand what shared beliefs can mean in the public life of a community or a nation, how they shape

the relationship between the individual and the state, and how they help give us our sense of who we are. For in deciding how we live with our gods, we also decide how to live with each other. 'The new blockbuster by the museums maestro Neil MacGregor ... The man who chronicles world history through objects is back ... examining a new set of objects to explore the theme of faith in society' Sunday Times

Whom the Gods Would Destroy

No Gods, No Monsters

A Novel *Blackstone Publishing*

One October morning, Laina gets the news that her brother has been shot and killed by

Boston cops. But what looks like a case of police brutality soon reveals something much stranger. Monsters are real. And they want everyone to know it. As creatures from myth and legend come out of the shadows, seeking safety through visibility, their emergence sets off a chain of seemingly unrelated events. Members of a local werewolf pack are threatened into silence. A professor follows a missing friend's trail of bread crumbs to a mysterious secret society. And a young boy with unique abilities seeks refuge in a pro-monster organization with secrets of its own. Meanwhile, more people start disappearing, suicides

and hate crimes increase, and protests erupt globally, both for and against the monsters. At the center is a mystery no one thinks to ask: Why now? What has frightened the monsters out of the dark? The world will soon find out.

Crossroads in the Black Aegean

Oedipus, Antigone, and Dramas of the African Diaspora *OUP Oxford*

Crossroads in the Black Aegean is a compendious, timely, and fascinating study of African rewritings of Greek tragedy. It consists of detailed readings of six dramas and one epic poem, from different locations across the African diaspora. Barbara Goff

and Michael Simpson ask why the plays of Sophocles' Theban Cycle figure so prominently among the tragedies adapted by dramatists of African descent, and how plays that dilate on the power of the past, in the inexorable curse of Oedipus and the regressive obsession of Antigone, can articulate the postcolonial moment. Capitalizing on classical reception studies, postcolonial studies, and comparative literature, *Crossroads in the Black Aegean* co-ordinates theory and theatre. It crucially investigates how the plays engage with the 'Western canon', and shows how they use their self-consciously literary status to assert, ironize, and challenge

their own place, and that of the Greek originals, in relation to that tradition. Beyond these oedipal reflexes, the adaptations offer alternative African models of cultural transmission.

Portraiture of the Nigerian Conundrum in Ola Rotimi's the Gods Are Not to Blame *GRIN Verlag*

Academic Paper from the year 2014 in the subject African Studies, language: English, comment: This paper is a scholarly criticism of the nigerian politics in the context of the Nigerian drama. And it is concluded that Nigerian politicians are the cause of the cataclysmic malaise bedeviling Nigeria today., abstract: This paper attempts reading Ola Rotimi's

"The Gods are not to blame" against the backdrop of the Nigerian dilemma in the contemporary times. The play first performed in the year 1968, in the heat of the Nigerian civil war is still relevant today. Many scholars viewed the work as a transplantation of Sophocle's Oedipus Rex and underplay its powerful political message to the nascent Nigerian political class then and now. The paper examined the role of Odewale in the shaping of the Destiny of his society and how albeit with stint of tyranny champions the welfare of the state, taking blames for the decadence and the breakdown of law and cosmic order when found culpable. On the

other hand, the contemporary Nigerian leaders are antithetical of Odewale, blame-games and outright refusal to be accountable, or step-down when found wanting; misappropriation, mismanagement of state and human resources are institutionalized on local and national scale. The paper above all, adumbrated some of the conundrums of Nigeria and proffered a number of useful ways by which the Odewale examples could be integrated into the Nigerian political morality, and the pitfalls to be avoided in a bid to move ahead into the state dreamt of on the 1st of October, 1960.

The Sport of the

Gods *Courier Corporation*

A landmark in African-American literature, this powerful novel was among the first realistic depictions of ghetto life. Its portrayal of the black community's social and political issues continues to resonate today.

When the Gods are Silent *Praeger Pub Text*

The Gods are Not to Blame (Ola Rotimi)

Notes and Essays

Whom the Gods Would Destroy, Or, how Not to Deregulate *American Enterprise Institute*

This book assesses the current status of the public utility deregulation

movement in the United States.

Lightning Thief, The (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book 1) *Disney Electronic Content*

Percy Jackson is a good kid, but he can't seem to focus on his schoolwork or control his temper. And lately, being away at boarding school is only getting worse-Percy could have sworn his pre-algebra teacher turned into a monster and tried to kill him.

Gods Behaving Badly *Vintage Canada*

From Marie Phillips, hailed by the Guardian Unlimited website as a "hot author" destined to "break through" in 2007, comes a highly entertaining novel set in North London, where the Greek gods have

been living in obscurity since the seventeenth century. Being immortal isn't all it's cracked up to be. Life's hard for a Greek god in the twenty-first century: nobody believes in you any more, even your own family doesn't respect you, and you're stuck in a dilapidated hovel in North London with too many siblings and not enough hot water. But for Artemis (goddess of hunting, professional dog walker), Aphrodite (goddess of beauty, telephone sex operator) and Apollo (god of the sun, TV psychic) there's no way out... until a meek cleaner and her would-be boyfriend come into their lives and turn the world upside down. *Gods Behaving Badly* is that rare thing, a

charming, funny, utterly original novel that satisfies the head and the heart.

shattering truth . . . and it may appear in a form that no one anticipates.

Voice of the Gods

Ragnarok

Age of the Five Gods Trilogy #3, The Harper Collins

Unable to avoid being drawn into the terrible conflict, Auraya, now protector of the Siyee, fears she will be unable to meet the conditions of the all-powerful gods she once served. And an offer from a mysterious woman may be impossible for Auraya to refuse, but, if revealed, would brand her an enemy of the gods. Now, the immortal Wilds will not be deterred in their quest for powerful, long-buried secrets. But they have deadly adversaries who also seek the world-

The End of the Gods Open Road + Grove/Atlantic

The Booker Prize-winning author of *Possession* breathes life into the Ragnarok myth through the novel of a young British girl during World War II. Ragnarok retells the finale of Norse mythology: a story of the destruction of life on this planet and the end of the gods themselves. What more relevant myth could any modern writer choose? As the bombs of the Blitz rain down on Britain, one young girl is evacuated to the countryside. She is struggling to make

sense of her new wartime life. Then she is given a copy of Asgard and the Gods—a book of ancient Norse myths—and her inner and outer worlds are transformed. War, natural disaster, reckless gods and the recognition of impermanence in the world are just some of the threads that A.S. Byatt weaves into this most timely of books. Linguistically stunning and imaginatively abundant, this is a landmark. A Globe and Mail Best Book “A gorgeous, brilliant, and significant performance.”

—Booklist, starred review “Byatt’s prose is majestic, the lush descriptive passages—jewelled one minute, gory the next—a pleasure to get

lost in.” —The Telegraph

Fingerprints of the Gods

The Evidence of Earth's Lost Civilization *Crown*

Could the story of mankind be far older than we have previously believed? Using tools as varied as archaeo-astronomy, geology, and computer analysis of ancient myths, Graham Hancock presents a compelling case to suggest that it is. “A fancy piece of historical sleuthing . . . intriguing and entertaining and sturdy enough to give a long pause for thought.” —Kirkus Reviews In *Fingerprints of the Gods*, Hancock embarks on a worldwide quest to put

together all the pieces of the vast and fascinating jigsaw of mankind's hidden past. In ancient monuments as far apart as Egypt's Great Sphinx, the strange Andean ruins of Tihuanaco, and Mexico's awe-inspiring Temples of the Sun and Moon, he reveals not only the clear fingerprints of an as-yet-unidentified civilization of remote antiquity, but also startling evidence of its vast sophistication, technological advancement, and evolved scientific knowledge. A record-breaking number one bestseller in Britain, *Fingerprints of the Gods* contains the makings of an intellectual revolution, a dramatic and irreversible change in the way that we

understand our past—and so our future. And *Fingerprints of God* tells us something more. As we recover the truth about prehistory, and discover the real meaning of ancient myths and monuments, it becomes apparent that a warning has been handed down to us, a warning of terrible cataclysm that afflicts the Earth in great cycles at irregular intervals of time—a cataclysm that may be about to recur. "Readers will hugely enjoy their quest in these pages of inspired storytelling."—The Times (UK)

Analysis and Interpretation of Ola Rotimi's *The Gods are Not to Blame*

The Shadow of the Gods *Hachette UK*

'A masterfully crafted, brutally compelling Norse-inspired epic' Anthony Ryan THE GREATEST SAGAS ARE WRITTEN IN BLOOD. A century has passed since the gods fought and drove themselves to extinction. Now only their bones remain, promising great power to those brave enough to seek them out. As whispers of war echo across the land of Vigrið, fate follows in the footsteps of three warriors: a huntress on a dangerous quest, a noblewoman pursuing battle fame, and a thrall seeking vengeance among the mercenaries known as the Bloodsworn. All three will shape the fate of the world as it once more falls under the shadow of the

gods. Set in a brand-new, Norse-inspired world, and packed with myth, magic and bloody vengeance, The Shadow of the Gods begins an epic new fantasy saga from bestselling author John Gwynne. Further praise for The Shadow of the Gods 'Visceral, heart-breaking and unputdownable' Jay Kristoff 'A satisfying and riveting read. The well-realised characters move against a backdrop of a world stunning in its immensity. It's everything I've come to expect from a John Gwynne book' Robin Hobb 'A masterclass in storytelling . . . epic, gritty fantasy with an uncompromising amount of heart' FanFiAddict 'Quintessential Gwynne honed to perfection . . .

The Shadow of the Gods is absolutely stunning, one hell of an epic series opener and a spectacular dose of Viking-flavoured fantasy' The Tattooed Book Geek 'Reminds me of all that I love in the fantasy genre. The Shadow of the Gods is an action-packed cinematic read' Fantasy Hive

The Hunger of the Gods *Hachette UK*

Set in a Norse-inspired world and packed with myth, magic, and vengeance, this epic saga follows a band of warriors as they face the wrath of ancient gods and change the shape of the world. Lik-Rifa, the dragon god of legend, has been freed from her eternal prison. Now she plots a new age of blood and conquest. As Orka

continues the hunt for her missing son, the Bloodsworn sweep south in a desperate race to save one of their own-and Varg takes the first steps on the path of vengeance. Elvar has sworn to fulfil her blood oath and rescue a prisoner from the clutches of Lik-Rifa and her dragonborn followers, but first she must persuade the Battle-Grim to follow her. Yet even the might of the Bloodsworn and Battle-Grim cannot stand alone against a dragon god. Their hope lies within the mad writings of a chained god. A book of forbidden magic with the power to raise the wolf god Ulfirir from the dead . . . and bring about a battle that will shake the foundations of the earth. Praise for The Shadow of the

Gods "There is not a dull chapter in this fantasy epic." —Vulture (Best of the Year) "A satisfying and riveting read. It's everything I've come to expect from a John Gwynne book." —Robin Hobb "A masterfully crafted, brutally compelling Norse-inspired epic." —Anthony Ryan "A masterclass in storytelling . . . epic, gritty fantasy with an uncompromising amount of heart." —FanFiAddict For more from John Gwynne, check out: *The Bloodsworn Trilogy* *The Shadow of the Gods* *Of Blood and Bone* *A Time of Dread* *A Time of Blood* *A Time of Courage* *The Faithful* and *The Fallen* *Malice* *Valor* *Ruin* *Wrath*

The God is Not

Willing *Tor Books*
New York Times bestselling author Steven Erikson continues the beloved *Malazan Book of the Fallen* with *The God is Not Willing*, first in the thrilling new *Witness* sequel trilogy...

The Food of the Gods *Hesperus Press*

Published in 1904 *The Food of the Gods* is a forgotten H.G. Wells classic; it is sci-fi and dystopia at its best written by the creator and master of the genre. Following extensive research in the field of ?growthOCO, Mr Bensington and Professor Redwood light upon a new mysterious element, a food that causes greatly accelerated development. Initially christening their

discovery ?The Food of the GodsOCO, the two scientists are overwhelmed by the possible ramifications of their creation. With Aunt Jane refusing to give house room to their experiments, Mr Besington is forced to take his laboratory out into the wide world, and chooses a farm at Hickleybrow in Kent that offers him the chance to test his new substance on chickens, which duly grow monstrous, six or seven times their usual size. With the farmer, Mr Skinner, failing to contain the spread of the Food, chaos soon reigns as reports come in of the local populationOCO's encounter with monstrous wasps, earwigs and rats. When the chickens escape, they leave carnage in their wake. Keen not to be outdone, the Skinners and Redwoods have both been feeding their children the compound illicitly ? their eventual offspring will constitute a new age of giants. Public opinion rapidly turns against the scientists and society as a whole rebels against the worldOCO's new flora and fauna. Daily life has changed shockingly and now politicians are involved, trying to stamp out the Food of the Gods and the giant race. Comic and at times surprisingly touching and tragic, WellsOCO story is a cautionary tale warning against the rampant advances of science but also of the dangers of greed and political infighting and shameless vote-

seeking."

Windmills of the Gods *Harper Collins*

Our newest ambassador to an Iron Curtain country, Mary Ashley has been marked for death by the world's most proficient assassin. Only two people can offer her help. And one of them wants to kill her.

Children of Another God

Book I of the Broken World Series

*Createspace
Independent Publishing
Platform*

When a young peasant girl is injured while hunting, she meets a strange, magical man who is a member of a despised race - Mular. Truemen scorn the shape-shifting unmen

for their odd, humble ways, and envy their power over the elements. Mular do not use their powers for good or evil, they simply exist, immortal and apparently purposeless. Now a scourge is sweeping the land, armies of mounted warriors who cannot be defeated are wiping out Truemankind without mercy. They are known as the Black Riders, but no one knows where they come from or why they seem bent on exterminating every man, woman and child. Talsy traps the Mular with gold, which has an odd effect on them, to make him help her, but her father intends to throw him in a Pit, from which he will be unable to escape. Talsy does not believe the Mular deserves such a fate,

so she frees him and begs him to take her with him on his journey. He agrees, and they set off across Shamarese, continuing his quest to find an old hermit's lost son. There is far more at stake than Talsy realises, however, and she has innocently stumbled upon the last free Mugar, who has the power to decide the fate of her race.

Greek Gods, Human Lives

What We Can Learn from Myths *Yale University Press*

Insightful and fun, this new guide to an ancient mythology explains why the Greek gods and goddesses are still so captivating to us, revisiting the work of Homer, Ovid, Virgil, and Shakespeare

in search of the essence of these stories. (Mythology & Folklore)

Set Fire to the Gods *HarperCollins*

Avatar: The Last Airbender meets Gladiator in the first book in this epic fantasy duology in which two warriors must decide where their loyalties lie as an ancient war between immortals threatens humanity—from Sara Raasch, the New York Times bestselling author of the Snow Like Ashes series, and Kristen Simmons, acclaimed author of *Pacifica* and *The Deceivers*. Perfect for fans of *An Ember in the Ashes*, *And I Darken*, and *The Winner's Curse*. Ash is descended from a long line of gladiators, and

she knows the brutal nature of war firsthand. But after her mother dies in an arena, she vows to avenge her by overthrowing her fire god, whose temper has stripped her country of its resources. Madoc grew up fighting on the streets to pay his family's taxes. But he hides a dangerous secret: he doesn't have the earth god's powers like his opponents. His elemental gift is something else—something that hasn't been seen in centuries. When an attempted revenge plot goes dangerously wrong, Ash inadvertently throws the fire and earth gods into a conflict that can only be settled by deadly, lavish gladiator games, throwing Madoc in Ash's path. She realizes that his

powers are the weapon her rebellion needs—but Madoc won't jeopardize his family, regardless of how intrigued he is by the beautiful warrior. But when the gods force Madoc's hand, he and Ash uncover an ancient war that will threaten more than one immortal—it will unravel the world.

Battling the Gods

Atheism in the Ancient World *Vintage*

"How new is atheism? Although adherents and opponents alike today present it as an invention of the European Enlightenment, when the forces of science and secularism broadly challenged those of faith, disbelief in the gods, in fact,

originated in a far more remote past. In *Battling the Gods*, Tim Whitmarsh journeys into the ancient Mediterranean, a world almost unimaginably different from our own, to recover the stories and voices of those who first refused the divinities. Homer's epic poems of human striving, journeying, and passion were ancient Greece's only "sacred texts," but no ancient Greek thought twice about questioning or mocking his stories of the gods. Priests were functionaries rather than sources of moral or cosmological wisdom. The absence of centralized religious authority made for an extraordinary variety of perspectives on sacred matters, from the devotional to the atheos, or "godless." Whitmarsh explores this kaleidoscopic range of ideas about the gods, focusing on the colorful individuals who challenged their existence. Among these were some of the greatest ancient poets and philosophers and writers, as well as the less well known: Diagoras of Melos, perhaps the first self-professed atheist; Democritus, the first materialist; Socrates, executed for rejecting the gods of the Athenian state; Epicurus and his followers, who thought gods could not intervene in human affairs; the brilliantly mischievous satirist Lucian of Samosata. Before the revolutions of late antiquity, which saw the scriptural religions of Christianity

and Islam enforced by imperial might, there were few constraints on belief. Everything changed, however, in the millennium between the appearance of the Homeric poems and Christianity's establishment as Rome's state religion in the fourth century AD. As successive Greco-Roman empires grew in size and complexity, and power was increasingly concentrated in central capitals, states sought to impose collective religious adherence, first to cults devoted to individual rulers, and ultimately to monotheism. In this new world, there was no room for outright disbelief: the label "atheist" was used now to demonize anyone who merely disagreed

with the orthodoxy--and so it would remain for centuries."--Jacket.

The Writing of the Gods

The Race to Decode the Rosetta Stone

Simon and Schuster

The surprising and compelling story of two rival geniuses in an all-out race to decode one of the world's most famous documents—the Rosetta Stone—and their twenty-year-long battle to solve the mystery of ancient Egypt's hieroglyphs. The Rosetta Stone is one of the most famous objects in the world, attracting millions of visitors to the British museum every year, and yet most people don't really know what it is. Discovered in a pile of

rubble in 1799, this slab of stone proved to be the key to unlocking a lost language that baffled scholars for centuries. Carved in ancient Egypt, the Rosetta Stone carried the same message in different languages—in Greek using Greek letters, and in Egyptian using picture-writing called hieroglyphs. Until its discovery, no one in the world knew how to read the hieroglyphs that covered every temple and text and statue in Egypt. Dominating the world for thirty centuries, ancient Egypt was the mightiest empire the world had ever known, yet everything about it—the pyramids, mummies, the Sphinx—was shrouded in mystery. Whoever was able to decipher

the Rosetta Stone, and learn how to read hieroglyphs, would solve that mystery and fling open a door that had been locked for two thousand years. Two brilliant rivals set out to win that prize. One was English, the other French, at a time when England and France were enemies and the world's two great superpowers. The Writing of the Gods chronicles this high-stakes intellectual race in which the winner would win glory for both himself and his nation. A riveting portrait of empires both ancient and modern, this is an unparalleled look at the culture and history of ancient Egypt and a fascinating, fast-paced story of human folly and discovery unlike any other.

The Gods Will Have Blood *BookRix*

The Gods Will Have Blood a novel by Anatole France. It is a fictional story set during the French Revolution. The story of the infernal rise of Évariste Gamelin, a young Parisian painter, involved in the section for his neighborhood of Pont-Neuf, it describes the dark years of the reign the Reign of Terror in Paris. The long, blind train of speedy trials drags this idealist into a madness that cuts off the heads of his nearest and dearest, and hastens his own fall as well as that of his mentor Robespierre His love affair with the young watercolor-seller Élodie Blaise heightens the terrible contrast between the butcher-in-training and the man

who shows himself to be quite ordinary in his daily life. Justifying this dance of the guillotine by the fight against the plot to wipe out the gains of the Revolution Gamelin is thirsty for justice, but also uses his power to satisfy his own vengeance and his hatred for those who do not think like him. The long, blind train of speedy trials drags this idealist into a madness that cuts off the heads of his nearest and dearest, and hastens his own fall as well as that of his mentor Robespierre in the aftermath of the Thermidorian Reaction. His love affair with the young watercolor-seller Élodie Blaise heightens the terrible contrast between the butcher-in-training and the man who shows himself to be quite ordinary in his

daily life. Justifying this dance of the guillotine by the fight against the plot to wipe out the gains of the Revolution, in the midst of the revolutionary turmoil that traverses Paris, Gamelin is thirsty for justice, but also uses his power to satisfy his own vengeance and his hatred for those who do not think like him. He dies by that same instrument of justice that up until then has served to satisfy his own thirst for blood and terror. Gamelin's profession of painter also reflects on the book's theme. His best work is a depiction of Orestes and Electra, with Orestes resembling a self-portrait of the artist; Gamelin, like Orestes, is capable of killing his family. Élodie later

comes to be identified with Electra - though, in her affair with Gamelin, where she loves him first for his mercy and then for his violence, and takes a less radical lover after he dies, she also represents France.

Style in African Literature

Essays on Literary Stylistics and Narrative Styles *Brill Rodopi*

Postcolonial and contemporary African literatures have always been marked by an acute sensitivity to the politics of language, an attentiveness inscribed in the linguistic fabric of their own modes of expression. It is curious however, that despite the prevalence of a much-touted 'linguistic turn' in twentieth

century theory and cultural production, language has frequently been neglected by literary studies in general. Even more curiously, postcolonial literary studies, an erstwhile emergent and now established discipline which has from the outset contained important elements of linguistic critique, has eschewed any sustained engagement with this topic. This absence is salient in the study of African literatures, despite, for instance, the prominence of orature in the African literary tradition right up to the present day, and sporadic meditations on the part of such luminaries as Achebe and Ngũgĩ. Beyond this, however, there has been little scholarly work attuned to the multifarious aspects of language and linguistic politics in the study of African literature. The present volume aims to rectify such lacunae by making a substantial interdisciplinary and transcultural contribution to the gradual reinstatement of the 'linguistic turn' in African literary studies. The volume focuses variously on postcolonial and transcultural African literatures, areas of literary production where the confluence of several languages, whether indigenous and (post)colonial in the first case, and local and global in the second case, appears to be a central and decisive factor in the formation and transformation of the

continent and its peoples' cultural identities.

Euripides and the Gods *Oxford University Press*

Modern readers find it hard to come to terms with the gods in Euripides' dramas. Readers try to dismiss them as a literary convention. Stage productions leave them out, especially in the cases when they appear *ex machina*. Instead, they place disproportionate emphasis on the harsh criticisms of the gods uttered by some of the characters in the dramas, and have sought to interpret Euripides ironically, viewing his portrayal of the cruel and capricious gods as a means of drawing attention to the

deficiencies of ancient Greek religion. In their view Euripides' dramas seek to question the nature and sometimes even the very existence of traditional Greek gods. In *Euripides and the Gods*, classicist Mary Lefkowitz sets out to show that the tragedian is not undermining ancient religion, but rather describing with a brutal realism what the gods are like, impressing upon his mortal audience the limitations of human understanding. Writing the first extended treatment of these issues for a general audience, Lefkowitz provides a book that deals with all of Euripides' dramas, and argues for a more tolerant and nuanced understanding of

ancient Greek religion. Euripides, like Homer, is making a statement about the nature of the world and human life, terrifying but accurate. She explains how the idea that Euripides was an atheist derives from ancient biographies that drew their evidence from comic poets, and shows why the doubts about the gods expressed by his characters must be understood in their dramatic context. Euripides and the Gods offers a compelling invitation to return to the dramatic masterpieces of Euripides with fresh eyes.