



Sex and Eroticism in Mesopotamian Literature

By Dr Gwendolyn Leick, Gwendolyn Leick

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Sex and Eroticism in Mesopotamian Literature is a new contribution to current debates about sex and eroticism. It gives an insight into Mesopotamian attitudes to sexuality by examining the oldest preserved written evidence on the subject - the Sumero-Akkadian cuneiform sources - which were written between the 21st and the 5th centuries B.C. Using these long-neglected and often astonishing data, Gwendolyn Leick is able to analyse Mesopotamian views of prostitution, love magic and deviant sexual behaviour as well as more general issues of sexuality and gender.

This fascinating book sheds light on the sexual culture of one of the earliest literate civilisations.

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Editorial Review

Review

'In this excellent study, Gwendolyn Leick presents an extensive body of Sumerian and Akkadian cuneiform poems, magic spells, myths and stories bearing on a wide range of sexual themes.' – *Antiquity*

About the Author

Gwendolyn Leick is author of several books on the ancient Near East, including *The Babylonians*, *Who's Who in the Ancient Near East*, *A Dictionary of Ancient Near Eastern Mythology* and *Mesopotamia: The Invention of the City*.

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