Travelling With Pomegranates Discussion Questions

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this is the second of a two volume collection of studies on inconsistencies in greek and roman religion their common aim is to argue for the historical relevance of various types of ambiguity and dissonance while the first volume focused on the central paradoxes in ancient henotheism the present one discusses the ambiguities in myth and ritual of transition and reversal after an introduction to the history of the myth and ritual debate with a focus on new year festivals and initiation in the first chapter the second and third chapters discuss myth and ritual of reversal kronos and the kronia and saturnus and the saturnalia respectively the fourth treats two women s festivals that of bona dea and the

thesmophoria the fifth investigates the initiatory aspects of apollo and mars in the background is the basic conviction that the three approaches to religion known as substantivistic functionalist and cultural symbolic respectively need not be mutually exclusive

this book contextualizes rabbinic judaism by emphasizing that the framers of rabbinic thought were in conversation with cultures different from their own as much as with their own tradition in a series of seven essays presented here for the first time the authors challenge the reader s assumptions about judaism in the second temple period late antiquity and the early medieval era arranged in chronological order according to the period of time they focus on the essays analyze texts such as the hebrew bible greco roman egyptian texts greek and latin works the dead sea scrolls early and late midrashic texts the new testament the church fathers writings the jerusalem and the babylonian talmuds and zoroastrian texts

the royal cemetery at tepe marlik was excavated in one incredible 14 month season the 53 intact tombs contained a fabulous array of precious metal vessels jewelry sculpture weapons and other artifacts the gripping tale of these excavations and a detailed report of the excavation and the artifacts from the burials is presented in these two lavishly illustrated volumes

the community that created the dead sea scrolls remains an enigma these sectarians or sons of truth as they called themselves inhabited an imaginative and secret laden landscape replete with hidden allusions insider metaphors esoteric wisdom and mysteries reserved for the elect in the truth about the virgin ita sheres and anne kohn blau have come closest to unlocking the scrolls innermost secrets by brilliantly analyzing two unique rituals performed at gumran that were meant to overcome sexual pollution one the anointing of a select group of males into a life of angelic perfection the second involving a select group of virgin females who were pledged in an immaculate conception ceremony evocative of the great marriage of the ancient goddess religion these rituals are described against a background of revolutionary apocalyptic ideology that abhorred sexuality prized virginity was obsessed with purity and defilement championed male exclusivity and female subordination and ultimately created its own solution to the problem of the first sin that is how to procreate without pollution and yet these sectarians who preached strict monotheism echoed some of the more mysterious aspects of the repressed goddess religion book jacket title summary field provided by blackwell north america inc all rights reserved

replete with mosaics and revetment the basilica was the center of the ecclesiastical administration until its destruction in the late seventh century in this long awaited report megaw and colleagues present in full the results of excavations from the 1930s 1950s and 1970s

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FAQs