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Flavius Philostratus: Heroikos (Writings from the Greco-Roman World)

Philostratus, Jennifer K. Berenson Maclean, Ellen Bradshaw Aitken

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Philostratus, Jennifer K. Berenson Maclean, Ellen Bradshaw Aitken : Flavius Philostratus: Heroikos (Writings from the Greco-Roman World) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Flavius Philostratus: Heroikos (Writings from the Greco-Roman World):

4 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Important work now in English By A Customer The Heroikos is important in its own right, but also gives important (and entertaining) ancient commentary on Homer's Odyssey and

provides relevant background for the study of Christian origins and the New Testament. Maclean and Aitken provide an excellent introduction and translation. If that is not enough, the prologue by Gregory Nagy and epilogue by Helmut Koester alone make the book worth getting.

Philostratus's *Heroikos*, available here in English for the first time, is a fictional dialogue set at the tomb of Protesilaos, the first hero to die in the Trojan War. Returning to life, Protesilaos reveals his insights about Homer, the Trojan War, its heroes, and their cults. The author of the *Life of Apollonius of Tyana* here molds heroic traditions to promote for his own day a renewed Greek cultural and religious outlook, providing fresh material for comparing the construction of cultural identity by various groups--including the early Christians--in the Roman Empire and Late Antiquity. In their introduction and notes, Maclean and Aitken, trained in the classics and early Christianity, discuss how issues of authority, revealed knowledge, religious practice, and gender were treated in this early-third-century C.E. text. With Greek text and English translation on facing pages, an extensive glossary and maps, this volume offers an insightful introduction to the *Heroikos* for both scholars and students.

The *Heroikos* of Philostratus opens an intriguing window onto the religious and literary culture of early-third-century Rome. -- Harold W. Attridge, Lillian Claus Professor of New Testament, Yale Divinity School
This publication not only makes the work newly accessible, but illuminates its text and translation with provocative introductory essays and a helpful commentary. -- Susan E. Alcock, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan
Language Notes: English, Greek (translation) Original Language: Greek
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