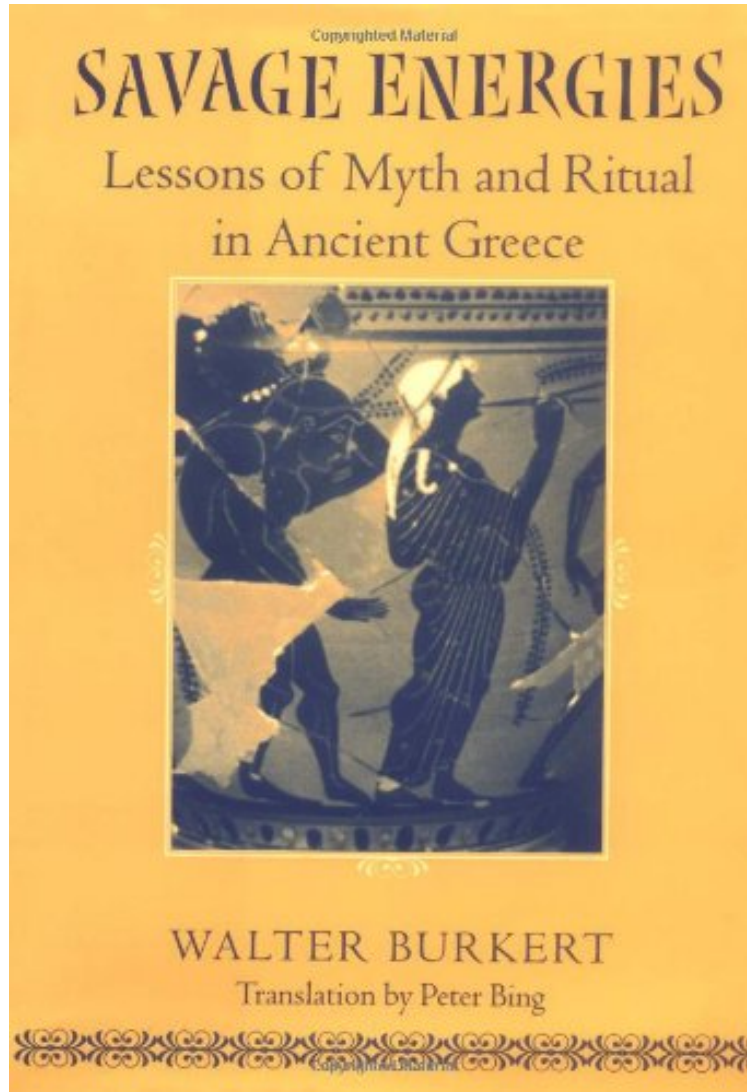


(Download ebook) Savage Energies: Lessons of Myth and Ritual in Ancient Greece

Savage Energies: Lessons of Myth and Ritual in Ancient Greece

Walter Burkert

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



 Download

 Read Online

#3077402 in Books 2001-04-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .60 x 6.00l, .76 #File Name: 0226080854152 pages | File size: 15.Mb

Walter Burkert : Savage Energies: Lessons of Myth and Ritual in Ancient Greece before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Savage Energies: Lessons of Myth and Ritual in Ancient Greece:

We often think of classical Greek society as a model of rationality and order. Yet as Walter Burkert demonstrates in these influential essays on the history of Greek religion, there were archaic, savage forces surging beneath the

outwardly calm face of classical Greece, whose potentially violent and destructive energies, Burkert argues, were harnessed to constructive ends through the interlinked uses of myth and ritual. For example, in a much-cited essay on the Athenian religious festival of the Arrephoria, Burkert uncovers deep connections between this strange nocturnal ritual, in which two virgin girls carried sacred offerings into a cave and later returned with something given to them there, and tribal puberty initiations by linking the festival with the myth of the daughters of Kekrops. Other chapters explore the origins of tragedy in blood sacrifice; the role of myth in the ritual of the new fire on Lemnos; the ties between violence, the Athenian courts, and the annual purification of the divine image; and how failed political propaganda entered the realm of myth at the time of the Persian Wars.

The English-speaking world is now being invited, forty years after the original date of publication . . . to read or reread some of the seminal insights that Walter Burkert introduced to the austere tribunal of classical philology. These insights were the basis for an anthropological . . . hermeneutics that advanced an exemplary and resolutely bold thesis.