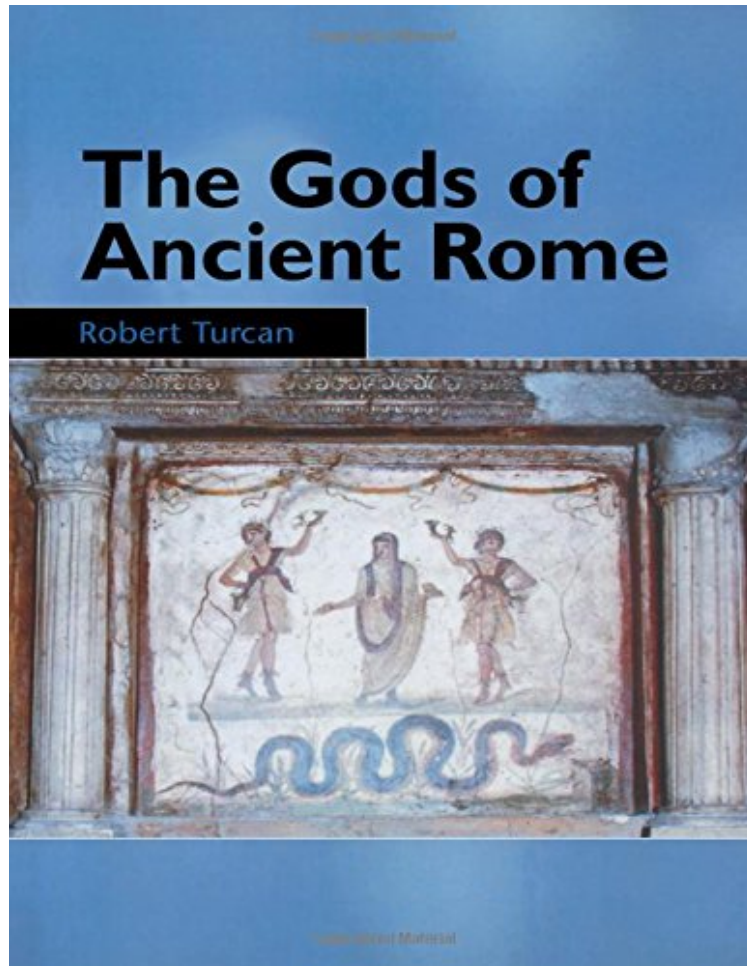


# The Gods of Ancient Rome: Religion in Everyday Life from Archaic to Imperial Times

Robert Turcan

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**Robert Turcan : The Gods of Ancient Rome: Religion in Everyday Life from Archaic to Imperial Times** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Gods of Ancient Rome: Religion in Everyday Life from Archaic to Imperial Times:

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Academic, trustworthy By Ingela This book is dry and scholarly at times and yet I still enjoyed it because the subject matter is interesting and I trusted the information contained therein. This is one of those books I know I will be happy to have on my shelf as a solid reference text. I think one of the problems with the book is that it does not discuss each God (not even the major ones) in detail, nor the practices associated with a specific God (except re the mystery cults). It is very much an overview of Pagan practices in ancient Rome and the broad way in which the author deals with the subject probably accounts for the occasional dryness of

the text. It is probably directed more at academic types who wish to improve their understanding of the daily life and mentality ancient Romans (which is a noble subject in itself) more than really looking at the spiritual aspect of Pagan deities and practice. 1 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Personable and Efficient By Customer Amaranth Books did an excellent job of keeping in contact with me, and responded to my order quicker than anyone I have ever bought from. The book arrived exactly as it was described and they even included a personalized message thanking me for ordering. I originally chose to order this book from Amaranth on a whim, but now I will always look to see if they have my book before I look anywhere else. 20 of 22 people found the following review helpful. Not for the Average Reader By WSVI recently used this book as part of a Summer-session university course on the Archaeology of Religion. Although it contains a healthy amount of information about little known facts concerning Roman religion, it is not for the average reader. Originally written in French, the translation is somewhat poor and confusing. The majority of the class was at a loss due to the complexity of the book. Even my somewhat rudimentary knowledge of Roman religion was barely adequate to follow the writings. The book lacks adequate chapter breaks resulting in the reader being forced to read the entirety in order not to lose his place. It says a lot when the professor privately told me that it was a poor choice for a textbook.

First published in 2001. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor Francis, an informa company.

"The style adopted by Turcan is accessible and readable. His work covers an immense amount of ground in a very small space. At times his abundance of examples is breathtaking. The reader is given a very real sense of the profusion of rites and rituals that accompanied everyday life in private and in public in the Roman world." -Alex Nice, University of the Witwatersrand About the Author Robert Turcan is Professor of Roman History at the Sorbonne. He has published widely on Roman antiquity, mainly on aspects of religion. His books include *Cults of the Roman Empire* (1996) and *Mithras et le Mithriacisme* (1991).