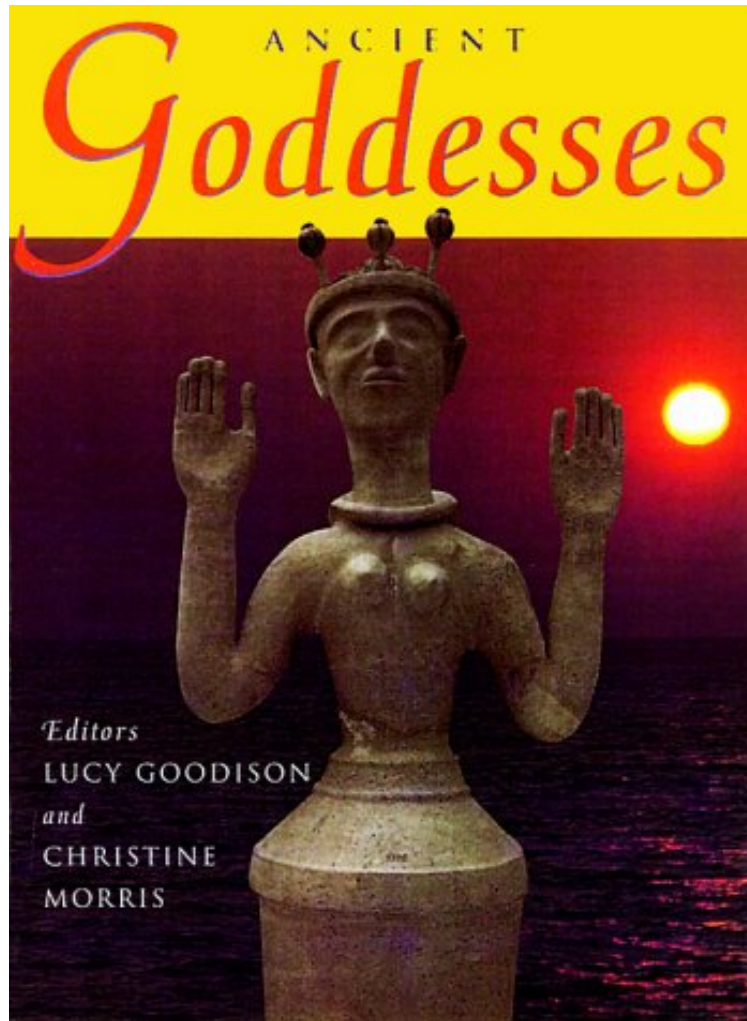


[PDF] Ancient Goddesses: The Myths and the Evidence (Wisconsin Studies in Classics)

Ancient Goddesses: The Myths and the Evidence (Wisconsin Studies in Classics)

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From Univ of Wisconsin Pr : Ancient Goddesses: The Myths and the Evidence (Wisconsin Studies in Classics) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ancient Goddesses: The Myths and the Evidence (Wisconsin Studies in Classics):

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Truly Scientific and Rational Approach By cfeagans I'm using this along with several of the works of Marija Gimbutas (along with many, many more texts and papers!) for a master's thesis I'm working on and I found the chapters in this edited volume to be very insightful and refreshing. There is a tendency, I think, to project modern biases about sex and gender on the prehistoric past that creates a set of assumptions that we have to be careful about. The authors in this volume take many of these assumptions and

conclusions to task in a series of rational, scientific arguments. The goddess conclusion might apply to one or more specific cultures, but it can't be applied as a universal in the way that Gimbutas and others hoped. The Gimbutas argument so often seemed to boil down to the sex of a figurine, from which she made the leap that this represented a "goddess." But looking at a figurine from 5,000 to 9,000 years ago and assuming that it is female based on modern ideas of sex and gender is a slippery slope. Obesity, "curves", hair styles, lack of beards, and even the presence of breasts ("moobs?") cannot objectively be interpreted as female characteristics for cultures that are long-dead. And Gimbutas did this over and over.

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