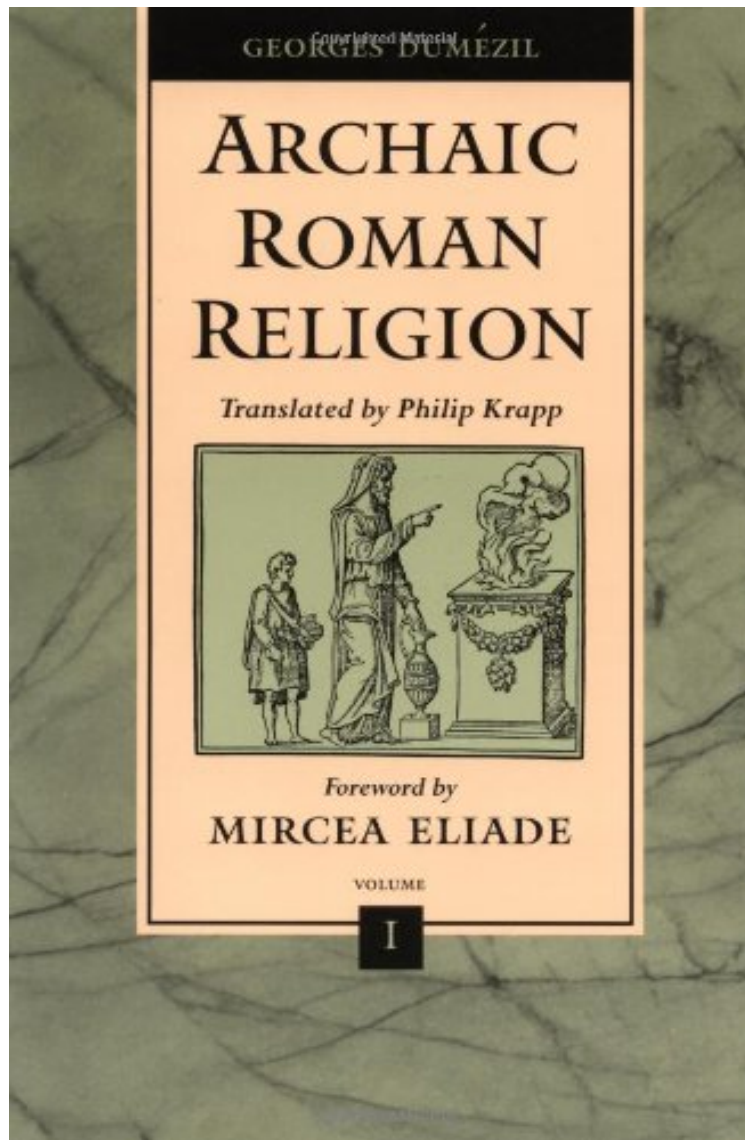


[E-BOOK] Archaic Roman Religion, Volume 1

Archaic Roman Religion, Volume 1

Georges Dumzil

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Georges Dumzil : Archaic Roman Religion, Volume 1 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Archaic Roman Religion, Volume 1:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Important work, worth reading. One of Dumézil's bestBy Christopher R. TraversIn his characteristic style, Dumézil sets out in this work to explore Roman religion as its own centerpiece rather than a mere comparative resource for explaining Vedic or Norse myth. His attention to detail and clear reasoning as well as wide knowledge helps bring archaic Roman religion to light. This is a book worth

reading. It's worth noting that Dumézil was a pioneer in his field, and that pioneers often make some errors. In particular confirmation bias is hard to avoid when you are leading the vanguard.... While I think there are some issues of this sort in this book, they are generally on the sidelines (I'll save a critical review of Dumézil's tripartite framework for another day). The book is a wonderful resource of ancient Roman practice and comparative structures. More than even his "Gods of the Ancient Northmen" this work stands out as a solid reference that will be useful for decades to come. I particularly enjoyed his discussions of the Dawn Goddess and of Janus. I found these to be of great clarity and full of insight. I'd highly recommend this book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Historical research By Roberto Quintas this is the first of two volumes of Georges Dumézil. The book is a good and deep historical research about the archaic Roman religion. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A classic of the field By Colin If you have a scholarly interest in Roman religions, at some point you need to read this book. You may want to own it, because it is a useful compendium of a lot of dispersed data from the ancient sources. Getting, say, Wissowa's German handbook will cost you a good deal more. Many subsequent scholars have pointed out problems in Dumézil's method, and his claim to be reconstructing "archaic" Roman religion has been particularly contested. His suggestions are nevertheless stimulating. This book can also serve as an introduction to Dumézil's broader research into Proto-Indo-European culture, but his specifically Indo-European thoughts are perhaps more accessible in works like *The Destiny of the Warrior*.

When St. Paul and St. Peter reached Rome they encountered a state-sponsored religion that had been established for centuries. Amid the shrines and temples of Rome, the Romans sought to preserve and strengthen a religion especially suited to the ambitious city. But Roman religion had also proved permeable to many influences, from Greece, Egypt, Persia, and other parts of Italy. What then was truly Roman, and what had Romans done with their borrowings to stamp them with Roman character? By exhaustive study of texts, inscriptions, and archaeology of Roman sacred places, Dumézil traces the formation of archaic Roman religion from Indo-European sources through the development of the rites and beliefs of the Roman republic. He describes a religion that was not only influenced by the other religions with which it came into contact, but influenced them as well, in mutual efforts to distinguish one nation from another. Even so, certain continuities were sustained in order to achieve a religion that crossed generations and ways of life. The worship of certain gods became the special concerns of certain parts of society, all of which needed attention to assure Rome's success in war, civil administration, and the production of food and goods.

Among the foremost scholarly achievements of our time. (New Comparative Mythology) A valuable permanent addition to the lore of myth and the stories of divinities. (Christian Century) About the Author Georges Dumézil, author of more than thirty books and hundreds of research articles, many of which are widely translated, was one of the most productive and provocative scholars of modern comparative religion for more than half a century. Among his other works are *Destiny of a King*, *Destiny of the Warrior*, *Gods of the Ancient Northmen*, and *Plight of a Sorcerer*.