

Ugaritic Narrative Poetry

Contained on fifteen of the cuneiform tables uncovered at the ancient Canaanite city of Ugarit are the four major oral Ugaritic myths of Aqhat, The Healers, Kirta and Baal. Stories from Ancient Canaan is the first to offer a one-volume translation of all four. This accessible book teaches the principal Canaanite religious literature, and will be useful to

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students of the history of religion, of the Bible, and of comparative literature.

Divination, the use of special talents and techniques to gain divine knowledge, was practiced in many different forms in ancient Israel and throughout the ancient world. The Hebrew Bible reveals a variety of traditions of women associated with divination. This sensitive and incisive book by respected scholar Esther J.

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Hamori examines the wide scope of women's divinatory activities as portrayed in the Hebrew texts, offering readers a new appreciation of the surprising breadth of women's "arts of knowledge" in biblical times. Unlike earlier approaches to the subject that have viewed prophecy separately from other forms of divination, Hamori's study encompasses the full range of divinatory practices and the personages who performed them, from the female

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prophets and the medium of En-dor to the matriarch who interprets a birth omen and the “wise women” of Tekoa and Abel and more. In doing so, the author brings into clearer focus the complex, rich, and diverse world of ancient Israelite divination.

Colleagues, students, and friends honor Professor Milgrom by celebrating his contributions to biblical and Near Eastern scholarship with special emphasis on his primary areas of

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expertise. The first section of the book, *Ritual, Law, and Their Sources*, contains thirty-five essays on cultic and legal issues found in the Hebrew Bible, the Septuagint, and texts from Qumran. The second section, *Other Literary, Historical, and Linguistic Studies*, includes twenty-four essays, primarily dealing with interpretive issues in the Hebrew Bible.

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

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The Ugaritic Baal Cycle

Classical Hebrew Poetry

Elenchus of Biblica

A Primer on Ugaritic

Diachrony in Biblical Hebrew

On Biblical Poetry takes a fresh look at the nature of biblical Hebrew poetry beyond its currently best-known feature, parallelism. F.W. Dobbs-Allsopp argues that biblical poetry is in most respects just like any other verse tradition, and therefore biblical

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poems should be read and interpreted like other poems, using the same critical tools and with the same kinds of guiding assumptions in place. He offers a series of programmatic essays on major facets of biblical verse, each aspiring to alter currently regnant conceptualizations in the field and to show that attention to aspects of prosody--rhythm, lineation, and the like--allied with close reading can yield interesting, valuable, and even

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pleasurable interpretations. What distinguishes the verse of the Bible, says Dobbs-Allsopp, is its historicity and cultural specificity, those peculiar encrustations and encumbrances that typify all human artifacts. Both the literary and the historical, then, are in view throughout. The concluding essay elaborates a close reading of Psalm 133. This chapter enacts the final movement to the set of literary and historical arguments mounted

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throughout the volume--an example of the holistic staging which, Dobbs-Allsopp argues, is much needed in the field of Biblical Studies.

Prevailing theories of apocalypticism assert that in a world that rebels against God, a cataclysmic battle between good and evil is needed to reassert God's dominion. Emma Wasserman, a rising scholar of early Christian history, challenges this interpretation and reframes Paul's

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apocalyptic texts as myths about politics in the world of divinity. Wasserman argues that the most dominant historical-critical theories about Christian apocalypticism are ahistorical and tend to work with apologetic formulations of Christ's victory and the uniqueness of Christianity. Assessing Paul's claims about immanent war, divine enemies, and the transformation that will accompany Christ's return, Wasserman sees him as

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envisioning a single, righteously ruled cosmic kingdom, the true nature of which will soon be revealed to all. A major scholarly contribution that ranges across Mediterranean and West Asian religious thought, this volume has broad implications for understanding Paul's myth of heroic submission as well as his most distinctive ethical teachings. All aspects of the ancient site of Ras Shamra (Ugarit) are treated in this

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compendium: discovery, decipherment of script, interpretation of literary, diplomatic and legal texts, as well as analysis of languages, history, religion and iconography. Cyrus Gordon called its archives 'the foremost literary discovery of the twentieth century' and they have undoubtedly revolutionized our knowledge of the background to Greek, Phoenician and Israelite culture.

Divine Politics and Polemics in the

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Letters of Paul

*New Approaches to Hebrew Bible Textual
Criticism*

Life and Mortality in Ugaritic

Apocalypse as Holy War

*Three Thousand Deities of Anatolia,
Syria, Israel, Sumer, Babylonia,
Assyria, and Elam*

Handbook of Ugaritic Studies

Diachrony in Biblical Hebrew is an indispensable publication for biblical scholars, whose interpretations of scriptures must engage the dates

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when texts were first composed and recorded, and for scholars of language, who will want to read these essays for the latest perspectives on the historical development of Biblical Hebrew. For Hebraists and linguists interested in the historical development of the Hebrew language, it is an essential collection of studies that address the language's development during the Iron Age (in its various subdivisions), the Neo-Babylonian and Persian periods, and the Early Hellenistic period. Written for both "text people" and "language people," this is the first book to address established Historical Linguistics theory as it applies

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to the study of Hebrew and to focus on the methodologies most appropriate for Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic. The book provides exemplary case studies of orthography, lexicography, morphology, syntax, language contact, dialectology, and sociolinguistics and, because of its depth of coverage, has broad implications for the linguistic dating of Biblical texts. The presentations are rounded out by useful summary histories of linguistic diachrony in Aramaic, Ugaritic, and Akkadian, the three languages related to and considered most crucial for Biblical research.

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Leading Experts Introduce the People and Contexts of the Old Testament What people groups interacted with ancient Israel? Who were the Hurrians and why do they matter? What do we know about the Philistines, the Egyptians, the Amorites, the Assyrians, the Babylonians, and others? In this up-to-date volume, leading experts introduce the peoples and places of the world around the Old Testament, providing students with a fresh exploration of the ancient Near East. The contributors offer comprehensive orientations to the main cultures and people groups that surrounded ancient Israel in the

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wider ancient Near East, including not only Mesopotamia and the northern Levant but also Egypt, Arabia, and Greece. They also explore the contributions of each people group or culture to our understanding of the Hebrew Scriptures. This supplementary text is organized by geographic region, making it especially suitable for the classroom and useful in a variety of Old Testament courses. Approximately eighty-five illustrative items are included throughout the book.

This volume celebrates the life and work of the late Simon B. Parker (1940-2006), the Harrell F. Beck

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Scholar of Hebrew Scripture at the School of
Theology and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
at Boston University. Contributors Edward L.
Greenstein Mark S. Smith Karel van der Toorn Steve
A. Wiggins N. Wyatt Katheryn Pfisterer Darr David
Marcus Herbert B. Huffmon Bernard F. Batto Tim
Koch F. W. Dobbs-Allsopp Amy Limpitlaw
Multiple Originals
The Origin and Character of God
A Handbook of Gods and Goddesses of the Ancient
Near East
Essays on the Ugaritic Poems Keret and Aqhat

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'Like 'Ilu Are You Wise'

An Introduction to Wisdom Literature and the Psalms
The author's discussion of Crow tribal history and his vivid descriptions of current reservation life show how the Apsáalooke are adapting to a changing world. By examining pivotal social and religious institutions, including the clan-uncle and clan-aunt relationships, the acquisition and use of medicine, and the Sun Dance, the author show how reciprocity and interdependence weave together Apsáalooke society and help individuals determine their place in clan, society, and cosmos. From the tragic young Adonis to Zašhapuna, first among goddesses, this handbook provides the most complete

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information available on deities from the cultures and religions of the ancient Near East, including Anatolia, Syria, Israel, Sumer, Babylonia, Assyria, and Elam. The result of nearly fifteen years of research, this handbook is more expansive and covers a wider range of sources and civilizations than any previous reference works on the topic. Arranged alphabetically, the entries range from multiple pages of information to a single line—sometimes all that we know about a given deity. Where possible, each record discusses the deity's symbolism and imagery, connecting it to the myths, rituals, and festivals described in ancient sources. Many of the entries are accompanied by illustrations that aid in understanding the iconography, and they all include

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references to texts in which the god or goddess is mentioned. Appropriate for both trained scholars and nonacademic readers, this book collects centuries of Near Eastern mythology into one volume. It will be an especially valuable resource for anyone interested in Assyriology, ancient religion, and the ancient Near East. A Primer on Ugaritic is an introduction to the language of the ancient city of Ugarit, a city that flourished in the second millennium BCE on the Lebanese coast, placed in the context of the culture, literature, and religion of this ancient Semitic culture. The Ugaritic language and literature was a precursor to Canaanite and serves as one of our most important resources for understanding the Old Testament and the Hebrew language. Special

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emphasis is placed on contextualization of the Ugaritic language and comparison to ancient Hebrew as well as Akkadian. The book begins with a general introduction to ancient Ugarit, and the introduction to the various genres of Ugaritic literature is placed in the context of this introduction. The language is introduced by genre, beginning with prose and letters, proceeding to administrative, and finally introducing the classic examples of Ugaritic epic. A summary of the grammar, a glossary, and a bibliography round out the volume.

Library of Congress Subject Headings

A Guide to its Techniques

Studies in Biblical, Jewish, and Near Eastern Ritual, Law, and Literature in Honor of Jacob Milgrom

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Untold Stories

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Women's Divination in Biblical Literature

In spite of debatable issues, such as metre, we now know enough about classical Hebrew poetry to be able to understand how it was composed. This large-scale manual, rich in detail, exegesis and bibliography, provides guidelines for the analysis and appreciation of Hebrew verse. Topics include oral poetry, metre, parallelism and forms of the strophe and stanza. Sound patterns and imagery are also discussed. A

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lengthy chapter sets out a whole range of other poetic devices and the book closes with a set of worked examples of Hebrew poetry. Throughout, other ancient Semitic verse has been used for comparison and the principles of modern literary criticism have been applied.

Hittite prayers were at first heavily influenced by Babylonian and Hurrian prototypes, but soon developed their own creative style, highly emotional and rich in metaphors. The twenty-four prayers assembled in the volume cover the entire

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span of Hittite literary history.

Paperback edition is available from the Society of Biblical Literature (www.sbl-site.org).

English translations of three major narrative poems and ten shorter texts written in the 14th and 13th centuries B.C.E. in what is now Syria and Lebanon, where they were discovered on tablets in the second quarter of the 20th century. Parallel columns match transliteration of the original cuneiform with line-by-line translation. The texts are supported by

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introductions, textual (rather than historical or literary) annotations, and a glossary mostly of place and personal names without pronunciation guides. Paper edition (unseen), \$14.95. Annotation copyrighted by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

Essays in Honor of Mark S. Smith

Traditional Techniques in Classical Hebrew Verse

Typological and Historical Perspectives

The Pre-biblical Narrative Tradition

The Minor Prophets, Job, Psalms, Proverbs,

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Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs

The World around the Old Testament

Mighty Baal offers a fresh portrait of the ancient Near Eastern god Baal. Its eleven essays are written in honor of Mark S. Smith, who has been the leading historian of Baal over the last four decades.

This book traces the history of Ugaritic studies and their impact on the study of the Bible. From the first discoveries in the late 1920s through the end of the millennium, Ugaritic studies have revolutionized the modern understanding of the

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Bible. The stories told in this book combine analysis of the major trends and intellectual approaches taken in various periods with firsthand accounts of the major Ugaritic and biblical scholars drawn from personal interviews and letters, including previously unknown sources from several archival collections.

Textual criticism is in a period of change, as it seeks to account for an ever-growing body of textual data as well as the development of new methodologies. Since the older methodologies cannot simply be modified to meet our present

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needs, *Multiple Originals* seeks to build bridges between methods of traditional textual criticism and those of orality and formulaic analysis. Examining practices of textual criticism across a wide range of texts and disciplines, this book challenges the assumption that there can be only one correct reading and argues for the presence of multivalences of both meaning and text. It demonstrates that in some cases multivalences were intended by the composer, while in other cases, during the periods from which our earliest extant manuscripts derive, they fell within the

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limits of variability acceptable to those who valued and transmitted those texts.

The Minor Prophets

Biblical Hebrew in Its Northwest Semitic Setting

On Biblical Poetry

Stories from Ancient Canaan

F-O

Biblical and Ugaritic Aperitifs in Memory of Simon

B. Parker

This volume honors Dennis G. Pardee, Henry Crown Professor of Hebrew Studies in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of

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Chicago and one of the preeminent experts in Northwest Semitic languages and literatures, particularly Ugaritic studies. The thirty-seven essays by colleagues and former students reflect the wide range of Professor Pardee's research interests and include, among other topics, new readings of inscriptions, studies of poetic structure, and investigations of Late Bronze Age society. This book proposes to read the birth stories of Aqhatu, Kirta and Samuel from the perspective of incubation type-scene. Drawing on Nagler's definition of a type-scene, it employs the idea of family resemblance as a principle of identification of type-scenes.

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Few topics are as broad or as daunting as the God of Israel, that deity of the world's three monotheistic religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, who has been worshiped over millennia. In the Hebrew Bible, God is characterized variously as militant, beneficent, inscrutable, loving, and judicious. Who is this divinity that has been represented as masculine and feminine, mythic and real, transcendent and intimate? The Origin and Character of God is Theodore J. Lewis's monumental study of the vast subject that is the God Israel. In it, he explores questions of historical origin, how God was characterized in literature, and how he

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was represented in archaeology and iconography. He also brings us into the lived reality of religious experience. Using the window of divinity to peer into the varieties of religious experience in ancient Israel, Lewis explores the royal use of religion for power, prestige, and control; the intimacy of family and household religion; priestly prerogatives and cultic status; prophetic challenges to injustice; and the pondering of theodicy by poetic sages. A volume that is encyclopedic in scope but accessible in tone, *The Origin and Character of God* is an essential addition to the growing scholarship of one of humanity's most enduring

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concepts.

Pomegranates and Golden Bells

Ancient Israelite Religion through the Lens of Divinity

Some Wine and Honey for Simon

Biblical Narrative and the Death of the Rhapsode

The Origins and Development of the Waw-consecutive:

Northwest Semitic Evidence from Ugarit to Qumran

Language, Culture and Literature

Informed by literary theory and Homeric scholarship as well as biblical studies,

Biblical Narrative and the Death of the

Rhapsode sheds new light on the Hebrew Bible

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and, more generally, on the possibilities of narrative form. Robert S. Kawashima compares the narratives of the Hebrew Bible with Homeric and Ugaritic epic in order to account for the "novelty" of biblical prose narrative. Long before Herodotus or Homer, Israelite writers practiced an innovative narrative art, which anticipated the modern novelist's craft. Though their work is undeniably linked to the linguistic tradition of the Ugaritic narrative poems, there are substantive differences between the bodies of work. Kawashima views biblical narrative as the result of a specifically written verbal

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art that we should counterpose to the oral-traditional art of epic. Beyond this strictly historical thesis, the study has theoretical implications for the study of narrative, literature, and oral tradition. Indiana Studies in Biblical Literature -- Herbert Marks, General Editor

This series brings to life the world of the Old Testament through informative entries and full-color photos and graphics. Here readers find the premier commentary set for connecting with the historical and cultural context of the Old Testament.

While topics such as death, funerary cult,

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and the netherworld have received considerable scholarly attention in the context of the Ugaritic textual corpus, the related concept of life has been relatively neglected. *Life and Mortality in Ugaritic* takes as its premise that one cannot grasp the significance of *mwt* ("to die") without first having wrestled with the concept of *?yy* ("to live"). In this book, Matthew McAfee takes a lexical approach to the study of life and death in the Ugaritic textual corpus. He identifies and analyzes the Ugaritic terms most commonly used to talk about life and mortality in order to construct a more

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representative framework of the ancient perspective on these topics, and he concludes by synthesizing the results of this lexical study into a broader literary discussion that considers, among other things, the implications for our understanding of the first-millennium Katumuwa stele from Zincirli. McAfee's study complements previous scholarly work in this area, which has tended to rely on conceptual and theoretical treatment of mortality, and advances the discussion by providing a more focused lexical analysis of the Ugaritic terms in question. It will be of interest to

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Semitic scholars and those who study Ugaritic in particular, in addition to students of the culture of the ancient Levant.

Prophecy, Necromancy, and Other Arts of Knowledge

A Guide to Its Techniques

Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs

Festschrift Marvin E. Tate

Studies in Northwest Semitic Languages and Literatures in Honor of Dennis G. Pardee

The People and Places of the Ancient Near East

Many today find the Old Testament a closed book.

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The cultural issues seem insurmountable and we are easily baffled by that which seems obscure.

Furthermore, without knowledge of the ancient culture we can easily impose our own culture on the text, potentially distorting it. This series invites you to enter the Old Testament with a company of guides, experts that will give new insights into these cherished writings. Features include • Over 2000 photographs, drawings, maps, diagrams and charts provide a visual feast that breathes fresh life into the text. • Passage-by-passage commentary presents archaeological findings, historical explanations, geographic insights, notes on manners and

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customs, and more. • Analysis into the literature of the ancient Near East will open your eyes to new depths of understanding both familiar and unfamiliar passages. • Written by an international team of 30 specialists, all top scholars in background studies. Before, during and after the preparation of Classical Hebrew Poetry: A Guide to its Techniques, Wilfred Watson published several articles on Hebrew poetry in a wide range of periodicals. The present volume collects together the most significant of these writings, including a chapter from a book on chiasmus, as well as a few unpublished items. After an opening survey of current work on Hebrew verse

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the articles cover the following topics: parallelism (including half-line parallelism, previously almost unnoticed), antithesis, word pairs, chiasmus, figurative language and introductions to speech in verse. The last section deals with structural devices and a folktale motif in narrative verse, hyperbole, apostrophe and alliteration. Previously unpublished items are on the contribution of ethno-poetics, from the study of Native American literature to Hebrew narrative verse (a new topic in biblical studies), parallelism in the Song of Songs and a metaphor in Jeremiah. This anthology is intended as a companion volume to Classical Hebrew Poetry. It

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includes additions and corrections to that book and there are also several indices.

In 1961 William L. Moran published "The Hebrew Language in Its Northwest Semitic Background", in which he presented a state-of-the-art description of the linguistic milieu out of which Biblical Hebrew developed. Moran stressed the features found in earlier Northwest Semitic languages that are similar to Hebrew and he demonstrated how the study of those languages sheds light on Biblical Hebrew. Since Moran wrote, our knowledge of both the Hebrew of the biblical period and of Northwest Semitic has increased considerably. In the lights of

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new epigraphic finds and the significant advances in the fields of Biblical Hebrew and Northwest Semitic in the past four decades, the Institute for Advanced Studies of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem convened an international research group during the 2001-2002 academic year on the topic "Biblical Hebrew in Its Northwest Semitic setting: Typological and Historical Perspectives." The volume presents the fruits of the year-long collaboration and contains twenty articles based on lectures given during the year by members of the groups and invited guests. A wide array of subjects are discussed, all of which have implications for the study of Biblical Hebrew

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and Northwest Semitic.

Mighty Baal

The Bible and Ugaritic Studies in the Twentieth Century

Incubation as a Type-Scene in the Aqhatu, Kirta, and Hannah Stories

A Lexical and Literary Study

Ancient Near Eastern Literature and the Hebrew Scriptures about the Fatherhood of God

A Form-Critical and Narratological Study of KTU 1.14 I-1.15 III, 1.17 I-II, and 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11

Ancient Near Eastern Literature and the Hebrew Scriptures About the Fatherhood of God discusses some of the main « father-god »

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concepts of the people of the Ancient Near East, then examines the eighteen occurrences of God's fatherhood specifically mentioned in Hebrew Scripture. From these sources, the book develops a theology of God's fatherhood that honors both ancient and modern scrutiny. Although many studies have explored the subject of the fatherhood of God - mostly from the perspective of nonbiblical disciplines, and through the lens of Greco-Roman mythology - this book takes into account the wealth of material from the ancient Near East, the birthplace of the Hebrew Scriptures.

Hittite Prayers