



Flavius Philostratus: Heroikos (Writings from the Greco-Roman World)

Philostratus, Jennifer K. Berenson Maclean, Ellen Bradshaw Aitken

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Philostratus's *Heroikos*, available here in English for the first time, is a fictional dialogue set at the tomb of Protesilaos, the first hero to die in the Trojan War. Returning to life, Protesilaos reveals his insights about Homer, the Trojan War, its heroes, and their cults. The author of the *Life of Apollonius of Tyana* here molds heroic traditions to promote for his own day a renewed Greek cultural and religious outlook, providing fresh material for comparing the construction of cultural identity by various groups--including the early Christians--in the Roman Empire and Late Antiquity. In their introduction and notes, Maclean and Aitken, trained in the classics and early Christianity, discuss how issues of authority, revealed knowledge, religious practice, and gender were treated in this early-third-century C.E. text. With Greek text and English translation on facing pages, an extensive glossary and maps, this volume offers an insightful introduction to the *Heroikos* for both scholars and students.

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