



Helen of Troy: From Homer to Hollywood

Laurie Maguire

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Helen of Troy: From Homer to Hollywood is a comprehensive literary biography of Helen of Troy, which explores the ways in which her story has been told and retold in almost every century from the ancient world to the modern day.

- Takes readers on an epic voyage into the literary representations of a woman who has wielded a great influence on Western cultural consciousness for more than three millennia
- Features a wide and diverse variety of literary sources, including epic, drama, novels, poems, film, comedy, and opera, and works by Homer, Euripides, Chaucer, Shakespeare
- Includes an analysis of a radio play by the prize-winning author of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* and a Faust play by a contemporary Scottish playwright
- Explores themes such as narrative difficulties in portraying Helen, how legal history relates to her story, and how writers apportion blame or exculpate her
- Considers the aesthetic and narrative difficulties that ensue when literature translates myth

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