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The Roman Wedding. Ritual and Meaning in Antiquity.

By HERSCH, Karen K.,

Book Condition: New. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge (.), 2010. XII,341,(6)p. Paperback. 'Hersch presents us with a modern, up-to-date study of the Roman wedding which is almost exclusively based on literary sources, since the primary artistic source, biographical Roman sarcophagi, do not show an actual moment from the ceremony per se, but figures from a wedding. The wide-ranging nature of these literary sources and the problems of using them to reconstruct the Roman wedding, along with a review of the modern scholarship on the Roman wedding and an outline of the chapters of the book, form the core of the book's Introduction. The former includes the fact that because there is no single complete description of a true Roman wedding, we are forced to reconstruct the ceremony from a pastiche of sources ranging in type, date and locale in the Roman world, and that different levels of society held different versions of the ceremony. Chapter 1 focuses on the laws connected with marriage and the wedding. (.) The next chapter focuses on the bride, primarily her preparations for the ceremony and the preparatory rites for when she is lead to the groom's house (domum deductio). A study of the garments comprising...



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