

CONTENTS

	PAGE
List of Illustrations	X
Foreword to the Mythos edition by Larry J. Alderink	xiii
Preface	XXXV

CHAPTER I

	PAGE
FAMOUS ORPHEUS	I

CHAPTER II

WHAT IS MEANT BY ORPHISM?

i. Definition of the term religion as applied to the religions of Greece. Orphic religion in the light of this definition. Question of the survival of Orphism	6
ii. <i>The nature of the evidence.</i> Orphic literature. Orphic practice. Orpheus in art	II
Notes	23

CHAPTER III

ORPHEUS AND HIS STORY

i. Variety among authorities	25
ii. <i>Life.</i> Home in Thrace. Date. Parentage. Voyage with the Argonauts. Wife—Orpheus in the underworld. Misogynism. Death and burial	26
iii. <i>Character.</i> Individuality. Musician. Magician. Religious writer. Civilizer and peace-lover	39
iv. <i>Relations with the gods.</i> Orpheus a hero. Relations with Dionysos—with Apollo—with the underworld gods. Origin probably Apolline. Alliances between Dionysiac and Apolline cults. Distinction between Orpheus and the non-Thracian Orphic religion	41
v. <i>Historical existence.</i> Possible bearing of previous sections on the historicity of Orpheus. Individuality. Magical element. Misogynism. General discussion of the historical question. Opinion of Aristotle	48
vi. Passages translated	59
Notes	62

CHAPTER IV

THE CREATION AND THE GODS AS PRESENTED BY ORPHEUS

	PAGE
i. <i>The problem of the Orphic theogonies.</i> Mythological and philosophical speculation. Greek theogonies. Authorities for the Orphic theogony—the Neoplatonists. Kernel of the problem. Arguments of O. Gruppe. Policy of this book	69
ii. Account of the Hieronymian and Rhapsodic versions of the Orphic theogony	78
iii. Theogonies of Orpheus and Hesiod contrasted	83
iv. <i>Discussion of separate actors and incidents in the Orphic theogony.</i> Chronos and classical literature. The Egg. Phanes. Night. The swallowing of Phanes—Zeus in the rôle of Creator. The sufferings of Dionysos—Cretan elements; how far can they be called Orphic, and why?—outline of a possible course of events—Orphism the reverse of a primitive religion—the playthings; excavation in the Theban Kabirion; conclusion regarding this	84
v. Character of the Orphic theogony	127
Appendix 1. The rending of Dionysos	130
Appendix 2. Kore	133
Appendix 3. Translation of fragments	137
Notes	142

CHAPTER V

THE FUTURE LIFE AS SEEN BY ORPHEUS

i. <i>Greek beliefs in a future life.</i> Homer, Ionian poets and philosophers, emergence of mystery-religions, popular hopes and fears, Elysium, Eleusis	148
ii. <i>Orphic beliefs.</i> The body a tomb or a prison, posthumous rewards and punishments, the circle of birth and escape from the circle	156
iii. The Gold Plates	171
iv. <i>Summary.</i> The souls of the righteous	182
Appendix. The Underworld Vases	187
Notes	191

CHAPTER VI

LIFE AND PRACTICES OF THE FOLLOWER OF ORPHEUS

i. Wand-bearers and Bakchoi	194
ii. <i>The Orphic Life.</i> Abstinence from flesh, the Golden Age, other prohibitions, the <i>Cretans</i> fragment, moral aspect of the Orphic life	196
iii. <i>Orphic Rites.</i> Meaning of <i>telete</i> , <i>Orpheotelestai</i> , what were the <i>teletai</i> ?	201
iv. Was there an Orphic sect?	204
v. Summing-up of the Orphic religion	205
Appendix 1. Theories of Orphic ritual	207
Appendix 2. Prayers for the Dead	214
Notes	215

CONTENTS

ix

CHAPTER VII

ORPHEUS AND OTHER GREEK RELIGIOUS THINKERS

	PAGE
i. Orphics and Pythagoreans	216
ii. The Milesians, Anaximander	221
iii. Herakleitos. Theory of V. Macchioro	224
iv. Parmenides	231
v. Empedokles	231
vi. Anaxagoras	232
vii. The poets. Aeschylus, Pindar, Euripides	232
viii. Conclusion. Orphism and pre-Platonic Greek thought	238
ix. Plato	238
x. Aristotle. Philosophical presuppositions of Orphism	244
Notes	246

CHAPTER VIII

ORPHEUS IN THE HELLENISTIC AND GRAECO-ROMAN WORLD

i. <i>Some religious tendencies of the new age.</i> Universality, syncretism, mystery-religions	249
ii. <i>Orphica</i> in the new age	253
iii. Use of Orphic literature by Christians and Neoplatonists	255
iv. <i>The Orphic Hymns.</i> Character, in what sense Orphic, Anatolian origin, the Demeter-temenos at Pergamon, cult of Dionysos at Pergamon, <i>bukoloi</i> , <i>hymnodoi</i> , conclusion	257
v. <i>Orphism and Christianity.</i> Orpheus in Christian art, comparison of doctrines	261
Notes	271

SUPPLEMENT

(a) Bibliography	275
(b) Notes	275
General Index	279
Bibliographical Index	287