



# Restless Dead: Encounters between the Living and the Dead in Ancient Greece

*Sarah Iles Johnston*

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During the archaic and classical periods, Greek ideas about the dead evolved in response to changing social and cultural conditions—most notably changes associated with the development of the polis, such as funerary legislation, and changes due to increased contacts with cultures of the ancient Near East. In *Restless Dead*, Sarah Iles Johnston presents and interprets these changes, using them to build a complex picture of the way in which the society of the dead reflected that of the living, expressing and defusing its tensions, reiterating its values and eventually becoming a source of significant power for those who knew how to control it. She draws on both well-known sources, such as Athenian tragedies, and newer texts, such as the Derveni Papyrus and a recently published *lex sacra* from Selinous.

Topics of focus include the origin of the *goes* (the ritual practitioner who made interaction with the dead his specialty), the threat to the living presented by the ghosts of those who died dishonorably or prematurely, the development of Hecate into a mistress of ghosts and its connection to female rites of transition, and the complex nature of the Erinyes. *Restless Dead* culminates with a new reading of Aeschylus' *Oresteia* that emphasizes how Athenian myth and cult manipulated ideas about the dead to serve political and social ends.

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#### **Sandra Passmore:**

Why? Because this Restless Dead: Encounters between the Living and the Dead in Ancient Greece is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will surprise you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who all write the book in such awesome way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning entirely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of gains than the other book get such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I had been you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

#### **Sandra Williams:**

Restless Dead: Encounters between the Living and the Dead in Ancient Greece can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort to set every word into joy arrangement in writing Restless Dead: Encounters between the Living and the Dead in Ancient Greece yet doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource data that maybe you can be one among it. This great information may drawn you into new stage of crucial contemplating.

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