



# **The Reception and Performance of Euripides' Herakles: Reasoning Madness (Oxford Classical Monographs)**

*Kathleen Riley*

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Euripides' *Herakles*, which tells the story of the hero's sudden descent into filicidal madness, is one of the least familiar and least performed plays in the Greek tragic canon. Kathleen Riley explores its reception and performance history from the fifth century BC to AD 2006. Her focus is upon changing ideas of Heraklean madness, its causes, its consequences, and its therapy. Writers subsequent to Euripides have tried to 'reason' or make sense of the madness, often in accordance with contemporary thinking on mental illness. She concurrently explores how these attempts have, in the process, necessarily entailed redefining Herakles' heroism.

Riley demonstrates that, in spite of its relatively infrequent staging, the *Herakles* has always surfaced in historically charged circumstances - Nero's Rome, Shakespeare's England, Freud's Vienna, Cold-War and post-9/11 America - and has had an undeniable impact on the history of ideas. As an analysis of heroism in crisis, a tragedy about the greatest of heroes facing an abyss of despair but ultimately finding redemption through human love and friendship, the play resonates powerfully with individuals and communities at historical and ethical crossroads.

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#### **Heather Sessoms:**

The book *The Reception and Performance of Euripides' Herakles: Reasoning Madness* (Oxford Classical Monographs) has a lot of information on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was authored by the very famous author. This article's author makes some research prior to write this book. This particular book is very easy to read; you can get the point easily after looking over this book.

#### **Barbara Butler:**

People live in this new day-time lifestyle; they always try and must have the free time or they will get a lot of stress from both day-to-day life and work. So, once we ask do people have free time, we will say absolutely without a doubt. People are human, not really a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time is coming to a person? Of course your answer can be unlimited. Then do you try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative in spending your spare time; the actual book you have read is definitely *The Reception and Performance of Euripides' Herakles: Reasoning Madness* (Oxford Classical Monographs).

#### **Joseph Ortiz:**

Playing with family in the park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with pals is a thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try a factor that is really opposite from that. One activity that makes you not feel tired but still relaxing, thrilling like on a roller coaster; you are riding on and with additional details. Even you love *The Reception and Performance of Euripides' Herakles: Reasoning Madness* (Oxford Classical Monographs), it is possible to enjoy both. It is a great combination, right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hangout is it? Oh, it can happen to its mind-hangout men. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its named reading friends.

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