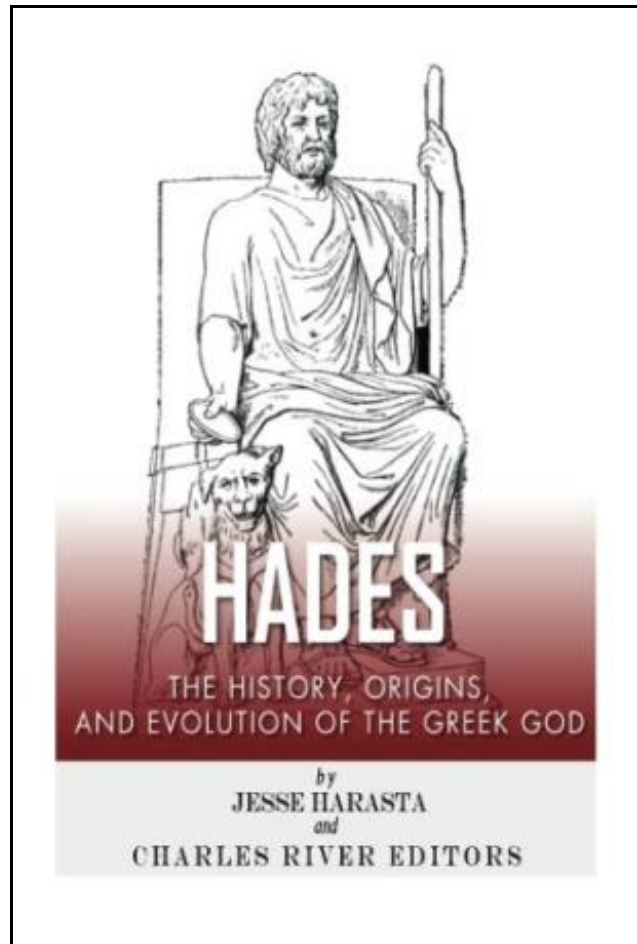


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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2013. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Includes pictures of historic art depicting Hades and other Greek gods. *Explains the historical origins of the god and the mythological tales about him. The gloomy Hades enriches himself with our sighs and our tears! - Sophocles The Greek god Hades is something of an enigma. On the one hand, people can view him through the lens that was a byproduct of the Christian tradition, as a terrifying lord of death seated upon his ebony throne, an unseen force of power moving through the world. Certainly, many of the Ancient Greeks themselves saw the god in this light, whispering his name and making sacrifices of black sheep on dark nights and allowing the blood to trickle down into the earth to reach the underworld. On the other hand, there is a parallel Greek tradition that depicts Hades as a regal god and more of a dark parallel to his brother Zeus, who bears the same icons of sovereignty and may have some deep link to him in a primordial sense. The name Hades literally means Unseen, but the Greeks had a superstitious fear of calling Hades by his proper name and thus created numerous ways of referring to the god. For instance, Euboleus means Giver of Good Counsel, and Polydectes meant he who receives many, Stygeros means hateful one, and Polydegmon meant either grey man or hospitable one. The most popular name was Plouton which means wealth-giver and referred to Hades role in guarding the treasures of the earth. That name was eventually adopted and altered by the Romans to become their god Pluto. Other names used for the god included Aidoneus, Ais, Clymenus and Pylartes. Given his importance as the lord...

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