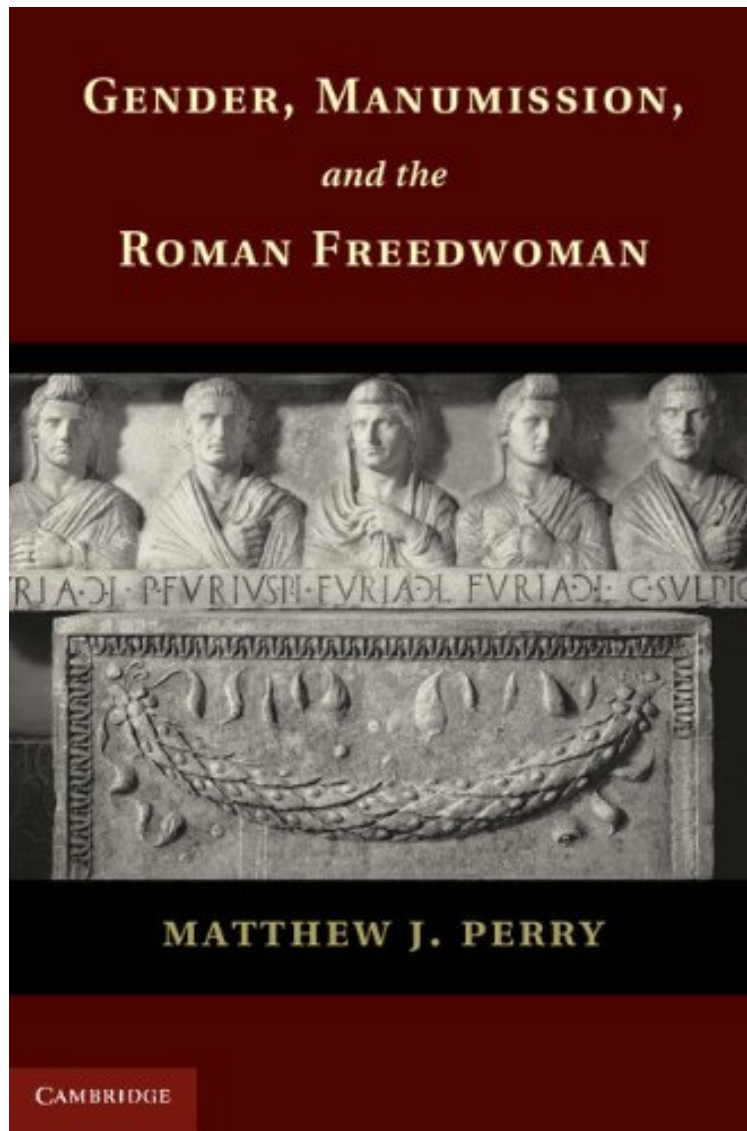


(Free pdf) Gender, Manumission, and the Roman Freedwoman

Gender, Manumission, and the Roman Freedwoman

Matthew J. Perry

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Matthew J. Perry : Gender, Manumission, and the Roman Freedwoman before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gender, Manumission, and the Roman Freedwoman:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Intriguing book, less difficult to get through than what might be assumed from the title By distractsl've been reading a number of books on Roman slavery lately. This one, exploring the little-covered topic of the manumission of women, is honestly my favorite so far. It is engaging, well-written, appears to be well-researched (I'm not a scholar though, so I'll leave that for others to judge), and accessible.

Gender, Manumission, and the Roman Freedwoman examines the distinct problem posed by the manumission of female slaves in ancient Rome. The sexual identities of a female slave and a female citizen were fundamentally incompatible, as the former was principally defined by her sexual availability and the latter by her sexual integrity. Accordingly, those evaluating the manumission process needed to reconcile a woman's experiences as a slave with the expectations and moral rigor required of the female citizen. The figure of the freedwoman-fictionalized and real-provides an extraordinary lens into the matter of how Romans understood, debated, and experienced the sheer magnitude of the transition from slave to citizen, the various social factors that impinged upon this process, and the community stakes in the institution of manumission.

'This book is an excellent interdisciplinary answer to a narrow question. It engages with the multiple subfields of Roman slavery studies, gender studies, and legal history.' Anise K. Strong, Bryn Mawr Classical About the Author Matthew J. Perry is Assistant Professor of History at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York. His research focuses on Roman social history, especially issues related to gender, sexuality, law, and social status. He is the recipient of PSC-CUNY Research Awards (2009-13). His work has appeared in the *Ancient History Bulletin*.