

The Witchcraft Series Maqlû (Writings from the Ancient World)

Tzvi Abusch



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A new reconstruction and translation of the Maqlû text

The Akkadian series Maqlû, 'Burning'; is one of the most significant and interesting magical texts from the Ancient Near East. The incantations and accompanying rituals are directed against witches and witchcraft and actually represent a single complex ceremony. The ceremony was performed during a single night and into the following morning at the end of the month Abu (July/August), a time when spirits were thought to move back and forth between the netherworld and the world of the living.

Features:

- English translation of approximately 100 incantations and rituals
- Annotated transcription
- Introduction places the series in historical context and shows how it is a product of a complex literary and ceremonial development.

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