

## Manichaeian Encounters with Death

### Studies in the Parabolic, Material and Spiritual Body

by Susanna Towers

**DESCRIPTION:**

Born in Persian Mesopotamia in the year 232 CE, the self-proclaimed prophet Mani promulgated a dualist faith that rapidly spread throughout the Roman Empire, Central Asia and China. This monograph comprises a series of studies of the Manichaeian conceptualization of death and the afterlife in the context of Manichaeian soteriology, eschatology and anthropology. Material, documentary and liturgical evidence is analysed to enrich knowledge of Manichaeian funereal ritual and mourning practice. The monograph explores the thematic symbolism of the corpse in Manichaeian parabolic literature, offering fresh interpretations and exploring the influence of Buddhist teachings on the impermanence of the body, karma and metempsychosis.

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