

# **COMING BACK TO LIFE**



# COMING BACK TO LIFE

The Permeability of Past and Present,  
Mortality and Immortality, Death and Life in the  
Ancient Mediterranean

EDITED BY

**Frederick S. Tappenden**

AND

**Carly Daniel-Hughes**

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF

**Bradley N. Rice**



McGill University Library and Archives  
Montreal, QC • 2017

Copyright © Individual Contributors, 2017



The contents of this work are protected under a Creative Commons 4.0 Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0>), unless otherwise noted.

Edited by Frederick S. Tappenden and Carly Daniel-Hughes,  
with the assistance of Bradley N. Rice.

Published by McGill University Library and Archives  
3459 rue McTavish  
Montreal, Quebec H3A 0C9  
[www.mcgill.ca/library](http://www.mcgill.ca/library)

Created in Canada.

Online version accessible at: <http://comingbacktolife.mcgill.ca>.

PDF layout and design by Jennifer Innes, Gregory Houston, Frederick S. Tappenden, and Bradley N. Rice. HTML layout and design by Jennifer Innes, Rebecca Nicholson, Frederick S. Tappenden, and Jeffrey A. Keiser. EPub layout and design by Jennifer Innes.

Photo credit: Image of Ellen Aitken (page v). Provided courtesy of Owen Egan. Copyright Owen Egan.

Cover image: Memnon Pietà (ca. 490–480 BCE; Louvre G-115) depicting Eos lifting the draped body of Memnon. Image in public domain courtesy of user Bibi Saint-Pol

([https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3AEos\\_Memnon\\_Louvre\\_G115.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3AEos_Memnon_Louvre_G115.jpg)).

Figure credits: Figure 3a (page 145) reproduced with permission from Sophia Centre Press.

Figure 3b (page 145) reproduced with permission from Springer Science+Business Media and Sophia Centre Press.

Funding for this eBook was provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada ([www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca](http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca)), McGill Library Scholarly Communications ([www.mcgill.ca/library/services/scholarly-publishing](http://www.mcgill.ca/library/services/scholarly-publishing)), and the McGill University School of Religious Studies ([www.mcgill.ca/religiousstudies](http://www.mcgill.ca/religiousstudies)).



Social Sciences and Humanities  
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en  
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada

Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Coming back to life : the permeability of past and present, mortality and immortality, death and life in the ancient Mediterranean / edited by Frederick S. Tappenden and Carly Daniel-Hughes ; with the assistance of Bradley N. Rice.

Papers based on the conference Coming Back to Life: Performance, Memory, and Cognition in the Ancient Mediterranean, held at McGill University and Concordia University, from May 8 to 11, 2014.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-77096-222-4 (PDF).--ISBN 978-1-77096-222-4 (HTML).--ISBN 978-1-77096-222-4 (EPUB)

1. Future life--Mediterranean Region--Antiquities--Congresses. 2. Mediterranean Region--Antiquities--Congresses. I. Tappenden, Frederick S., author, editor II. Daniel-Hughes, Carly, 1974-, author, editor III. Rice, Bradley N., author, editor IV. Coming Back to Life: Performance, Memory, and Cognition in the Ancient Mediterranean (Conference) (2014 : Montréal, Québec)

In memory of  
Ellen Bradshaw Aitken (1961–2014)  
*Scholar, Mentor, Friend*



τοιγαροῦν καὶ ἡμεῖς τοσοῦτον ἔχοντες περικείμενον  
ἡμῖν νέφος μαρτύρων . . .  
Hebrews 12:1



## Contents

<i>Foreword</i> , by Gregory Nagy	xi
<i>Preface</i>	xv
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xxv
<i>Contributors</i>	xxxvii
1. Coming Back to Life in the Ancient Mediterranean: An Introduction <i>Frederick S. Tappenden and Carly Daniel-Hughes</i>	1
2. Many (Un)Happy Returns: Ancient Greek Concepts of a Return from Death and their Later Counterparts <i>Sarah Iles Johnston</i>	17
<b>I. MEMORY, MOURNING, AND RETURNING TO LIFE</b>	
3. Living without the Dead: Finding Solace in Ancient Rome <i>Valerie M. Hope</i>	39
4. Bringing Back to Life: Laments and the Origin of the So-Called Words of Institution <i>Angela Standhartinger</i>	71
5. Guarding His Body, Mourning His Death, and Pleading for Him in Heaven: On Adam's Death and Eve's Virtues in the Greek Life of Adam and Eve <i>Vita Daphna Arbel</i>	103
<b>II. THE MATERIAL AND CONCEPTUAL POROSITY OF DEATH</b>	
6. If So, How? Representing "Coming Back to Life" in the Mysteries of Mithras <i>Roger Beck</i>	129
7. The Cosmology of the Raising of Lazarus (John 11–12) <i>Troels Engberg-Pedersen</i>	153

8. Coming Back to Life in and through Death:  
Early Christian Creativity in Paul, Ignatius, and  
Valentinus  
*Frederick S. Tappenden* 181
9. “Tell Me What Shall Arise”:  
Conflicting Notions of the Resurrection Body in  
Fourth- and Fifth-Century Egypt  
*Hugo Lundhaug* 215

### III. IDENTITY FORMATION AND THE RETURN FROM DEATH

10. “We Are Called to Monogamy”:  
Marriage, Virginity, and the Resurrection of the  
Fleshly Body in Tertullian of Carthage  
*Carly Daniel-Hughes* 239
11. Death, Resurrection, and Legitimacy  
in the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles  
*David L. Eastman* 267
12. Life and Death, Confession and Denial: Birthing  
Language in the *Letter of the Churches of Vienne and  
Lyons*  
*Stéphanie Machabée* 287
13. Weddings and the Return to Life in the Book of  
Revelation  
*Eliza Rosenberg* 309

### IV. COMING BACK TO LIFE IN MYTH AND NARRATIVE

14. Hippolytus and Virbius: Narratives of “Coming Back  
to Life” and Religious Discourses in Greco-Roman  
Literature  
*Katharina Waldner* 345
15. Disarming Death: Theomachy and Resurrection in  
1 Corinthians 15  
*Jeffrey A. Keiser* 375



16.	Talitha Qum! An Exploration of the Image of Jesus as Healer-Physician-Savior in the Synoptic Gospels in Relation to the Asclepius Cult <i>Frances Flannery</i>	407
17.	Equal to God: Jesus's Crucifixion as <i>Scheintod</i> <i>Meredith Warren</i>	435
<b>V. SUPPLEMENT</b>		
18.	Select Bibliography of Embedded Online Works <i>Frederick S. Tappenden and Bradley N. Rice</i>	459
	<i>Index</i>	475

