

TRANSMISSION OF MAGICAL KNOWLEDGE: MAGICAL HANDBOOKS ON PAPYRUS

CHRISTOPHER A. FARAONE AND SOFÍA TORALLAS TOVAR

The 2021–22 academic year saw significant progress in our research project. The central goal was a two-part edition and annotated translation of the Greco-Egyptian magical handbooks, and in April 2022 the first volume was published by California Classical Studies at the University of California, Berkeley: *Greek and Egyptian Magical Formularies: Text and Translation, Vol. 1*, running to more than 500 pages (fig. 1). Work on volume 2 proceeds apace. Our stand-alone volume of essays, *The Greco-Egyptian Magical Formularies: Libraries, Books, and Individual Recipes* (also more than 500 pages), generated by our editorial work on the handbooks, will be published by the University of Michigan Press in November 2022 (fig. 2). When we began the project, we did not anticipate such an ancillary volume, but these essays arose naturally from the conversations between and among our editors at various Neubauer Collegium–sponsored meetings and conferences, such as the “Incantatory Words: The Language of the Greek Magical Papyri” conference held at the University of Chicago Center in Paris in September 2021 (<https://centerinparis.uchicago.edu/events/incantatory-words-greek-and-egyptian-languages-magical-papyri>). We now expect that a second volume of essays will appear, one generated by our work on volume 2; preliminary versions of these essays made their appearance in May 2022 at the “Scribes and Readers of Magical Texts in Late Antique and Medieval Egypt” conference at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, which was also cosponsored by the Neubauer Collegium (<https://www.wiko-berlin.de/veranstaltungen/workshops/2021/scribes-and-readers-of-magical-texts-in-late-antique-and-medieval-egypt>).

Crucial to the continued success of the project is the synergy and hard work of the editorial board, whose collegiality is manifest in the fact that nearly half the essays in the Michigan book were cowritten and could, in fact, never have been written outside the structure of the project. Editorial board members included Korshi Dosoo, Marina Escolano-Poveda, Richard Gordon, Edward Love, Franco Maltomini, Anastasia Maravela, Raquel Martín Hernández, Alberto Nodar Domínguez, Panagiota Sarischouli, and Michael Zellmann-Rohrer.

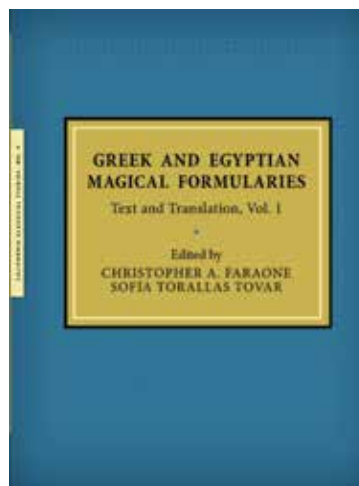


Figure 1. First volume of text and annotated translation of Greco-Egyptian magical handbooks.

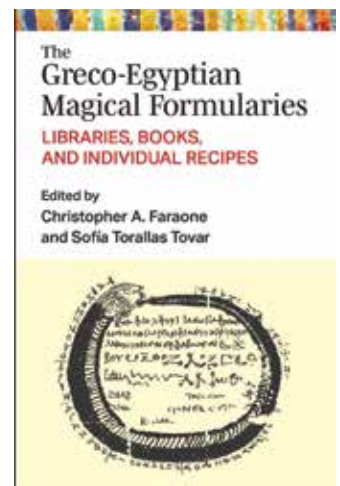


Figure 2. Stand-alone volume of essays on Greco-Egyptian magical formularies.

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Two volumes have been completed:

- C. A. Faraone and S. Torallas Tovar, eds. *Greek and Egyptian Magical Formularies: Text and Translation, Vol. 1*. Berkeley: California Classical Studies, 2022.
- C. A. Faraone and S. Torallas Tovar, eds. *The Greco-Egyptian Magical Formularies: Libraries, Books, and Individual Recipes*. New Texts from Ancient Cultures. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2022.