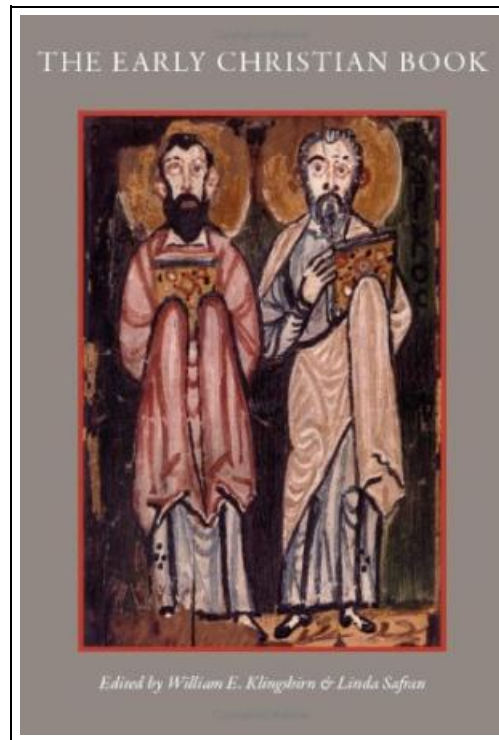


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THE EARLY CHRISTIAN BOOK (PAPERBACK)



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The Catholic University of America Press, United States, 2008. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.From the very beginning Christianity was a religion of books--a lived, but also a written faith. The essays in this collection focus on the ways in which books were produced, used, treasured, and conceptualized in the early Christian centuries (AD 100--600). During this crucial period, just after the New Testament writings were composed, Christianity grew from the religion of a tiny minority in the eastern Roman Empire to the religion of the empire itself, and beyond. To no small extent, this success was based on the power of its books. Written by experts in the field, the essays in this volume examine the early Christian book from a wide range of disciplines: religion, art history, history, Near Eastern studies, and classics. Topics include theories of the book, book production and use, books as sacred objects, and problems of gender, authorship, and authority. By examining Christian books from multiple perspectives, this book invites readers into the entire bookish world of early Christianity: a world of writing and reading practices, of copying and exchanging texts, of persuading and debating with books, and of representing holiness and power through codices of the law, the scriptures, and the lives of the saints. Essays cover a wide geographical range and discuss texts written all across the Mediterranean world--in Greek, Latin, Coptic, Syriac, and Hebrew. All ancient texts are translated into English, some for the first time. Intended for general readers, students, and scholars alike--anyone with a serious interest in early Christianity--this work brings together exciting currents of new research. It also opens up fresh questions and lines of inquiry in the study of this perennially important and fascinating subject. An introduction by Philip Rousseau provides a valuable...



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