

McClure, L. (2006) "Maternal Authority and Heroic Disgrace in Aeschylus' *Persae*," *TAPA* 136, 71-98.

An innovative interpretation of the centrality of Xerxes' mother to the plot and staging of Aeschylus' *Persae*. The article reclaims the queen mother as a positive figure who plays a pivotal role in framing the return of her son. Her presence, combined with recurrent maternal imagery, both intensifies her son's fall from power as well as underscores his fragility. Contributes not only to the study of women and gender in Greek drama, but to our understanding of historical women and their authority as mothers.