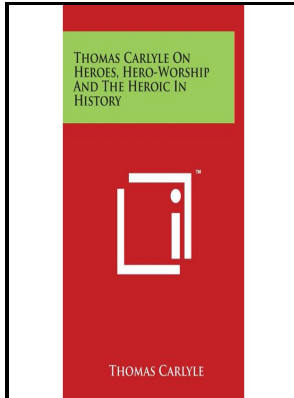


# On heroes, hero-worship, & the heroic in history

University of California Press - On Heroes, Hero Worship, and the Heroic in History/Lecture V



Description: -

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Hero worship

HeroesOn heroes, hero-worship, & the heroic in history

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## On Heroes, Hero Worship and the Heroic in History Quotes by Thomas Carlyle

It lies there clear, for whosoever will take the spectacles off his eyes and honestly look, to know! God's Creation, the religious people answer; it is the Almighty God's! On the whole, we make too much of faults; the details of the business hide thereal centre of it. But the thing a man does practically believe and this is often enough without asserting it even to himself, much less to others ; the thing a man does practically lay to heart, and know for certain, concerning his vital relations to this mysterious Universe, and his duty and destiny there, that is in all cases the primary thing for him, and creatively determines all the rest. It is the greatest invention man has ever made! Saxo Grammaticus, a very curious Northman of that same century, is still more unhesitating; scruples not to find out a historical fact in every individual mythus, and writes it down as a terrestrial event in Denmark or elsewhere.

### Hero

He is still bedridden and remarkably argumentative. A great free glance into the very deeps of thought. Spine may show signs of wear.

### Hero Worship

Very minimal damage to the cover including scuff marks, but no holes or tears. Nevertheless it is a clear fact that they did it. Light is the one thing wanted for the world.

### Thomas Carlyle, On Heroes and Hero

He was the Chief God to all the Teutonic Peoples; their Pattern Norseman;—in such way did they admire their Pattern Norseman; that was the fortune he had in the world. He, with his copy-rights and copy-wrongs, in his squalid garret, in his rusty coat; ruling for this is what he does , from his grave, after death, whole nations and generations who would, or would not, give him bread while living,—is a rather curious spectacle! So much of truth, only under an ancient obsolete vesture, but the spirit of it still true, do I find in the Paganism of old nations. But for these poor Sceptics there was no sincerity, no truth.

## **The Dangers Of Hero Worship**

He was a weak child, they told him: could he lift that Cat he saw there? The youths who distinguish themselves in the lower school are promoted into favorable stations in the higher, that they may still more distinguish themselves,—forward and forward: it appears to be out of these that the Official Persons, and incipient Governors, are taken. The empire of this Universe is divided between these two; they dwell apart, in perennial internecine feud.

## **On Heroes, Hero**

He is properly their god,—such god as they are fit for. Of Bentham I meant to say no harm.

## **ON HEROES, HERO**

We may call him Poet, Prophet, God;—in one way or other, we all feel that the words he utters are as no other man's words. It is the second phasis of Hero-worship: the first or oldest, we may say, has passed away without return; in the history of the world there will not again be any man, never so great, whom his fellowmen will take for a god. His arguments were sufficiently energetic yet unspecific so that all could feel inspired by them—he could serve as all things to all—an exhorter to a higher, more energetic view of things, a preacher of faith but not a specific faith.

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