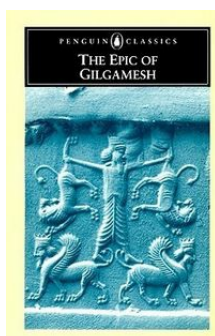


# THE EPIC OF GILGAMESH

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## Peek Inside the Book

They fell like wolves  
At each others throats,  
Like bulls bellowing,  
And horses gasping for breath  
That have run all day. Herbert Mason, The Epic of Gilgamesh

You have known, O Gilgamesh,  
What interests me,  
To drink from the Well of Immortality.  
Which means to make the dead  
Rise from their graves  
And the prisoners from their cells  
The sinners from their sins.  
I think love's kiss kills our heart of flesh.  
It is the only way to eternal life,  
Which should be unbearable if lived  
Among the dying flowers  
And the shrieking farewells  
Of the overstretched arms of our spoiled hopes. Herbert Mason, The Epic of Gilgamesh

## Reader's Opinions

Oral tradition is often characterised by repetition, using rhythm, cyclic forms, repeated phrases or figures, returning symbolic props etc. The Epic has elements of all of these strategies, and while it's a bit dull on the page, it's easy to imagine it being spectacularly performed (though of course, it may not have been performed at...

Are you mongrels ready to talk about Gilgamesh? Okay, let's talk about the king of heroes then!