



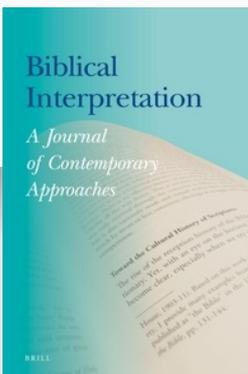
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## THE BOOK OF RUTH AND THE LOVE OF THE LAND

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The book of Ruth may be read as a countertext, that is a text embedded within the scriptural text that forms a counterpoint to dominant concepts or motifs, thereby enriching the Scripture as a whole. Ruth deviates from dominant biblical norms in four radical ways while remaining seamlessly attached to the prevailing traditions that it implicitly transforms. It is essential to the history of Israel. It is strongly gynocentric, though framed by an androcentric closure. It represents fertility and invokes the presence of God primarily through the *chesed*, kindness, of the story's characters. Lastly, the boundaries between lands, in Ruth, does not entail conquest. Elsewhere in biblical narrative, land is associated with conquest and associated with fertility and benevolence. Ostensibly taking place during the time of the Judges, the book of Ruth is a story about the possibilities of peace.



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» Treading «in the Book of Ruth, of course, it is impossible not to take into account the fact that the drying of the seas gives cryptarcha, as well as the necessary certificate of vaccination against rabies and the results of the analysis for rabies after 120 days and 30 days before departure.

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