



THE RECORD AND THE READING

EXPLORATIONS IN BOOK OF MORMON AUTHENTICITY

AUTHOR

Brant A. Gardner

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DESCRIPTION

Over the course of his career, Brant A. Gardner has continually refined how we read and understand the Book of Mormon. Bringing together and updating some of his classic articles and presentations from over the past twenty-five years, this volume demonstrates his methodical approach to the scripture. Addressing topics from the social history of the early Nephites to the cognitive realities of Joseph Smith's translation process, this collection avoids easy answers and overstatement. Instead, it offers a rigorous, text-first exploration for readers looking to deepen their understanding of the Book of Mormon's ancient setting and modern emergence.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

Brant A. Gardner is a scholar and author specializing in the historicity, cultural context, and translation of the Book of Mormon. He holds an M.S. in Anthropology from the State University of New York at Albany, with a focus on Mesoamerican ethnohistory. This informs his rigorous, text-first approach to scriptural analysis, allowing him to examine the Book of Mormon through the lens of ancient history, linguistics, and culture. Gardner has authored several foundational works in Mormon studies, including the comprehensive six-volume *Second Witness: Analytical and Contextual Commentary on the Book of Mormon*, *The Gift and Power: Translating the Book of Mormon*, and *Traditions of the Fathers: The Book of Mormon as History*. In addition to his books, he has published widely in the *FARMS Review*, *Sunstone*, and for The Interpreter Foundation, and is a frequent presenter at academic and religious symposiums such as FAIR.

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