

The Witchcraft Reader

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Witch Hunts
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The Reader's Digest
The Salem Witch Trials Reader
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The Witch Studies Reader
The Tablet
Encyclopedia of Occultism & Parapsychology
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Nandana Dutta
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the excellent reader offers a selection of the best historical writing on witchcraft exploring how belief in witchcraft began and the social and context in which this belief flourished

the witchcraft reader offers a wide range of historical perspectives on the subject of witchcraft in a single accessible volume exploring the enduring hold that it has on human imagination the witch trials of the late middle ages and the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries have inspired a huge and expanding scholarly literature as well as an outpouring of popular representations this fully revised and enlarged third edition brings together many of the best and most important works in the field it explores the origins of witchcraft prosecutions in learned and popular culture fears of an imaginary witch cult the role of religious division and ideas about the devil the gendering of suspects the making of confessions and the decline of witch beliefs an expanded final section explores the various revivals and images of witchcraft that continue to flourish in contemporary western culture equipped with an extensive introduction that foregrounds significant debates and themes in the study of witchcraft providing the extracts with a critical context the witchcraft reader is essential reading for anyone with an interest in this fascinating subject

magic witches and demons have drawn interest and fear throughout human history in this comprehensive primary source reader martha rampton traces the history of our fascination with

magic and witchcraft from the first through to the seventeenth century in over 80 readings presented chronologically rampton demonstrates how understandings of and reactions toward magic changed and developed over time and how these ideas were influenced by various factors such as religion science and law the wide ranging texts emphasize social history and include early merovingian law codes the picatrix lombard s sentences the golden legend and a midsummer night s dream by presenting a full spectrum of source types including hagiography law codes literature and handbooks this collection provides readers with a broad view of how magic was understood through the medieval and early modern eras rampton s introduction to the volume is a passionate appeal to students to use tolerance imagination and empathy when travelling back in time the introductions to individual readings are deliberately minimal providing just enough context so that students can hear medieval voices for themselves

whether they prefer blockbusters historical dramas or documentaries people learn much of what they know about history from the movies in american history goes to the movies w bryan rommel ruiz shows how popular representations of historic events shape the way audiences understand the history of the united states including american representations of race and gender and stories of immigration especially the familiar narrative of the american dream using films from many different genres american history goes to the movies draws together movies that depict the civil war the wild west the assassination of jfk and the events of 9 11 from the birth of a nation and gone with the wind to the exorcist and united 93 to show how viewers use movies to make sense of the past addressing not only how we render history for popular enjoyment but also how hollywood s renderings of america influence the way americans see themselves and how they make sense of the world

the book investigates the witch as a key rhetorical symbol in twentieth and twenty first century feminist memory politics activism and popular culture the witch demonstrates the inheritance of paradoxical pasts traversing numerous ideological memoryscapes this book is an examination of the ways that the witch has been deployed by feminist activists and writers in their political efforts in the twentieth century and how this has indelibly affected cultural memories of the witch and the witch trials and how this plays out in popular culture representations of the symbol through the twentieth and twenty first centuries consequently this book considers the relationship between popular culture and media activist politics and cultural memory using hauntological theories of memory and temporality and literary screen and cultural studies methodologies this book considers how popular culture remembers misremembers and forgets usable pasts and the uses and misuses of these memories for feminist politics given the ubiquity of the witch in popular culture politics and activism since 2016 this book is a timely examination of the range of meanings inherent to the figure and is an important study of how cultural symbols like the witch inherit paradoxical memories histories and politics the book will be valuable for scholars across disciplines including witchcraft studies feminist philosophy and history memory studies and popular culture studies

witch hunts are the result of gendered cultural and socioeconomic struggles over acute structural economic and social transformations in both the formation of gendered class societies and that of patriarchal capitalism this book combines political economy with gender and cultural analysis to explain the articulation of cultural beliefs about women as causing harm and struggles over patriarchy in periods of structural economic transformation it brings in field data from india and south east asia and incorporates a large body of works on witch hunts across geographies and histories witch hunts is a scholarly analysis of the human rights violation of women and its correction through

changes in beliefs knowledge practices and adaptation in structural transformation

strange histories presents a serious account of some of the most extraordinary occurrences of european and north american history and explains how they made sense to people living at the time using case studies from the middle ages and the early modern period this book provides fascinating insights into the world view of a vanished age and shows how such occurrences fitted in quite naturally with the common sense of the time explanations of these phenomena riveting and ultimately rational encourage further reflection on what shapes our beliefs today what made reasonable educated men and women behave in ways that seem utterly nonsensical to us today this question and many more are answered in this fascinating book

this book uses communities of women as a framework for reading women s experience rights and aspirations in assam and northeast india it explores the varying roles played by such communities in the formation of society the emergence of a women s public sphere and the representation of these communities in culture the essays in the volume study a host of women s communities including the mahila samiti jain women s organisations lekhika sanstha lesbian communities religious gatherings scientific and environmental groups women s collaborations through cookbooks as well as nebulous communities of victims of persecution they examine how women s communities are both empowering and transformational but may paradoxically also be regressive and static lucid analytical and rich with case studies this volume will be useful to scholars and researchers of gender studies sociology political science history and cultural studies particularly those interested in northeast india

this book re locates elizabeth gaskell s smaller stories in the literary and cultural context of the nineteenth century while gaskell is recognised as one of the major novelists of her time the short stories that make up a large proportion of her published work have not yet received the critical attention they deserve this study re claims them as an indispensable part of her literary output that enables us to better contextualize and assess her achievement holistically as a highly skilled woman of letters the periodicals in which gaskell s shorter pieces were published offer a microcosm of nineteenth century society and gaskell took full advantage of the medium to apply a consistent and barbed challenge to cultural and gendered constructs of roles and social behaviour although her eminently readable prose still flows easily in her short stories it is less likely to elide the sharp corners of domestic violence the disabling experiences of women the pain of death and loss and the complications of family life

offers readers an introduction to just under 30 critical and representative writings on the relationship between film and history these writings represent a combination of insights from film theory cultural studies historiography the history of cinema and film promotion and reception

breslaw history u of tennessee has created a fascinating reader for undergraduate classes in history anthropology religious studies or women s studies surveying the subject of witches witch hunts and the larger political context of both the sections which cover christian perspectives non christian beliefs diabolical possession issues of gender and a lengthy section on the salem witch trials each include an introduction by breslaw primary sources then secondary commentaries on the sources the latter are excerpts from books and articles annotation copyrighted by book news inc portland or

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the witch studies reader brings together a diverse group of scholars practitioners and scholar practitioners who examine witchcraft from a critical decolonial feminist perspective that decenters europe and departs from exoticizing and pathologizing studies of witchcraft

a compendium of information on the occult sciences magic demonology superstitions spiritism mysticism metaphysics psychical science and parapsychology with biographical and bibliographical notes and comprehensive indexes

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