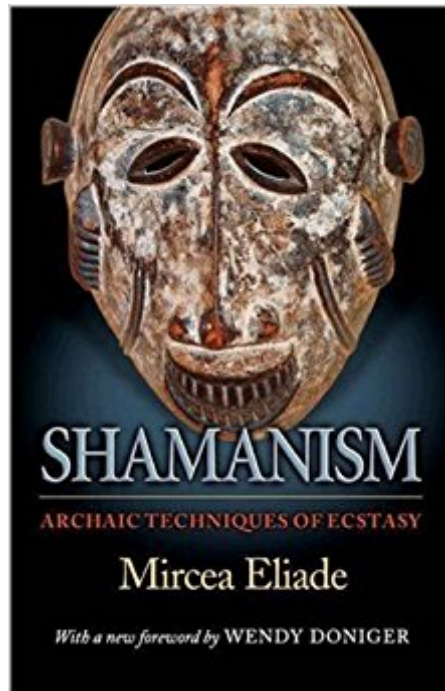




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Shamanism: Archaic Techniques Of Ecstasy (Bollingen Series (General))



Synopsis

First published in 1951, *Shamanism* soon became the standard work in the study of this mysterious and fascinating phenomenon. Writing as the founder of the modern study of the history of religion, Romanian émigré-scholar Mircea Eliade (1907-1986) surveys the practice of Shamanism over two and a half millennia of human history, moving from the Shamanic traditions of Siberia and Central Asia--where Shamanism was first observed--to North and South America, Indonesia, Tibet, China, and beyond. In this authoritative survey, Eliade illuminates the magico-religious life of societies that give primacy of place to the figure of the Shaman--at once magician and medicine man, healer and miracle-doer, priest, mystic, and poet. Synthesizing the approaches of psychology, sociology, and ethnology, *Shamanism* will remain for years to come the reference book of choice for those intrigued by this practice.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Eliade writes of the shamans with that masterly combination of sympathy and detachment. . . . [His] findings will almost certainly be echoed by great voices of the future."--New York Times Book Review
"Eliade is the most informative guide to the modern mythologies."--Frank Kermode, New Statesman
"[A] close and detailed yet comparative study of shamanism. . . . [It] has become the standard work on the subject and justifies its claim to be the first book to study the phenomenon over a wide field and in a properly religious context."--Times Literary Supplement
"Clearly the best work on Shamanism published so far."--The Review of Religion

Text: English, French (translation) --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Greatest book on shamanism yet written. If you want to learn about shamanism, across a wide array of practices, learn about rituals, find deeper patterns and meaning in the practice, this is the book for you. Essentially, if you have any kind of interest in shamanism that isn't satisfied by Google, then this is the book you're looking for. It goes beyond the lay understanding, by far. You may be a believer by the end.

The classic cross-cultural comparative study and ethnography of world shamanism. Dry as a bone. Dense and scholarly. I do not recommend it as an introduction to shamanism. Eliade also has a some difficulty rising above the moral demands of his personal world view. This is a pity. Still it is a treasure trove of information to be found nowhere else.

If you are at all serious about the subject or practice you have to read this book, it's all in here, it's an account that is totally un-newageified if that makes any sense, you can make up your own mind some of it's touching some of it's light and soul saving and some of it's just the makings of down and dirty ritual at it's most transparent that you will find in any book.

This was one of my first reads on Shamanism. Really enjoyed. If you haven't read Eliade before he can be a bit of an intimidating read. However, this book is enjoyable and worth the effort

heavy hitter ultra academic

If you're interested in reading an overview of applied primitive ritual and what it might mean- this might be the book for you.

This is a great book. It really gets into history, lore, and ancient knowledge on shamanism. For anybody who is curious about real facts on shamanism, this is a wonderful place to start.

Great book for the emerging ethnographer!!

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