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The World Of Myth: An Anthology



Synopsis

Since its publication in 1991, *The World of Myth* has provided thousands of students with a fascinating, wide-ranging introduction to world mythology. Building on the bestselling tradition of the first edition, the long-awaited second edition offers a uniquely comprehensive collection of myths from numerous cultures around the globe. Featuring a thematic organization, it helps students understand world mythology as a metaphor for humanity's search for meaning in a complex world. Author David Leeming presents a sweeping variety of myths whose origins range from ancient Egypt and Greece to the Polynesian islands and modern science. Students will be captivated by stories of great floods from the ancient Babylonians, Hebrews, Chinese, and Mayans; tales of apocalypse from India, the Norse, Christianity, and modern science; myths of the mother goddess from Native American Hopi culture and James Lovelock's Gaia; and much more. One of the most wide-ranging anthologies available, this volume includes myths from African, Australian Aboriginal, Aztec, Celtic, Chinese, Greek, Hittite, Japanese, Muslim, and Persian cultures.

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Customer Reviews

This is an update of the first edition, and it is quite different. Leeming has added a bunch of material to the first, and dropped some things. At first I was excited to get it, but it did not live up to my hopes. The first drawback is that the new stuff is often just analysis rather than the stories themselves. This seems pointless: why give analysis of something the reader isn't familiar with? Also, Leeming often just quotes himself from his other books, so the new material seems tired and sketchy. The other drawback is that he has dropped some of the best things, like *Hiawatha* and

some others. This is a shame, for they perfectly illustrated his whole archetype motif. I would recommend getting the first edition. Plus, it's lots cheaper, and you can buy them even cheaper used.

I had to buy this for my world mythology class and it was very useful! It is organized into types of myths and provides myths from different countries under those types. Gives you a great worldly knowledge and some stories are very enjoyable to read. I would recommend this to anyone who wants to open their philosophical mythical thinking abilities or need to write some papers about mythology.

came in on time and a good read. I needed this book for my culture and mythology class in Uni. The bookstore ran out of the books, so I ordered from here.

Got me through my mythology class and wasn't that painful.

It was a good book!

Great book.

It's a text book

Good Book!

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