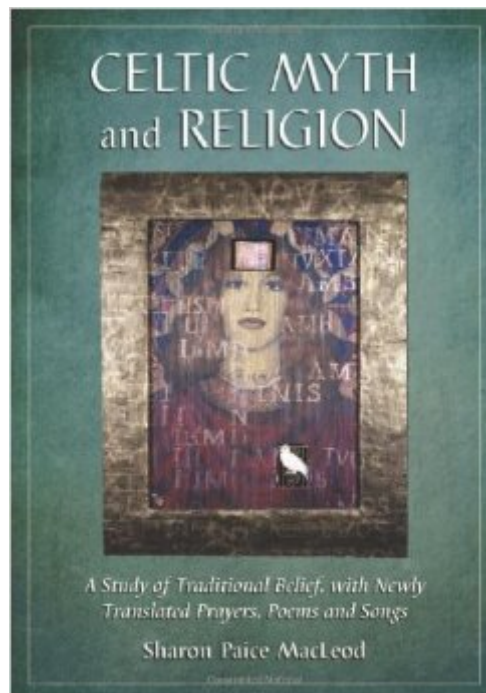


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Celtic Myth And Religion: A Study Of Traditional Belief, With Newly Translated Prayers, Poems And Songs



Synopsis

This book provides a comprehensive overview of Celtic mythology and religion, encompassing numerous aspects of ritual and belief. Topics include the presence of the Celtic Otherworld and its inhabitants, cosmology and sacred cycles, wisdom texts, mythological symbolism, folklore and legends, and an appreciation of the natural world. Evidence is drawn from the archaeology of sacred sites, ethnographic accounts of the ancient Celts and their beliefs, medieval manuscripts, poetic and visionary literature, and early modern accounts of folk healers and seers. New translations of poems, prayers, inscriptions and songs from the early period (Gaulish, Old Irish and Middle Welsh) as well as the folklore tradition (Modern Irish, Scottish Gaelic, Welsh, Cornish, Breton and Manx) complement the text. Information of this kind has never before been collected as a compendium of the indigenous wisdom of the Celtic-speaking peoples, whose traditions have endured in various forms for almost three thousand years.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Celtic Myth and Religion, A Study of Traditional Belief, with Newly Translated Prayers, Poems and Songs is a well-researched and richly diverse scholarly study of Celtic myth and religion, and an abundant treasure trove of information for both a novice, such as myself, or a student of Celtic history. Author Sharon Paice MacLeod's passion to learn more about her Celtic heritage led her, as a young person, to begin studying medieval history. She researched back in time to more ancient sources studying some of the Celtic languages, "which really 'cracked open' the hazelnuts of knowledge, revealing layers of understanding which would have otherwise remained hidden or

obscured." Thus was born Sharon MacLeod's pursuit of professional academic Celtic studies, which took her "into a path of marvels, mysteries and discovery." Celtic Myth and Religion contains three sections: Celtic Religion and Mythology, Celtic Shamanism and Wisdom Traditions, and Celtic Legends and Folklore. In the opening pages we learn that an early requisite to understanding the myths and religions of the Celtic peoples is "to identify some of the basic elements of those beliefs and practices.

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