

A Bibliography on Ritual Witchcraft, December 1970.

Except for works that postdate this list, any work on "witchcraft" not listed here should be assumed to be useless for one or more of the following reasons: it is about operative witchcraft, i.e., magic, not ritual witchcraft; it is about Christian demonology, not ritual witchcraft; it was written and published solely to make a fast buck.

For an explanation of the letter-number code, see the last page of this list. There are many books on occultism that are of some vague relevance to ritual witchcraft, but not much, and listing them would take much longer than they are worth. Also, some categories, such as F-3, would contain so many books that I have avoided using it. Furthermore, ~~of~~ some categories, such as AA-1, that I would have used are empty simply because there are, in fact, no books that qualify for them.

AA-2 Robert Graves, The White Goddess (Noonday, rev. 3d ed., 1966).

AA-3 Jane Ellen Harrison, Prolegomena to a Study of Greek Religion, and Themis and Epilegomena to a Study of Greek Religion (reprinted and overpriced by University Books, 1961).

A-1 T.C. Lethbridge, Witches (Citadel, 1963).

A-1 Margaret A. Murray, The Witch-Cult in Western Europe (Oxford, 1921; paper reprint, 1962).

A-1 Elliott Rose, A Razor for a Goat (Toronto, 1961).

A-2 Richard Cavendish, The Black Arts (Putnam, 1967).

A-3 Joseph Campbell, The Masks of God (Viking, 4 vols., 1959-68), especially vol. III, Occidental Mythology.

A-3 ~~King~~ King, Francis, Ritual Magic in England, 1387 to the Present

A-3 George Lyman Kittredge, Witchcraft in Old and New England (Harvard Univ. Press, 1929; Russell and Russell, 1956).

B-1 Charles Godfrey Leland, Aradia: The Gospel of the Witches of Tuscany (Scribner's, 1897; a paperback reprint is available from the Buckland Museum of Witchcraft and Magic, 111 Timberline Drive, Brentwood, L.I., N.Y. 11717).

- 3-1 Margaret A. Murray, The God of the Witches (Oxford, 1924; Doubleday paperback, 1960).
- 3-1 Jay Williams, The Witches (Random House, 1957; Bantam paperback, 1959). An excellent historical novel.
- 3-2 Pennethorne Hughes, Witchcraft (Longmans, Green, 1952; Pelican, 1965). This is the best of all the "rational-diabolist" histories of witchcraft.
- 3-2 Gillian Tindall, A Handbook on Witches (Atheneum, 1965).
- B-3 The Greater Key of Solomon, ed. and trans. by S. L. MacGregor Mathers, additional material and annotation by Dr L. W. de Laurence (de Laurence, Scott, 1914).
- 3-3 Israel Regardie, The Golden Dawn: An Encyclopedia of Practical Occultism (4 vols., 1937-40; Llewellyn, 2d, rev. ed., 2 vols., 1968).
- B-3 Shah, Sayed Idries, The Secret Lore of Magic: Books of the Sorcerers (Muller, 1957; paperback, 1969).
- B-3 Charles Williams, Witchcraft (Faber and Faber, 1941; Meridian paperback, 1959).
- C-1 Gerald B. Gardner, Witchcraft Today (Rider, 1954; Jarrolds, 3d, rev. ed., paper, 1968).
- C-1 Gerald B. Gardner, The Meaning of Witchcraft
- C-1 Justine Glass, Witchcraft: The Sixth Sense (Spearman's, 1965; paperback, 1968).
- C-1 Hans Holzer, The Truth About Witchcraft (Doubleday, 1969).
- C-1 John Huson, Mastering Witchcraft: A Practical Guide for Witches, Warlocks, and Covens (Putnam's, 1970).
- C-1 Marika Kriss, Witchcraft Past and Present for the Millions (Sherbourne, paper, 1970).
- C-1 Susy Smith, Today's Witches
- C-1 Doreen Valiente, Where Witchcraft Lives (Aquarian, 1962).
- C-3 Aleister Crowley, Magick in Theory and Practice (Castle, n.d.).
- C-3 Arkon Daraul, Secret Societies (Muller, 1961; Tandem paper, 1965).

- C-3 Charles Godfrey Leland, Etruscan Roman Remains in Popular Tradition (Scribner's, 1892). Contains some interesting background material for the Aradia. (Reprinted and overpriced by University Books, under the title Etruscan Magic and Occult Remedies, which is bullshit.)
- D-1 Patricia and Arnold Crowther, The Witches Speak (Douglas, Isle of Man: Athol Publications, 1965).
- D-1 June Johns, King of the Witches: The World of Alex Sanders (Coward-McCann, 1969). Miss Johns is the ghost-writer; she is merely ignorant. Had Sanders written this himself, I'd have rated it F or FF.
- D-3 Harry Wedeck, ~~xxxxxxx~~ A Treasury of Witchcraft (Philosophical Library, 1961; Citadel paperback, 1968). Useful only when it indicates what may be found in Roman literature.
- F-2* Louise Huebner, Power through Witchcraft
- F-2 C. H. Wallace, Witchcraft in the World Today
- FF-1 Sybil Leek, Diary of a Witch (Prentice-Hall, 1968). Miss Leek is a fraud, a charlatan, and a con artist. This book consists of two types of material: (1) flat lies, and (2) data stolen from the autobiography of Eileen Garrett.
- FF-2 Leo Martello, Weird Ways of Witchcraft
I bother to list this book only because it is an extreme: I doubt that anyone could write a worse book about anything. Martello glories in his ignorance, and admits out front he wrote this book simply to make a fast buck.

* I am being charitable here; the book should probably be rated FF.

Explanation of Bibliographic Coding

Categories:

- 1 - Works directly and mainly about ritual witchcraft.
- 2 - Works indirectly or partly about ritual witchcraft.
- 3 - Works not about ritual witchcraft, but of some real ~~value~~ or apparent relevance to it.

Ranks:

- AA - Works of genius; classics.
- A - First-rate works, well-written, in which facts are used intelligently, and which contains almost no bullshit.
- B - Second-rate works, competently written, but based on some untenable assumptions, and so containing a noticeable amount of bullshit (about 10 to 25%).
- C - Mediocre works, not very well-written, by an author not bright enough to use facts intelligently, and so containing much bullshit (about 50%)
- D - Poor works, badly written, and thoroughly unreliable, by an author who, though not purposely dishonest, is not bright enough to avoid some dishonest assumptions; ~~these works~~ contains about 75% bullshit.
- F - Useless works, badly written, containing no reliable information and about 90% bullshit, by a stupid and ignorant author who is, nevertheless, apparently not intentionally dishonest.
- FF - Totally worthless works, ~~containing~~ 100% bullshit, by a dishonest and avaricious author who wrote it merely ~~to~~ to make a fast buck.