

[FREE] Mythology: Myths, Legends and Fantasies

## Mythology: Myths, Legends and Fantasies

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**From Global Book Publishing : Mythology: Myths, Legends and Fantasies** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mythology: Myths, Legends and Fantasies:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy vicki chapmanNice big book and very interesting2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Coffee Table MythologyBy Daniel KrawiszThis is a vast collection of myths from around the world. There are sections on classical, European, Egyptian, African, Middle Eastern, Indian, Asian, and American mythology. It's enormous, both in physical size and in the amount of material included. The variety and beauty of the images included in this book is breathtaking. The authors have selected masterpieces by famous artists both ancient and modern, classic illustrations from 19th and 20th century books, outstanding art created by members of the cultures that believed these myths, and even some archeological that help give the stories some context. And just in case it is not already clear, this book is BIG. It is perfect as a coffee table book--virtually impossible to stop flipping through!In addition to the images, the great value of this book is in the huge variety of stories that have been included. It is the most comprehensive book on world mythology that I have seen. You can find a selection of important stories from just about anywhere in this book. The writing style is good and readable, but not overly witty or memorable--about what you might expect from a book written by a committee.My only criticism of this book is that ancient Greece is given an unnecessarily large proportion of the book. Ancient Greek mythology takes up roughly 1/3 of the book. It is of course appropriate that Greece should get the lion's share of material both because the Greek myths are the most well-preserved of any body of mythology and also because they have been more influential to the culture for whom this book was intended, but even still, I find the Greek bias to be excessive. The

Greek section includes virtually all the stories that have been preserved, other mythologies are related with selections of stories rather than comprehensively. For example, the section on Norse mythology was egregiously short. The ancient Sanskrit epics, the Mahaburata and the Ramayana, are not related with the same level of detail as are the Iliad and Odyssey. I wouldn't want to see the Greek section cut down; what they ought to have done is to make the book several hundred pages longer so as to retell the mythologies of other cultures at the same level of detail. My criticisms only show this book to be insufficient to satisfy all mythology needs--but this is not true of any book on any topic! Overall, I would recommend this book unhesitatingly to anyone with a strong interest in world mythology. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Exhaustive Collection By Mother Orella This item is quite difficult to obtain, however, should you find it manageable, it is quite a good read. Almost of college text-book quality considering everything it lists, this work is heavily illustrated with what appears to be museum-quality reproductions. It is extremely well written, comprehensively covering all the major myths, their origins, and even discussing some of the historical implications of these myths. The coherent assemblage of this tome covers all the major pantheons, giving you a liberal coverage of the globe's myths. If you desire to give yourself an (unaccredited) college-level knowledge of ancient mythology, I highly recommend this wonderful volume.