

[Free download] The Circle of Life: Rituals from the Human Family Album

## The Circle of Life: Rituals from the Human Family Album

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gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Circle of Life: Rituals from the Human Family  
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locate this publication. It is worth the cost and the wait. For anyone wishing for a glimpse of different cultural rituals  
of family, this is a must have for your collection.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great story told by  
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0 people found the following review helpful. review of Circle of LifeBy sarah liebermannI purchased this book as a  
supplement for a religious class exploring world traditions. This book is nothing short of gorgeous!

From Book flap: "Throughout the world, societies both modern and traditional celebrate our journey through life with  
astonishing rites of passage. Elaborately beautiful, deeply heartwarming, shocking, even life-threatening, these rituals  
distill the wisdom of the ages into comprehensible photogenic dramas - dramas which address nothing less than the  
meaning of birth, adolescence, marriage, aging and death. "In the tradition of Edward Steichen's the Family of Man,  
The Circle of Life shows us not only the extraordinary range of human ritual, but the common ties that bind us. Here,  
through the eyes of master photographers, we see that mothers in Yemen, Micronesia and Navajo societies respond to

the birth of a baby with rituals that are strikingly similar. St. Louis debutantes and Mende girls in West Africa mark their entrance into society with the same symbols. Los Angeles street gangs and Sudanese warriors initiate new members with equivalent ceremonies. Even communities with little outside contact, like the Dani of Papua New Guinea and the country folk of Madagascar, honor their dead in unusual, yet similar ways. "David Cohen, former director of the Day in the Life series, assembled a group of top photographers, researchers, anthropologists and professors of philosophy and religion to search widely diverse cultures for common patterns of belief and ritual. Focusing on what French anthropologists Arnold van Gennep first called "rites of passage," the team compiled tens of thousands of images containing a rich panoply of rituals from seventy-three countries. "The fruit of their efforts is *The Circle of Life*, a stunning collection of photographs by Eve Arnold, Bruno Barbey, Sebastio Salgado, Mary Ellen Mark, Raghu Rai, Susan Meiselas, Douglas Kirkland, Cristina Garcia Rodero, Daniel Laine, Barry Lewis and nearly a hundred other top photographers from around the world."

From Publishers Weekly Full-page photographs document rites of passage common in cultures as disparate as those of New Guinea and New Jersey in this disappointingly two-dimensional overview. From Greek Orthodox infant baptisms by water and aboriginal Australian baptisms by smoke through initiation rites of adolescents in an Indonesian tribal community and an East Los Angeles girls' gang, images of such rituals as marriages, childbirth, ordinations and funerals are accompanied by quotes from C. G. Jung, Joseph Campbell, W. B. Yeats and others. Brief paragraphs elucidating origins of the ceremonies depicted add punch to the few photos in which subjects are specifically identified. An introduction by novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez and afterword by naturalist writer Peter Matthiessen expand upon the universality and importance of the rites of transformation for both individuals and societies. Cohen is former director of the Day in the Life series. First serial rights to Life magazine. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. From School Library Journal YA-- A book about births, initiations and puberty rites, weddings, retirements, and death ceremonies as they are observed and celebrated throughout the world from the most primitive to the most advanced societies. Illustrated with striking full-color photographs by eminent photographers, this large-format book is full of fascinating facts and will be a constant source of wonder and delight to students of anthropology, sociology, and human behavior. A moving paean to the universality of human experience. --Richard Lisker, Fairfax County Pub. Lib., VA Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal The circle of life--birth, initiation, marriage, and death--is chronicled as anthropology and as photographic moment in this big, ambitious book, edited by the director of the popular "Day in the Life" series. Gabriel Garcia Marquez wrote the introduction and Peter Matthiessen contributed the afterword. The large doses of corporate funding, 35,000 photo submissions by 400 photographers, and a lengthy list of academic advisors have yielded this book an exhibition, and a serial in the October 1991 issue of Life magazine. In the book, the theme of life passages in diverse cultures is best portrayed when photographs of Third World rituals are positioned next to their Western counterparts. Much will be written and spoken about this big book and the big team that constructed it, whose efforts are reminiscent of Cecil B. DeMille. Thankfully, the simple honesty and reporting of this book's photographs remain its strength. Recommended for academic, museum, public, and school libraries. --David Bryant, Belleville P.L., N.J. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.