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Powers Of The Orishas: Santeria And The Worship Of Saints



Synopsis

During the slave trade, the Yoruba of southwestern Nigeria who were brought to Cuba were forbidden the practice of their religion by their Spanish masters. In order to continue their magical and religious observances safely the slaves opted for the identification and disguise of the Orishas with some of the Catholic Saints worshipped by the Spaniards. In this manner they were able to worship their deities under the very noses of the Spaniards without danger of punishment.

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Customer Reviews

Good book I wish it was bigger with more info.

Full of information and a easy read

This book is a great primer for knowledge of the Orishas, but it's better if you've already been introduced to them. I recommend reading another book about the Religion before reading this. This is a great guidebook on the Orishas to always have when it's time to do ebbo, adimu, or a feast day.

If you're interested in Santeria, and perhaps Voudou and related traditions, this is an enormously helpful reference book. Each of the Orishas is listed with corresponding Catholic saints (and their detailed histories and feast days), colors, days of the week, offerings, necklaces, and more. You'll also find a few basic rituals for purposes related to each Orisha. For anyone looking for a broad view of religious beliefs and practices, and how they connect, universally, this is essential reading. This is

an important addition to your library, for information that is unique, easy-to-use, and adds substance to the mysteries of Afro-Caribbean traditions.

Good

It has good information about the Orishas that I did not get to read in other books!

No big secrets revealed. No harm, no foul. General information, yet for a newcomer, enough to explain the basics. (Worked for me when I was a "newbie") Sadly, for aleyos, there really isn't anyone pounding down the door to teach them about the Religion. One has to start somewhere. Until there is a "Santeria for Beginners" Class, books and what can be ferretted out on-line (Buyer, Beware!) will be a couple of ways for newcomers to learn.

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