

Eyes Of The Superstitions

We are all superstitious, even those who affirm the opposite. Superstition is natural, it resides in all of us: it represents the human answer to rare, singular, and mysterious phenomena. All that cannot be explained or resolved in a logical manner disturbs the human spirit, promoting many to devise remedies that, while irrational, can restore hope and security. It is fear, therefore, that generates, feeds, and preserves superstition. Not surprisingly, religion with its dogmas, natural phenomena with its mysteries, and life's cycle with its uncertainties, have always been a source of superstitious beliefs. Andrea Malossini's book - which collects over one thousand superstitious - reports, in an orderly manner, Italian superstitious beliefs along with a brief description of their origin and meaning. The intent is to give the reader an idea of ??Italian superstitions, in a smooth and easy way, hoping, thanks to the suggestion in the titles, to arouse curiosity. This small book is therefore not necessarily devoted to superstitious people, but to all of those who, perhaps out of habit, want to know why, when they see an upside down piece of bread on the table, they turn it over, or why, not being happy to have spilled some oil, they also throw a handful of salt over their shoulder. Author A firmly convinced rationalist and agnostic, Andrea Malossini is not superstitious and does not believe in the absurd and irrational rites suggested by superstitions. Luckily, he was born on a Thursday, of an even year, of a non-leap year, and apprentice on a Wednesday, therefore, undoubtedly, born under the best omens. Maybe for this reason- and for his inexhaustible curiosity towards the things that appear to the many as strange, mysterious and incomprehensible- he has been studying, collecting and writing for many years on topics regarding superstition and witchcraft without the fear of being charmed by them. Among the very few superstitions that he grants himself- more to keep family-peace than anything else- there are the never upside-down bread on the table and never place the hat on the bed rules. On the subject of popular traditions he cooperated with several newspapers and periodicals. He was the author of the moon weekly almanac on the Sunday television program "Linea Verde" broadcasted on Rai Uno; today he is the author and voice of the weekly column "Lune e Cieli" broadcasted live on the Television station TeleSanterno- Odeon TV. He published over ten books for the publishing company Garzanti , A.Vallardi e Area51 Publishing, among which: "Manuale di stregoneria" (Witchcraft Manual), "Le ricette delle streghe" (Witches Recipes), "Breve storia delle streghe" (Witches: a brief history), "Dizionario delle superstizioni italiane" (Dictionary of Italian superstitions), "Gli unti del Signore" (God's Anointed), "Dizionario dei Santi patroni" (Dictionary of Patron Saints).

This classic and thoroughly delightful reference explores the origins of superstitions. You'll discover the origins behind charms, spells, fairy lore and legend, folk remedies and customs of birth, marriage, and death. This collection will be a staple in your library for years and generations to come.

This collection investigates the origins of our most intriguing old-fashioned superstitions, many of which we still find ourselves abiding by today. Hundreds of the beliefs passed down through the generations have their foundations in our ancestors' efforts to ward off evil, which they blamed for hardship, illness and injustice in times when life was, as often as not, 'nasty, brutish and short'. Black Cats and Evil Eyes sets these superstitions in their historical and social context, explaining how fear of the Devil, demons, evil spirits and witchcraft drove people to arm themselves with rituals and talismans to repel dark forces and allow them to live long and healthy lives. In examining many of our common superstitions, this book illuminates the customs, beliefs and practices that link us to an ancient, and often darker, human past.

A Book of Old Fashioned Superstitions

Volume I

Curses and Their Reversals

Compiled from Original and Other Sources. In Three Volumes. Scandinavian Popular Traditions and Superstitions

10,000 You Really Need

Baptism, Superstitions, and the Supernatural

*If you're about to get on a plane, what should you do--and avoid doing--to assure a safe flight? What does it mean if you see an ambulance zoom by? And is a black cat always unlucky? Though we may say we don't believe in superstitions, they have an unmistakable power...and to be on the safe side, most of us secretly knock wood, don't walk under ladders, and avoid opening that umbrella indoors. Broken up into categories such as animals, astrology, dreams, and flowers, this fascinating dictionary will alert you to thousands of beliefs, omens, and proverbs that you may never have known. Here's just a few: * A dog hiding under a table means a storm is brewing. * To see an image of your future spouse, eat a whole salted herring in three mouthfuls, go to bed without a drink, and say nothing. * Scatter ashes over the roof of a house to protect it against lightning. * Bringing an axe into the home presages death. * When the aurora borealis--the colored lights that flash in the northern sky--appear, spirits are cavorting in heaven and a war is imminent. * Eating peanuts before an auto race brings bad luck. Among the many other subjects: clothing, days of the year, food, gemstones, herbs, hobbies, illness and medicine, marriage numbers, plants and trees, professions, and the weather.*

Cross your fingers, knock on wood, and clutch your rabbit's foot a little tighter. In this charming and endlessly diverting

*book, Harry Oliver delves into the stories behind the traditions and superstitions that permeate our everyday lives, unearthing the fascinating histories of these weird and wonderful notions. So before you search for any more four-leaf clovers, worry about the next Friday the 13th, or avoid walking under any ladders, dip into this amazing tome and discover: *Why breaking a mirror brings seven years of bad luck. *The best day of the week to ask for a favor. *Why you should never jump over a child in Turkey.*

The Treatise of Hernando Ruiz de Alarcón is one of the most important surviving documents of early colonial Mexico. It was written in 1629 as an aid to Roman Catholic churchmen in their efforts to root out the vestiges of pre-Columbian Aztec religious beliefs and practices. For the student of Aztec religion and culture is a valuable source of information. Hernando Ruiz de Alarcón was born in Taxco, Guerrero, Mexico, in the latter part of the sixteenth century. He attended the University of Mexico and later took holy orders. Sometime after he was assigned to the parish of Atenango, he began writing the Treatise for his fellow priests and church superiors to use as a guide in suppressing native "heresy." With great care and attention to detail Ruiz de Alarcón collected and recorded Aztec religious practices and incantations that had survived a century of Spanish domination (sometimes in his zeal extracting information from his informants through force and guile). He wrote down the incantations in Nahuatl and translated them into Spanish for his readers. He recorded rites for such everyday activities as woodcutting, traveling, hunting, fishing, farming, harvesting, fortune telling, lovemaking, and the curing of many diseases, from toothache to scorpion stings. Although Ruiz de Alarcón was scornful of native medical practices, we know now that in many aspects of medicine the Aztec curers were far ahead of their European counterparts.

Superstitions of the Sea

The Encyclopedia of Superstitions

Letters on the Truths Contained in Popular Superstitions

Amulets and Magic

Researches Into Chinese Superstitions

Eyes of the Superstitions

A scholarly study of the beliefs and customs regarding the evil eye, the belief that persons and animals could cast spells or inflict misfortune through the power of looking at another person.

The study of archaeological subjects is increasing in interest. Recent disclosures concerning the early condition and history of the human race have directed much attention to these subjects. Man's oral history crystallized in myths and superstitions reflects much light into a past which written history has not penetrated. Mythology is, therefore, a very important branch of anthropological science.

Mythology in its broadest definition includes all pagan religious beliefs, commonly called superstitions, and cannot be confined to collections of fables and traditions, which are the folk-lore of peoples. It is the aim of this book to contribute facts to show the homogeneity of man's religious beliefs. Although the New World is the field of research in the present volume, the rudimentary forms of belief are shown to be the same there as elsewhere, and their systematic development is also the same.

Baptism, Superstitions, and the Supernatural by Rev. Dr. Lesley G. Anderson is a book uniquely, and unquestionably, one of the most informative and remarkable of its type. The sacrament of baptism is undoubtedly to this day an exceedingly controversial sacrament of the Christian Church. The continuing differing debates, arguments, and views about adult (believers') versus infant baptism are examined. Superstitions and the supernatural associated with this sacrament are given adequate attention in addition to the many other informative factors relating to this sacrament. Further, this sacrament is examined as a scriptural, psychological, theological, and social reality. The introduction of baptism as a liturgical phenomenon highlights the educational quality of this book as it takes the reader into the interesting and fascinating areas of baptism of blood, baptism by fire, baptism of the dead, baptism of the Holy Spirit, and baptism in the name of Jesus only. In addition, this book brings to the fore an intrinsic excitement and understanding about the symbols and symbolisms, images and mysteries, signs and wonders associated with this sacrament. The role of the Holy Spirit and the centrality of Jesus in the baptismal act are of importance recognized. If symbolically baptism means dying to sin and rising to new life with Christ, does this apply only to adult believers? This book explores the question against the background of research conducted in the Central American country of Belize that unearthed the views and beliefs of laypersons. The reach of the work extends beyond Belize, and Methodist traditions are compared with contrasting beliefs and practices of other denominations. Popular superstitions associated with baptism are also explored as well as the impact of African cultural practices on Christian theology in the lived experience of Caribbean peoples. Although this research was conducted in Belize, it is borderless and boundless. Of vital interest is the exploration of this sacrament in African religious beliefs and cultural practices. According to Professor Neville Duncan, former director of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, the book is "theologically and sociologically stimulating...while written from the Methodist perspective...the issues raised will resonate with all Christian denominations." All denominations noted in this book are given their due respect regardless of their beliefs and/or baptismal practices.

The Classic Account of an Ancient Superstition

Western Scottish Folklore & Superstitions

Cassell's Dictionary of Superstitions

Intuition and the Evil Eye

and why we have them

On the Truths Contained in Popular Superstitions

Since 1540, when the Spanish conquistadors came north to search for the fabled cities of gold, the Superstition Mountains have drawn the adventurers, the gold seekers, the best of the human race & also its worst. Hundreds of people have gone into the rugged mountains over the years & have disappeared, never to be heard from again. The EYES OF THE SUPERSTITIONS is a fictitious interpretation of one person's thoughts of what might have happened to the many people

that have disappeared. The setting for this book is in modern day Arizona & involves a search & rescue in Superstition Mountains that are steeped in the lore of the LOST DUTCHMAN GOLD. A brother has vanished, drawing an investigative reporter, a deputy sheriff & an Indian medicine man into the haunting mountains to find him. They encounter a subterranean culture living within the core of the mountains & they are given technology & powers to benefit mankind before they are allowed to return to the outside world. One of the best "FEEL GOOD" books you will ever read. Available from AZ-TEX Publishing, P.O. Box 27965, Tempe, AZ 85285-7965; 602/431-9167, 800/745-2716, FAX 602/431-9549.

Jewish Magic and Superstition is a comprehensive review of Jewish magic from the 10th to the 15th century. Many well-known Jewish traditions are explained in the book, as well as things like Golems, Succubi, the Lillim, other magical creatures, talismans, amulets, charms, and other curious magical objects. There are also chapters dealing with dream interpretation, medical beliefs, necromancy, and other forms of divination.

Superstitions have captured our imaginations for centuries but we are often unaware of where they came from and why. In her new book Superstition, Sally Coulthard explores the history and background of 50 of these fascinating cultural behaviours, how they affected our everyday, and how many of these beliefs still permeate modern life. From opening umbrellas indoors to not putting new shoes on the table, Sally gets under the skin of these peculiar pastimes and reveals how they started and why they became so popular.

Jewish Magic and Superstition

Treatise on the Heathen Superstitions that Today Live Among the Indians Native to this New Spain, 1629

An Account of this Ancient and Widespread Superstition

The Origin, Nature and Consequences of Superstition, Divination and Magic, and the Full Redemption Through the Cross

The Origins and Practices of Superstition

Classic text describes many afflictions said to result from being "stared at" — as observed from the days of the ancient Egyptians up to the late 19th century. Descriptions of gestures, charms, incantations, and other protective acts used to ward off power of the "evil eye." 199 illustrations.

First Published in 2001. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

Across all cultures and spanning centuries, superstitions rooted in cultural legends and myths have formed and influenced daily life. Superstitions: A Handbook of Folklore, Myths, and Legends from around the World explains how and why these legends and the associated behaviors behind them developed, accompanied by beautiful illustrations. In this definitive reference, you'll learn the fascinating and often bizarre histories of a comprehensive range of superstitions from around the world. For example, the belief that one will have seven years' bad luck if you break a mirror is said to come from the Romans, who were the first to create glass mirrors. And in Japanese culture, cutting your nails at night is thought to lead to a quick death because the two phrases sound similar. You'll also find out why some superstitions vary from culture to culture. For instance, the "unlucky" number 13 is considered a bad omen in some countries, like the US, and "lucky" in other countries, like Italy—where the number 17 is considered unlucky. The information is organized by country, so you can easily investigate the popular superstitions linked to your own or other specific ethnic heritage or cultural identity. Satisfy your burning curiosity with this complete guide to superstitions, folklore, and myths. The Mystical Handbook series from Wellfleet takes you on a magical journey through the wonderful world of spellcraft and spellcasting. Explore a new practice with each volume and learn how to incorporate spells, rituals, blessings, and cleansings into your daily routine. These portable companions feature beautiful foil-detail covers and color-saturated interiors on a premium paper blend. Other titles in the series include: Witchcraft, Love Spells, Moon Magic, Knot Magic, and House Magic.

Unlucky Charms

The Origin Of Primitive Superstitions

Encyclopedia of Superstitions

The Origins of Popular Superstitions and Customs

Italian Superstitions

The Mammoth Book of Superstition

The first book to deal with the history and source of complete superstitions which exist, or have existed among British people throughout the world. They are presented in encyclopaedic form, so that any individual superstition, or collective superstitions related to one particular subject, can be found under a specified heading. Some 2300 superstitions are listed in a work of over 230,000 words. Many of the earliest books, particularly those dating back to the 1900s and before, are now extremely scarce and increasingly expensive. Home Farm Books are republishing these classic works in affordable, high quality, modern editions, using the original text and artwork.

Combining captivating sketches by his brother, artist Ben Clary, and his own prized ghost ship portrayals, Jim Clary presents a compelling and riveting digest of beliefs, customs, and mystery in Superstitions of the Sea. Clary focuses on the vast array of strange, mythical, and often comical beliefs of mariners from ancient times to the present. Collecting the various topics for years. Clary found that maritime superstition was weaved throughout every fabric of his study. So interesting was the folklore that it often lured him far away from his subject search and held him spellbound for hours at a time. Clary offers a unique and encompassing classification of maritime superstitions, including anecdotes on: animals, burial, charms, demons, evil eyes, figureheads, ghost ships, hexes, icebergs, Jonahs, knots, launchings, myths, navigation, omens, people, romance, shipwrecks, triangles, the unexplained, Vikings, and weather phenomena. He combed through countless age-old volumes and interviewed today's sailors to bring to the reader incredible yarns and unbelievable recorded fact enshrouded in mystery.

Super Superstitions checks out the strangest superstition in the world—stories too strange to

be made up! The book is written with a high interest level to appeal to a more mature audience with a lower level of complexity for struggling readers. Clear visuals and colorful photographs help with comprehension. Fascinating information and wild facts that will hold the readers' interest are conveyed in considerate text for older readers, allowing for successful mastery of content. A table of contents, glossary, and index all enhance comprehension and vocabulary. The Original Texts with Translations and Descriptions of a Long Series of Egyptian, Sumerian, Assyrian, Hebrew, Christian, Gnostic and Muslim Amulets and Talismans and Magical Figures ...

Black Cats and Evil Eyes

A Caribbean Perspective

A Book of Old-Fashioned Superstitions

Superstitions

A Handbook of Folklore, Myths, and Legends from around the World

Rather than providing a dictionary of superstitions, of which there are already numerous excellent, exhaustive and, in many cases, academic works which list superstitions from A to Z, Bainton gives us an entertaining flight over the terrain, landing from time to time in more thought-provoking areas. He offers an overview of humanity's often illogical and irrational persistence in seeking good luck and avoiding misfortune. While Steve Roud's two excellent books - The Penguin Dictionary of Superstitions and his Pocket Guide - and Philippa Waring's 1970 Dictionary concentrate on the British Isles, Bainton casts his net much wider. There are many origins which warrant the full back story, such as Friday the thirteenth and the Knights Templar, or the demonisation of the domestic cat resulting in 'cat holocausts' throughout Europe led by the Popes and the Inquisition. The whole is presented as a comprehensive, entertaining narrative flow, though it is, of course, a book that could be dipped into, and includes a thorough bibliography. Schoenberg, who developed the twelve-tone technique in music, was a notorious triskaidekaphobe. When the title of his opera Moses und Aaron resulted in a title with thirteen letters, he renamed it Moses und Aron. He believed he would die in his seventy-sixth year ($7 + 6 = 13$) and he was correct; he also died on Friday the thirteenth at thirteen minutes before midnight. As Sigmund Freud wrote, 'Superstition is in large part the expectation of trouble; and a person who has harboured frequent evil wishes against others, but has been brought up to be good and has therefore repressed such wishes into the unconscious, will be especially ready to expect punishment for his unconscious wickedness in the form of trouble threatening him from without.' Originally published in 1903, this is an excellent source for an historical perspective on superstitions and folklore. Hundreds of entries are arranged alphabetically within broad subject categories. The original subtitle reads: "A comprehensive library of human belief and practice in the mysteries of life through more than six thousand years of experience and progress including the fundamental intuitions and instincts underlying the structure of civilization, theology, mythology, demonology, magic, witchcraft, esoteric philosophy, signs, omens, oracles, sorceries, auguries, divinations, prophecies, methods and means employed in revealing fortune and fate, systems and formulas for the use of psychical forces, hypnotism, clairvoyance, telepathy, spiritualism, character reading and character building with all the known powers and wonders of mind and soul, illustrated with numerous ancient and modern designs and thoroughly indexed."

Do you touch wood for luck, or avoid hotel rooms on floor thirteen? Would you cross the path of a black cat, or step under a ladder? Is breaking a mirror just an expensive waste of glass, or something rather more sinister? Despite the dominance of science in today's world, superstitious beliefs - both traditional and new - remain surprisingly popular. A recent survey of adults in the United States found that 33 percent believed that finding a penny was good luck, and 23 percent believed that the number seven was lucky. Where did these superstitions come from, and why do they persist today? This Very Short Introduction explores the nature and surprising history of superstition from antiquity to the present. For two millennia, superstition was a label derisively applied to foreign religions and unacceptable religious practices, and its primary purpose was used to separate groups and assert religious and social authority. After the Enlightenment, the superstition label was still used to define groups, but the new dividing line was between reason and unreason. Today, despite our apparent sophistication and technological advances, superstitious belief and behaviour remain widespread, and highly educated people are not immune. Stuart Vyse takes an exciting look at the varieties of popular superstitious beliefs today and the psychological reasons behind their continued existence, as well as the likely future course of superstition in our increasingly connected world. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

Plus: Omens, Superstitions and the Removal of the Evil Eye

Northern Mythology, comprising the principal popular traditions and superstitions of Scandinavia, North Germany, and the Netherlands, etc

Encyclopædia of Superstitions, Folklore, and the Occult Sciences of the World

The Natural History of a Superstition

With an Account of Mesmerism

Superstition

Eyes of the Superstitions

Discover the old folklore of Western Scotland. Even at the turn of the 19th century, Scots kept alive a rich trove of superstitions and beliefs, from cradle to grave. In the pages of this classic volume of lore, readers can discover a wealth of crafted charms, folk-medicine, fortune-telling, second sight as well as the eerie threats of witchcraft that worried local men and women around Glasgow.

WHAT IS THE UNIVERSE TRYING TO TELL YOU? LET THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL CURSE BREAKERS SHOW YOU HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM EVIL AND ATTRACT GOOD LUCK! Do you sometimes feel like you've locked horns with the Devil? Does it seem like you've been jinxed - that someone has put the double whammy on you? Now you can finally be free of all misfortune as Good Luck is just around the corner! For centuries, people have been closely observing the world around them in the belief that certain events could foretell the future. These signs are called Omens, and their meanings have been handed down from generation to generation. Did you know it is considered good luck when you find a spider in your house at night? Or that a crowing hen signifies bad fortune? Many people still think that carrying a magnetic lodestone will protect them from evil and curses. This work will teach you how to remove ALL Hexes from your life - Surround yourself with Pure White Light and the Blessings of the Creator. There are Laws of the Universe, designed to protect you and cancel out all negativity from those who wish you bad luck and misfortune. The Evil Eye, Curses, Black Magic will never trouble you again! Here are literally dozens of

curses and superstitions along with the spells and rituals that will enable you to vanquish bad luck, know the future and create a better, happier life for you and your loved ones. Includes such popular superstitions as: -- Signs of Good or Bad Luck - The meaning of dogs howling and owls hooting - Signs of approach bad health and death - How to remove and protect yourself from the Evil Eye - Special Birthdays - Card playing and gambling - The meaning of Lucky Gemstones and MUCH MORE!

Encyclopaedia of Superstitions - A History of Superstition

Northern Mythology, Comprising the Principal Popular Traditions and Superstitions of Scandinavia, North Germany and the Netherlands

Black Cats & Evil Eyes

The Origins of Old Wives' Tales and Superstitions in Our Everyday Lives

From Rabbits' Feet to Friday the 13th

Popular Beliefs and Superstitions from North Carolina

Alphabetically arranged entries provide coverage of a wide range of ancient and modern fears, beliefs, and taboos, explaining the rituals, charms, and talismans invoked by the superstitions.

Have you ever rubbed a frog on your freckles? Trivia fans and fun fact fanatics will adore this fascinating, flickable encyclopedia of superstitions! Richard Webster presents over five hundred of the most obscure, curious, and just-plain-freaky superstitions of the Western world. Discover batty beliefs about baldness, beans, and the Bermuda Triangle, and peculiar practices regarding hiccups, hearses, and hunchbacks. From modern myths to centuries-old lore, The Encyclopedia of Superstitions offers a wealth of wonderfully weird beliefs on just about every topic you can imagine: Holidays Birth Death Weddings Colors Gemstones Trees Flowers Fairies Weather Numbers Animals Birds Insects Household Items Zodiac Signs Gambling The Human Body Food Praise: "[T]his reference makes for compulsive browsing."—Publishers Weekly

Rory Chasen, manager of the Lucky Dog Boutique in Destiny, California, hopes her new line of good-luck doggy toys will be a hit, especially the stuffed rabbits with extra-large feet. The timing of the line's debut proves ill-fated, though, as several local shops—including Rory's—are ransacked and vandalized with spilled salt and other unlucky charms. The most likely culprit is disgruntled real estate agent Flora Curtival, whose issues with the town give her a motive. But after Flora is murdered and one of Rory's toy rabbits is found with the body, Rory needs all the luck she can get while trying to determine just who killed the superstitious vandal. Praise: "This is one author who has a great gift for telling a great tale that both humans and animals can enjoy."—Suspense Magazine

A Collection of Superstitions and Strange Happenings

Black Cats and White Rabbits The History of Common Folk Beliefs

Black Cats & Four-Leaf Clovers

Eyes Opened to Satan's Subtlety

Super Superstitions

The Evil Eye

Some people casually say 'touch wood' when they speak of something they hope will happen. Others won't allow peacock feathers into the house. And almost anyone who finds a four-leafed clover will treasure it and keep it. Why? Some superstitions are so ancient and have been practised for so long that they have come to be regarded as just harmless and widely observed 'customs', without people realising they are basically superstitions. For instance, many people wouldn't bother tossing spilled salt over their left shoulder or avoid walking under a ladder. But they happily continue to wear a wedding ring and blow out candles on a birthday cake. They don't know why — 'it's just a custom'. But both are actually superstitions. In a book full of surprises and revelations, Max Cryer explains the origins of many of the things we commonly say and observe and why we continue to include them in our lives: kissing under the mistletoe, the unlucky number thirteen, the significance of the bridal bouquet, saying 'bless you' after sneezing, the hanging of a horseshoe, 'the Scottish play', the danger in opals, the Leap Year proposal ... so many aspects of our lives are coloured by superstition. Now you can discover the reasons for them in a book that is both witty and informative. Superstitions will provide many 'Eureka' moments and settle many family disputes.