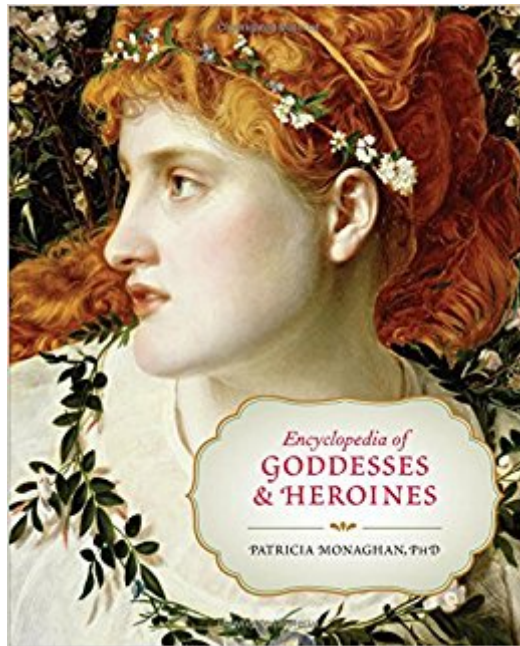




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Encyclopedia Of Goddesses And Heroines



Synopsis

More Than 1,000 Goddesses and Heroines from around the World Groundbreaking scholar Patricia Monaghan spent her life researching, writing about, and documenting goddesses and heroines from all religions and all corners of the globe. Her work demonstrated that from the beginning of recorded history, goddesses reigned alongside their male counterparts as figures of inspiration and awe. Drawing on anthropology, folklore, literature, and psychology, Monaghan's vibrant and accessible encyclopedia covers female deities from Africa, the eastern Mediterranean, Asia and Oceania, Europe, and the Americas, as well as every major religious tradition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Who knew she had so many names?" Vicki Nobel says in her endorsement of the Encyclopedia of Goddesses & Heroines by Patricia Monaghan. She's referring to the Goddess known by different names, in various forms throughout time and the many cultures of the world. The book is a paperback version of two volumes originally published in hardcover in 2009. I remember a university professor with whom I took an evening course on goddess spirituality in the mid-nineties saying that polytheism is so much more relevant for women than monotheism. The exact word may not have been "relevant" but what stays with me are words and terms like welcoming, multi-faceted, all-embracing, and women-affirming. Dr. Christiane Northrup's endorsement echoes what I'm attempting to remember: "Something deep within every woman is healed and validated when she learns the rich feminine history of goddesses and heroines through history and their importance in

all the world's cultures. And it's all here in this magnificent work."The encyclopedia is divided into sections based on geographical and cultural divisions. An introduction to each section describes the role of women in that part of the world. Modern revivals of ancient goddess religions are mentioned as well as "ethical" or other concerns about such revivals. In each section, individual entries describe important goddesses and heroines. For instance, "The Americas" includes North America, Mesoamerica and South America, and the Caribbean. With more than 500 Native American cultures, Patricia Monaghan would have had a lot of archaeological, mythological, literary, and First Nations' research to do on that section alone. Sheer numbers wouldn't have been the only challenge.

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