

Hindu Myths Wendy Doniger

Other Peoples' Myths Hindu Myths The Implied Spider The ^A Woman Who Pretended to Be Who She Was Hindu Myths Hindu Myths The Ring of Truth Women, Androgynes, and Other Mythical Beasts Hindu Myths Off with Her Head! On Hinduism The Origins of Evil in Hindu Mythology World Mythology: An Anthology of Great Myths and Epics Myth and Knowing: An Introduction to World Mythology Myths and Symbols in Raja Rao and R.K. Narayan The Bedtrick Splitting the Difference Myth The Origins of Evil in Hindu Mythology Transformations of Myth Through Time Wendy Doniger Wendy Doniger Wendy Doniger O' Flaherty Doniger Wendy Doniger Howard Eilberg-Schwartz Wendy Doniger Wendy Doniger Donna Rosenberg Scott A. Leonard Rajesh K. Pallan Wendy Doniger Wendy Doniger William G. Doty Wendy Doniger O'Flaherty Harcourt Brace & Co

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other people s myths celebrates the universal art of storytelling and the rich diversity of stories that people live by drawing on biblical parables greek myths hindu epics and the modern mythologies of woody allen and soap operas wendy doniger o flaherty encourages us to feel anew the force of myth and tradition in our lives and in the lives of other cultures she shows how the stories of mythology whether of greek gods chinese sages or polish rabbis enable all cultures to define themselves she raises critical questions about the way we interpret mythical stories especially the way different cultures make use of central texts and traditions and she offers a sophisticated way of looking at the roles myths play in all cultures

recorded in sacred sanskrit texts including the rig veda and the mahabharata hindu myths are thought to date back as far as the tenth century bce here in these seventy five seminal myths are the many incarnations of vishnu who saves mankind from destruction and the mischievous child krishna alongside stories of the minor gods

demons rivers and animals including boars buffalo serpents and monkeys immensely varied and bursting with colour and life they demonstrate the hindu belief in the limitless possibilities of the world from the teeming miracles of creation to the origins of the incarnation of death who eventually touches them all

wendy doniger's foundational study is both modern in its engagement with a diverse range of religions and refreshingly classic in its transhistorical cross cultural approach by responsibly analyzing patterns and themes across context doniger reinvigorates the comparative reading of religion tapping into a wealth of narrative traditions from the instructive tales of judaism and christianity to the moral lessons of the bhagavad gita she extracts political meaning from a variety of texts while respecting the original ideas of each a new preface confronts the difficulty of contextualizing the comparison of religions as well as controversies over choosing subjects and positioning arguments and the text itself is expanded and updated throughout

many cultures have myths about self imitation stories about people who pretend to be someone else pretending to be them in effect masquerading as themselves this great theme in literature and in life tells us that people put on masks to discover who they really are under the masks they usually wear so that the mask reveals rather than conceals the self beneath the self in this book noted scholar of hinduism and mythology wendy doniger offers a cross cultural exploration of the theme of self impersonation whose widespread occurrence argues for both its literary power and its human value the stories she considers range from ancient indian literature through medieval european courtly literature and shakespeare to hollywood and bollywood they illuminate a basic human way of negotiating reality illusion identity and authenticity not to mention memory amnesia and the process of aging many of them involve marriage and adultery for tales of sexual betrayal cut to the heart of the crisis of identity these stories are extreme examples of what we common folk do unconsciously every day few of us actually put on masks that replicate our faces but it is not uncommon for us to become travesties of ourselves particularly as we age and change we often slip carelessly across the permeable boundary between the unself conscious self indulgence of our most idiosyncratic mannerisms and the conscious attempt to give the people who know us personally or publicly the version of ourselves that they expect myths of self imitation open up for us the possibility of multiple selves and the infinite regress of self discovery drawing on a dizzying array of tales some fact some fiction the woman who pretended to be who she was is a fascinating and learned trip through centuries of culture guided by a scholar of incomparable wit and erudition

these tales of hindu gods and demons express in vivid symbols the metaphysical insights of ancient indian priests and poets this selection and translation of seventy five seminal myths spans the wide range of classical indian sources from the serpent

slaying indra of the vedas c 1200 bc to the medieval pantheon mdash the phallic and ascetic siva the maternal and bloodthirsty goddess the mischievous child krishna the other avatars of vishnu and the many minor gods demons rivers and animals sacred to hinduism the traditional themes of life and death are set forth and interwoven with many complex variations which give a kaleidoscopic picture of the development of almost three thousand years of indian mythology nbsp

an important provocative and original work of great interest to indian scholars historians of religions psychologists and historians of ideas but accessible also to the cultivated reader even if one does not always agree with the author s interpretation one cannot but admire her vast and precise learning her splendid translations and exegesis of so many and so different sanskrit texts and her uninhibited brilliant and witty prose mircea eliade university of chicago this is a book which is as rich in detail as the carvings of the great hindu temples it shares with them a delight in the interplay of myth and mundane experience and above all an empathy with the hindu preoccupation with the meaning of human existence in all its complexity g m carstairs times literary supplement

explores the theme that women are objectified as sexual and reproductive bodies by symbolic beheading in myths and by such practices as veiling head coverings and cosmetic highlighting shows how women s heads link them to speech identity and mind all characteristics classically reserved for men and how beheading women reduces them to mute and anonymous flesh most of the examples are drawn from oriental classical greek and roman and early christian contexts but some modern cases are also examined the seven essays were presented at a panel of the american academy of religion date and place not noted annotation copyright by book news inc portland or

in this magisterial volume of essays wendy doniger enhances our understanding of the ancient and complex religion to which she has devoted herself for half a century this series of interconnected essays and lectures surveys the most critically important and hotly contested issues in hinduism over 3 500 years from the ancient time of the vedas to the present day the essays contemplate the nature of hinduism hindu concepts of divinity attitudes concerning gender control and desire the question of reality and illusion and the impermanent and the eternal in the two great sanskrit epics the ramayana and the mahabharata among the questions doniger considers are are hindus monotheists or polytheists how can atheists be hindu and how can unrepentant hindu sinners find salvation why have hindus devoted so much attention to the psychology of addiction what does the significance of dogs and cows tell us about hinduism how have hindu concepts of death rebirth and karma changed over the course of history how and why does a pluralistic faith remarkable for its intellectual tolerance foster religious intolerance doniger concludes with four concise autobiographical essays in which she reflects

on her lifetime of scholarship hindu criticism of her work and the influence of hinduism on her own philosophy of life on hinduism is the culmination of over forty years of scholarship from a renowned expert on one of the world s great faiths

presenting a subject rarely studied the author shows there is a history of ideas about evil in hinduism

world mythology is a compilation of over 50 great myths and epics your students will gain an appreciation and understanding of ancient and modern cultures through myths and epics from the middle east greece and rome the far east and pacific islands the british isles northern europe africa and the americas an introduction and historical background supplement each myth questions at the end of each selection prompt analysis and response

myth and knowing is by far the most comprehensive world mythology textbook the text reader format provides both jargon free discussions of current themes and thinkers in the ongoing scholarly conversation about myth and a broad selection of complete myths chosen for literary merit and the cultural sensitivity of their translations rather than being genre driven the book emphasizes the psychological religious and cultural meanings of myth presenting these with the intent of fostering in students a love of literature

study of the fictional works of two indic writers writing in english

somehow i woke up one day and found myself in bed with a stranger meant literally or figuratively this statement describes one of the best known plots in world mythology and popular storytelling in a tour that runs from shakespeare to hollywood and from abraham lincoln to casanova the erudite and irrepressible wendy doniger shows us the variety danger and allure of the bedtrick or what it means to wake up with a stranger the bedtrick brings together hundreds of stories from all over the world from the earliest recorded hindu and hebrew texts to the latest item in the weekly world news to show the hilariously convoluted sexual scrapes that people manage to get themselves into and out of here you will find wives who accidentally commit adultery with their own husbands you will read lincoln s truly terrible poem about a bedtrick you will learn that in hong kong the film the crying game was retitled oh no my girlfriend has a penis and that president clinton was not the first man to be identified by an idiosyncratic organ at the bottom of these wonderful stories ancient myths and historical anecdotes lie the dynamics of sex and gender power and identity why can t people tell the difference in the dark can love always tell the difference between one lover and another and what kind of truth does sex tell funny sexy and engaging the bedtrick is a masterful work of energetic storytelling and dazzling scholarship give it to your spouse and your lover

hindu and greek mythologies teem with stories of women and men who are

doubled this text recounts and compares a range of these the comparisons show that differences in gender are more significant than differences in culture

a type of folklore myth is central to all cultures written by a leading authority and of use to high school students undergraduates and general readers this reference offers a convenient overview of the role of myth around the world the volume defines and classifies types of myth and provides examples from different cultural traditions it then overviews various approaches to studying myth this is followed by a look at myth in relation to its contexts such as religion politics and popular culture the volume closes with a bibliography of print and electronic resources and a glossary

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