

Kill Them All Cathars And Carnage In The Albigensian Crusade

This authoritative sourcebook offers comprehensive information on Knights Templar history, symbols, key figures, unanswered questions, and more. Who were the Knights Templar? And how did they become the wealthiest multinational corporation in the medieval West? These powerful crusaders of the late Middle Ages remain a source of fascination for their mysterious ways and their far-reaching influence. The knights of the Order of the Temple were not only warriors, but also diplomats, international banking experts, advisors to popes and kings, and much more. Written by leading Templar authority and medieval historian Dr. Karen Ralls, Knights Templar Encyclopedia presents the history of the Order of the Temple in an accessible A-to-Z format. This authoritative sourcebook features a wealth of information on the key Templar people, places, events, symbols, organization, daily life, beliefs, economic empire, trial, and more. It includes photos and illustrations, an extensive bibliography, a historical timeline, and a list of major European Templar sites.

Genocide occurs in every time period and on every continent. Using the 1948 U.N. definition of genocide as its departure point, this book examines the main episodes in the history of genocide from the beginning of human history to the present. Norman M. Naimark lucidly shows that genocide both changes over time, depending on the character of major historical periods, and remains the same in many of its murderous dynamics. He examines cases of genocide as distinct episodes of mass violence, but also in historical connection with earlier episodes. Unlike much of the literature in genocide studies, Naimark argues that genocide can also involve the elimination of targeted social and political groups, providing an insightful analysis of communist and anti-communist genocide. He pays special attention to settler (sometimes colonial) genocide as a subject of major concern, illuminating how deeply the elimination of indigenous peoples, especially in Africa, South America, and North America, influenced recent historical developments. At the same time, the "classic" cases of genocide in the twentieth Century - the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust, Rwanda, and Bosnia -- are discussed, together with recent episodes in Darfur and Congo.

From the gender of God to what happens when we die, Questions for Christians digs into some of the thorniest questions of the Christian faith—questions that many people would rather ignore. Drawing on sources both ancient and modern, John Morreall explores issues while identifying points of controversy. Some of the answers are surprising, while others provide a more complete understanding of common beliefs.

The book developed from my gradual realization that spirituality was a normal characteristic in the human race, but that in recent millennia it had regressed in the everyday awareness of most people, especially those belonging to what they regarded as a cultural society. Only so-called primitive peoples retained a spiritual outlook. My book describes how this has come about, especially the negative influence of organized religions on individual spirituality, and the resulting deterioration in most human societies. Finally I suggest how mankind can become again spiritual during their Earth lives. Michael Higgins

Readers can discover all the foul facts about FRANCE, including which king thought he was made of glass, why French bread was once made from broken tiles and bricks and how to play hopscotch like a French highwayman. In ebook format, these bestselling titles are sure to be a huge hit with yet another generation of Terry Deary fans.

#1 New York Times and Globe and Mail bestselling author Louse Penny's beloved Chief Inspector Armand Gamache mystery novels have received critical acclaim, won numerous awards, and have enthralled millions of readers. Featuring Chief Inspector of Homicide Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec, these extraordinary novels are here together for the first time in a fabulous ebook bundles. A Trick of the Light When Three Pines artist Clara Morrow's former friend is found dead in her garden, Chief Inspector Gamache finds the art world is one of shading and nuance, shadow and light. And even when facts are slowly exposed, it is no longer clear to Gamache and his team if what they've found is the truth, or simply a trick of the light. The Beautiful Mystery No outsiders are ever admitted to the monastery of Saint-Gilbert-Entre-les-Loups, where the monks have become world-famous for their glorious chants. But when the renowned choir director is murdered, the lock is drawn back to admit Chief Inspector Gamache. Before he can find the killer, the Chief must first consider the divine, the human, and the cracks in between. How the Light Gets In As Christmas approaches, Chief Inspector Gamache travels to Three Pines as a favor to the bookshop owner, whose friend has gone missing—a friend who was once one of the most famous people in the world. With mounting crises in his own homicide department, Gamache finds himself not only investigating a murder, but also seeking refuge for himself and his still-loyal colleagues—if such a refuge exists.

The Albigensian crusade 1209-1229) by the Catholic Church against the Cathar heretics of southern France is infamous for its brutality. Marked by massacres and acts of appalling cruelty, these deeds are commonly ascribed to the role of religious fanaticism. This book is the first to offer a dedicated military history of the whole Crusade; in so doing it refutes this old view. By telling the story of the Crusade through its dramatic sieges, battles and campaigns and offering expert analysis of the warfare involved, the author reveals the Crusade in a new light – as a bloody territorial conquest in which acts of terror were perpetrated to secure military aims rather than religious ones. The result is an exciting and at times disturbing book that tells the dramatic military events of the Crusade and its leading characters – Simon de Montfort, Louis the Lion, Innocent III, Peter of Aragon, Count Raymond of Toulouse - through the voices of those contemporary writers who fought it and experienced it.

The Perfecti "Elect," (Christian Pacifist) and the French Knights Templar (Warrior Protector) This is a fascinating historic research story and "church perpetuity" analysis of a centuries old intellectual spiritual rebellion through many centuries of devastating persecution, against incredible odds -- all the while full of bravery and loyalty unto Christ Jesus. Proceeded with ties to the Jewish "Order of the Nazarene" brethren, this is the history of Christianity since the time of Christ - being of the original "Holy Church of God" established at Pentecost (AD 33). Then after going through centuries of devastating persecution and scenarios of horrific slaughter, both sects was forced to go underground for safety until emerging 1,000 years later, joining forces with the Knights Templar. This is the true Christian church sect that re-emerged from the "Holy Church of God" through an apostolic succession "church perpetuity" being the Cathar Brethren Christian Church prior to the said Radical Reformation movement of free churches in Europe. What followed through "church perpetuity" was the Anabaptist church sect followed by the Hutterites, Mennonite, Amish and the more recent Restoration Movement "" Church of Christ. These listed church sects in Europe were as well horrifically persecuted and became those puritans along with remnants of Knights Templar that immigrated to the Americas. Later next came the more recent Restoration Movement being the Church of Christ. In a prophesy being given by Saint Augustus, he said during the "End of Days" the "Holy Church of God" will re-emerge as the "Elect" saints when Christ Jesus returns in his glory! Analysis presented is of the greatest minds, brilliant intellects, inventors, writers, scientist, Christ apostles, saints, evangelist, martyrs, warrior protectors, and artist in history such as King David, Apostle Paul, Saint Augustine, Friar Roger Bacon, Cathar Christian Puritan John of Lugio, Sir Isaac Newton, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Dr. Albert Einstein, Dr. Ivan Panin, etc. - and most of all - through all this discourse is that of Christ Jesus. You will never be able to read your Bible the same again!

"Evil is the most serious of our moral problems. All over the world cruelty, greed, prejudice, and fanaticism ruin the lives of countless victims. Outrage provokes outrage. Millions nurture seething hatred of real or imagined enemies, revealing savage and destructive tendencies in human nature. Understanding this challenges our optimistic illusions about the effectiveness of reason and morality in bettering human lives. But abandoning these illusions is vitally important because they are obstacles to countering the threat of evil. The aim of this book is to explain why people act in these ways and what can be done about it."—John Kekes The first part of this book is a detailed discussion of six

horrible cases of evil: the Albigensian Crusade of about 1210; Robespierre's Terror of 1793–94; Franz Stangl, who commanded a Nazi death camp in 1943–44; the 1969 murders committed by Charles Manson and his "family"; the "dirty war" conducted by the Argentinean military dictatorship of the late 1970s; and the activities of a psychopath named John Allen, who recorded reminiscences in 1975. John Kekes includes these examples not out of sensationalism, but rather to underline the need to hold vividly in our minds just what evil is. The second part shows why, in Kekes's view, explanations of evil inspired by Christianity and the Enlightenment fail to account for these cases and then provides an original explanation of evil in general and of these instances of it in particular.

An overview of how esoteric brotherhoods have shaped history • Examines the secret chronology and clandestine causes of seminal world events • Shows how secret societies feed into one another, and how they have worked together For thousands of years secret societies--guardians of ancient esoteric wisdom--have exercised a strong and often crucial influence on the destiny of nations. Though largely ignored by orthodox historians, the Freemasons, Knights Templar, and Rosicrucians affected the course of the French and American Revolutions as well as the overthrow of the medieval feudal order. Inevitably, the true ideals and esoteric practices of these societies have, at times, been perverted by self-serving individuals. The Nazis and the Bolsheviks, British security forces, the founding fathers of America, and the Vatican have all justified their actions--for good or for ill--by claiming the mystic ideals of secret societies. Michael Howard explores these connections, tracing their effects in politics and statecraft from the time of ancient Egypt up to the present. He sheds light on the influence of secret societies on governments and in the lives of many well-known figures, including Frederick the Great, John Dee, Francis Bacon, Benjamin Franklin, Comte de Cagliostro, Helena Blavatsky, Rasputin, and Woodrow Wilson. He contends that the recent formation of the European Union was directed by an umbrella group of secret societies and reveals that though secret societies have been persecuted throughout history, they have survived and continue to operate powerfully in world affairs today.

For over a generation, shocking cases of censorship at America's colleges and universities have taught students the wrong lessons about living in a free society. Drawing on a decade of experience battling for freedom of speech on campus, First Amendment lawyer Greg Lukianoff reveals how higher education fails to teach students to become critical thinkers: by stifling open debate, our campuses are supercharging ideological divisions, promoting groupthink, and encouraging an unscholarly certainty about complex issues. Lukianoff walks readers through the life of a modern-day college student, from orientation to the end of freshman year. Through this lens, he describes startling violations of free speech rights: a student in Indiana punished for publicly reading a book, a student in Georgia expelled for a pro-environment collage he posted on Facebook, students at Yale banned from putting an F. Scott Fitzgerald quote on a T shirt, and students across the country corralled into tiny "free speech zones" when they wanted to express their views. But Lukianoff goes further, demonstrating how this culture of censorship is bleeding into the larger society. As he explores public controversies involving Juan Williams, Rush Limbaugh, Bill Maher, Richard Dawkins, Larry Summers—even Dave Barry and Jon Stewart—Lukianoff paints a stark picture of our ability as a nation to discuss important issues rationally. *Unlearning Liberty: Campus Censorship and the End of American Debate* illuminates how intolerance for dissent and debate on today's campus threatens the freedom of every citizen and makes us all just a little bit dumber.

A young girl, kidnapped on the eve of World War II, changes the lives of a German archaeologist forced into the Nazi Party and--decades later--a researcher trying to overcome her own trauma. 1940. Hanna Tillich cherishes her work as an archaeologist for the Third Reich, searching for the Holy Grail and other artifacts to bolster evidence of a master Aryan race. But when she is reassigned to work as a museum curator in Nuremberg, then forced to marry an SS officer and adopt a young girl, Hanna begins to see behind the Nazi facade. A prayer labyrinth becomes a storehouse for Hanna's secrets, but as she comes to love Lilly as her own daughter, she fears that what she's hiding--and what she begins to uncover--could put them both in mortal danger. Eighty years later, Ember Ellis is a Holocaust researcher intent on confronting hatred toward the Jewish people and other minorities. She reconnects with a former teacher on Martha's Vineyard after she learns that Mrs. Kiehl's mother once worked with the Nazi Ahnenerbe. And yet, Mrs. Kiehl describes her mother as "a friend to the Jewish people." Wondering how both could be true, Ember helps Mrs. Kiehl regain her fractured childhood memories of World War II while at the same time confronting the heartache of her own secret past--and the person who wants to silence Ember forever.

A new narrative history of medieval Christianity, spanning from A.D. 500 to 1500, focuses on the role of women in Christianity; the relationships among Christians, Jews and Muslims; the experience of ordinary parishioners; the adventure of asceticism, devotion and worship; and instruction through drama, architecture and art.

Everything you think you know is a lie. Or is it? *The Rough Guide to Conspiracy Theories* is the definitive guide to the world's most controversial theories. With updated information on all the most infamous conspiracies, from phony crucifixions to who really did kill JFK, this fully up-dated guide also covers the murders of Alexander Litvinenko and Benasir Bhutto, the London bombings and the Iraq War, as well as the inquest into Princess Diana's death. The guide is a thoroughly researched exploration into this fascinating and, at times, amusing phenomenon, with fascinating discourse and a keen sense of the satirical. For both the believers and the cynics, *The Rough Guide to Conspiracy Theories* sorts the myths from the realities.

'There is no alternative to free market liberalism and managerialism', is the orthodoxy of the twenty-first century. All too often, ordinary people across the world are being told that the problem of organization is already solved, or that it is being solved somewhere else, or that it need not concern them because they have no choices. This dictionary provides those who disagree with the evidence. Using hundreds of entries and cross-references, it proves that there are many alternatives to the way that we currently organize ourselves. These alternatives could be expressed as fictional utopias, they could be excavated from the past, or they could be described in terms of the contemporary politics of anti-corporate protest, environmentalism, feminism and localism. Part reference work, part source book, and part polemic, this dictionary provides a rich understanding of the ways in which fiction, history and today's politics provide different ways of thinking about how we can and should organize for the coming century.

With superb photography, illustrations, and maps, this easy-to-use travel guide leads you to the best of France, one of the world's leading destinations for culture, fine food, and wine. This guide will show you the wide range of sights that France has to offer, from the beautiful cities of Paris, Lille, and Nice filled with art galleries and historic sights; the châteaux of the Loire Valley and the remarkable Mont-St.-Michel; to the beauty of the Pyrenees and Alps, Brittany beaches, the glamorous French Riviera, and Corsica's wild landscape. Learn about regional French cuisines and wines, architecture, art, and literature. This "mini-encyclopedia of France" also has practical tips on how to get around, entertainment, shopping, and the best restaurants, cafés, and places to stay. With hundreds of full-color photographs, hand-drawn illustrations, and custom maps that illuminate every page, *DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: France* truly shows you this city as no one else can. Urgently summoned from snowy France to tropical Thailand by Sam, his marine archeologist daughter, Michael Scourie is thrust into a life-threatening situation as an unknown enemy seeks to destroy them and pillage the 15th Century wreck she has found. Nine years later in the Hautes Corbieres, the nightmare returns when the true mastermind is revealed, forcing Michael and Sam to assist in the recovery of an ancient treasure trove. With the prospect of almost certain death upon completion of their task, they enter a battle of wits against a formidable evil - only one side will walk away.

What is Christianity? Who was Jesus Christ? What relevance does Christianity have in a post-Christian age? Why are there so many Christian sects, and what are the prospects for bringing them together? Does Christianity have a future? Am I a Christian? Are you? The two volumes of *Christianity: the One, the Many*, offer encouraging answers and options for modern spiritual seekers. This first volume focuses on the life and teachings of Jesus and the evolution of Christianity over its first millennium. The institutional church of the Middle Ages imposed

standardized beliefs and practices in place of the spontaneity and pluralism of apostolic times. But standardization was never complete, and alternative religious forms survived. The Gnostic, Celtic, Coptic, and Cathar Churches represent important variants. Finally, in the 11th century, mainstream Christianity split into western and eastern branches. The organizational structure, clerical roles, doctrines and religious practices of the medieval church are studied in some detail, laying groundwork for the examination of western Christianity in Volume 2. The major variants are discussed, as well as the development of the Eastern Orthodox Churches through modern times. The exploration of religious forms that may be less familiar to western readers provides a glimpse into how Christianity as a whole might have developed and directions it could take in the future. Insertion of little-known facts helps bring the historical survey alive. A masterpiece of research, insight and faith. A must-read for believers and nonbelievers alike. Now I know there's a place in Christianity for me.

Christianity: The Basics is a compelling introduction to both the central pillars of the Christian faith and the rich and varied history of this most global of global religions. This book traces the development of Christianity through an exploration of some of the key beliefs, practices and emotions which have been recurrent symbols through the centuries: Christ, the kingdom of heaven and sin, Baptism, Eucharist and prayer, Joy, divine union and self-denial. Encompassing the major epochs of Christian history and examining the unity and divisions created by these symbols, Christianity: The Basics is both a concise and comprehensive introduction to the Christian tradition.

'Superb ... reveals the real history behind the myths' Saul David The legend of Robin Hood has gripped the popular imagination ever since his exploits were first told in the Middle Ages. Whether as thief, hero or violent bringer of justice, Robin Hood continues to assert himself over the centuries, still featuring heavily in mainstream culture in the 21st century. But what is the truth behind the legend? Historians and folklorists have been exploring the Robin Hood story for centuries, attempting to separate fact and myth. In this new book, Dr Sean McGlynn, a leading medievalist, offers a radically fresh approach, based on original research that has received global media attention. The author examines the first stories of Robin Hood as they appeared in the late Middle Ages and explains their appeal to contemporary audiences, against a background of violent disorder and troubled times. But a clearer understanding requires delving further back into the earlier medieval period to consider more fully the problems of name, time and place (and the questionable dominance of Sherwood Forest). Crime, brutal punishment, and the dramatic exploits of English medieval outlaws are discussed in vivid detail before the author assesses real-life figures who have been suggested as the inspiration behind the Robin Hood story and why these fail to hit the mark. The book then reveals a contender who has previously been completely overlooked but who is the most likely inspiration for the emergence of the Robin Hood legend in thirteenth-century England. By focusing on war in a time of national crisis, when a forgotten French invasion occupied half of the country, this book reveals a true-life hero and legend who has previously been lost to history, a soldier who resolves the hero-outlaw paradox and who fits perfectly into the timing of the legend's origins. And yes - he really was a Bowman living in the forest. Dr Sean McGlynn is the author of three critically acclaimed books: *By Sword and Fire: Cruelty and Atrocity in Medieval Warfare*; *Blood Cries Afar: The Forgotten Invasion of England, 1216*; and *Kill Them All: Cathars and Carnage in the Albigensian Crusade*. He is a regular contributor to BBC History, History Today and The Spectator. His research has previously received global media attention. In 2013 he was elected Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. Praise for Sean McGlynn "McGlynn tells a dashing story with gusto ... an entertaining military history." Dan Jones, The Spectator "Unlike many books on warfare, this volume dares to say what others won't.... Sean McGlynn's excellent book...paints a bleak but accurate picture of men at war.... McGlynn makes a convincing case as he analyses battles, sieges and campaigns" Andy McNab, Mail on Sunday "Excellent...vividly and wittily related, full of detail, and consistently fascinating" The Daily Telegraph

Planet of Gold is a fascinating and meticulously researched account of the first stirrings of the Earth, when alien gods mastered our universe. Paris' hypothesis of these gods sending tons of gold from our planet may challenge your beliefs, but with great skill, he weaves a believable and astounding conclusion of why religions developed and how these beliefs have become permanently intertwined in our history. The gold of Earth, transformed into a "monatomic superconducting gold powder," could bring health and longevity. Additionally, it was a powerful and clean energy source. The knowledge about gold powder was the explicit privilege of the gods. For us, it has been classified as 'forbidden knowledge.' The gold, and the gold powder, was the reason behind such events as the creation of man, the confusion of the tongues, the destruction of cities, and the introduction of religions, like Christianity and Islam. Their action, to violently deprive us from using gold powder, is visible in our current state of being: a world dominated by diseases, mental enslavement by religious dogmas, and pollution leading to a climate crisis. Paris' book is a stunningly revealing look at ancient kings, prophets and agents, secret societies, the Holy Inquisition, the Bible, and other religious teachings. Planet of Gold will open your eyes to an entirely different way of observing your faith and your world. ABOUT THE AUTHOR-Andreas Paris lives with his wife and two children in Stockholm, Sweden. He is a retired IT Specialist and is currently working on a second volume about the Planet of Gold.

This is a comprehensive companion to the long coastline which ranges from Spain and the edge of the Pyrenees to the Alpes Maritimes and Italy. It covers the flat country of Languedoc-Roussillon, the coast of the Golfe du Lion, the Rhone delta and the Camargue, the industrial Golfe de Fos, the Cote d'Azur and the French Riviera and Monaco. The island of Corsica and the waterways that run behind the coast linking the Canal du Midi and the etangs to the Rhone are covered in separate chapters. The authors spent the summer and autumn of 2016 cruising in Corsica and then across to the Golfe du Fos where they left Skylax for the winter. During their travels they visited a large number of harbours and anchorages, collecting the latest information and taking new photographs. There are new aerial photos for many places and in particular for ports and harbours in Languedoc - Roussillon. This major 2017 edition contains substantial change to the content.

Kill Them All Cathars and Carnage in the Albigensian Crusade The History Press

The birth of the Christian Church, and what it means for modern religion and philosophy. This engaging guide presents an accessible overview of the birth of the Christian church, using the historical works found at the famous Nag Hammadi site in Egypt. With chapters discussing each of the major and minor documents found at Nag Hammadi, this volume also includes an overview of Gnosticism and the major players, revealing not only what the texts say, but also what they mean. -Renewed interest in Gnosticism and the Gnostic gospels is driven by interest in the Nag Hammadi documents, The DaVinci Code, the Matrix movies, the Kabbalah, renewed interest in the divine feminine ideal, and the fact that many who've left the Church are looking for new answers in the early church -Author is a scholar and expert who's studied with some of the top people in the field

This book was originally a set of notes given to metaphysical and magickal students in the middle '90's. As a member of The Knights Templar of Aquarius from its earliest days I was interested in seeing that my many initiated students learned about where so much of the current occult knowledge originated.

The most famous event of the thirteenth century war against the Cathars of the Languedoc is an alleged command given by an Abbot "Kill them all! God will know His own". Almost everyone has heard of it, even if the context is a little hazy. For well over six hundred years the claim - made by a sympathetic contemporary clerical writer - was accepted as fact. But historians over the last hundred years have been more sceptical, often describing the story of the command as "apocryphal". Almost no original work on the question has been carried out by modern historians in the English-speaking world, and only a little by Francophone historians. This monograph aims to provide a thoroughgoing reassessment of the question. It presents a mass of new evidence, exposes previously unrecognised significance in existing evidence, and frames new arguments that will undoubtedly shift received opinion among historians.

This three-volume set presents fundamental information about the most important events in world religious history as well as substantive discussions of their significance and impact. • Presents readers with essential information about the chief events in religious history that will

help them better understand world history and promote a greater respect for culturally diverse religious traditions • Provides cross-references and sidebars that cite print and electronic resources for further reading with each entry • Includes a selected, general bibliography of print and electronic resources suitable for student research

Human beings have always been cruel, savage, and murderous. Is that all about to change? Human history can be seen as a catalog of coldhearted murders, mindless blood feuds, appalling massacres, and devastating wars. Creatively and intellectually, there is no other species that has ever come close to equaling humanity's achievements, but neither is any other species as suicidally prone to internecine conflict. We are the only species on the planet whose ingrained habit of conflict and perpetual warfare constitutes the chief threat to our own survival. In *An End to Murder*, the Wilsons assess whether human beings are in reality as cruel and violent as is generally believed. The book explores the possibility that humankind is on the verge of a fundamental change: that we are about to become truly civilized. Covering a wide-reaching history of violence from the first hominids to the twenty-first century, the book touches on key moments of change while also indicating where things have not changed since the Stone Age. It follows the history of violence from fifteenth-century baron Gilles de Rais ("Bluebeard"), the first known and possibly most prolific serial killer in history; to Victorian domestic murder, the invention of psychiatry, Sherlock Holmes, and the invention of forensic science; the fifteenth-century Taiping Rebellion in China, in which more than twenty million died; World Wars I and II; more recent genocides and instances of "ethnic cleansing"; and contemporary terrorism. As well as offering an overview of violence throughout our history, the authors explore the latest psychological, forensic, and social attempts to understand and curb modern human violence.

This is the story of my encounter with a monk from a shared past life in the thirteenth century. His message to me was "I want you to remember the Gilded Rose. It could be useful for you now. We were the Pure Ones, who were rent asunder for official gain in the Languedoc South, France. We were put to the rack in the Inquisition. It was not your fault. I love you, I forgive you, and I want you to be happy." My thirty-five years of research of the fascinating life and times, origins, and beliefs of these Pure Ones known as Cathars are detailed in this book. They were taught by Mary Magdalene in the first century and persecuted by the church of Rome in a forty-year Crusade ending in their ultimate defeat at Montsegur in 1244. This book is my tribute to all those thousands, if not millions, of good Christians/Cathars, who stood fast for their truth in the face of certain death. It leads you into understanding their relationship to Jesus and Mary Magdalene, the Holy Grail, the Troubadours, the Shroud of Turin, the Knights Templar, the Ark of the Covenant, the Sacred Feminine, and more. This deeply researched book will enrich your spiritual life and give you insights into the beliefs and gentleness of a hitherto unknown world—the Church of Love—brutally suppressed by the medieval Church of Rome because they refused to obey the Roman Church's man-made rules.

The inside story of the world's most notorious cults. The strange and sinister world of cults is a source of endless fascination. Their secrets, rituals and shadowy hierarchies make for some of the most disturbing and shocking revelations in history. Most chilling of all is the fact that many of their followers forfeit all independence in order to carry out the often sadistic bidding of a mysterious master manipulator - and continue to defend their leader to this day. From Charles Manson, who instructed his followers to murder seven people, including a heavily pregnant Sharon Tate, to Aum Shinrikyo, the Japanese doomsday cult that carried out deadly terror attacks, and the People's Temple, these cults and their leaders transfix us with their extreme ability to commit savage acts of cruelty and depravity in the name of a self-appointed higher power. Many shocking and international cults are brought to life, including: - The Manson Family - People's Temple - Colonia Dignidad - Thugges - Aum Shinrikyo - Skopsty - Raëlism - Heaven's Gate

A unique writing style, and comprehensive and international coverage of the history of violence, make this a thought-provoking read for human geographers

HOLY BLOOD, HOLY GRAIL? Fact or Fiction? The book *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*, by Michael Baigent, et al., is anything but "accurate? free from error, conforming exactly to truth? restricted to or based upon fact? If it were not for the real people and real places interwoven within the fallacies, the HBHG book would have failed to qualify as "nonfiction," even under the very liberal literary definition of the term. As Prof. Onapolis demonstrates in this long overdue analysis of the HBHG, virtually none of the HBHG authors' claims, hypotheses, or conclusions are supported by historical fact. Prof. Onapolis reveals that the primary source of the "documents" relied upon by the HBHG authors was no other than Pierre Plantard. In 1993, Pierre Plantard admitted in a French court of law to having orchestrated the fabrication of the documents relied upon by the HBHG authors as part of an elaborate fraud.

A vivid and original account of warfare in the Middle Ages and the cruelty and atrocity that accompanied it. Sean McGlynn investigates the reality of medieval warfare. For all the talk of chivalry, medieval warfare routinely involved acts which we would consider war crimes. Lands laid waste, civilians slaughtered, prisoners massacred: this was standard fare justified by tradition and practical military necessity. It was unbelievably barbaric, but seldom uncontrolled. Such acts of atrocity were calculated, hideous cruelties inflicted in order to achieve a specific end. Sean McGlynn examines the battles of Acre and Agincourt, sieges like Béziers, Lincoln, Jerusalem and Limoges as well as the infamous chevauchées of the Hundred Years War that devastated great swathes of France. He reveals how these grisly affairs form the origin of accepted 'rules of war', codes of conduct that are today being enforced in the International Court of Justice in the Hague.

For millennia, the human race has been controlled and manipulated by forces beyond our own dimension or awareness. A carefully managed human/extra-dimensional breeding program has produced a hybrid slave race that isn't aware of its true origins or fate. Few know that these shadow puppeteers are actually in control-or that they even exist. They are not human ... but then again, neither are we. As the epic battle of consciousness expands into the outer dimensions, we know that one thing is for certain: When the Liberty Bell rings once again, their empire will be reduced to a heap of ashes. There will be an army of forces, backed by the highest of forces in the heavens, which will conduct this re-awakening of the masses. This story recounts the takeover of planet Earth by the Snake of Zion and shares everything you need to know to be truly free. The battleground is within each of us, and our captors are but a reflection of humanity. Unless we change ourselves, how will the reflection be changed? Hopefully, after this enduring encounter deep into the rabbit hole, you will realize how this reality has been manipulated by forces in the fourth dimension. In order to succeed, we must propel ourselves through the heart chakra and into the fifth dimension, where the beloved Terra will find the peace and dignity that she deserves. The fate of the world hangs in the balance. All we have to do now is make a choice.

Originally published in the German language in 1898 this book describes the origins and development of modern Satanism and its

roots in gnostic Christianity and the reaction against the Catholic Church and its persecutions. Translated by Joe E. Bandel. This is one of the few well researched books on this subject and draws from many early historical resources. It is one of the best books on this subject.

****Best Books of August ~ Apple Books**** “Coauthors Steve Berry and M.J. Rose take lots of hairpin turns, making for an intense, suspenseful, and action-packed read. The Lake of Learning is the kind of page-turner that makes you crave a big bowl of popcorn—we just wanted it to keep on going.”~ Apple Books For over a decade Cassiopeia Vitt has been building an authentic French castle, using only materials and techniques from the 13th century. But when a treasure is unearthed at the construction site—an ancient Book of Hours—a multitude of questions are raised, all pointing to an ancient and forgotten religious sect. Once the Cathars existed all across southern France, challenging Rome and attracting the faithful by the tens of thousands. Eventually, in 1208, the Pope declared them heretics and ordered a crusade—the first where Christians killed Christians—and thousands were slaughtered, the Cathars all but exterminated. Now a piece of that past has re-emerged, one that holds the key to the hiding place of the most precious object the Cathars possessed. And when more than one person becomes interested in that secret, in particular a thief and a billionaire, the race is on. From the medieval walled city of Carcassonne, to the crest of mysterious Montségur, to a forgotten cavern beneath the Pyrenees, Cassiopeia is drawn deeper and deeper into a civil war between two people obsessed with revenge and murder.

The brilliant new novel in the New York Times bestselling series by Louise Penny, one of the most acclaimed crime writers of our time No outsiders are ever admitted to the monastery of Saint-Gilbert-Entre-les-Loups, hidden deep in the wilderness of Quebec, where two dozen cloistered monks live in peace and prayer. They grow vegetables, they tend chickens, they make chocolate. And they sing. Ironically, for a community that has taken a vow of silence, the monks have become world-famous for their glorious voices, raised in ancient chants whose effect on both singer and listener is so profound it is known as "the beautiful mystery." But when the renowned choir director is murdered, the lock on the monastery's massive wooden door is drawn back to admit Chief Inspector Armand Gamache and Jean-Guy Beauvoir of the Sûreté du Québec. There they discover disquiet beneath the silence, discord in the apparent harmony. One of the brothers, in this life of prayer and contemplation, has been contemplating murder. As the peace of the monastery crumbles, Gamache is forced to confront some of his own demons, as well as those roaming the remote corridors. Before finding the killer, before restoring peace, the Chief must first consider the divine, the human, and the cracks in between. The Beautiful Mystery is the winner of the 2012 Agatha Award for best novel, the 2013 Anthony Award for best novel and the 2013 Macavity Award for best novel.

Introducing Harvard professor Cal Donovan in the first of an intriguing new series of religious conspiracy thrillers. Responding to an urgent summons from the Vatican, Harvard professor of religion and archaeology, Cal Donovan, flies to Italy to interview a young priest who has developed the stigmata of the crucifixion. Stunned to discover that the priest's condition may be genuine, Cal determines to uncover the cause of the mysterious wounds. But Cal is not the only one. When Giovanni is kidnapped from his church at dead of night, Cal comes to realize that the priest holds the key to an earth-shattering secret: a secret which a shadowy nationalist organization is desperate to control. Teaming up with Giovanni's sister Irene, Cal must unravel the mystery and track down Giovanni in a perilous race against the clock ... before an apocalyptic catastrophe is unleashed.

Presents a history of the Roman empire that provides coverage of an extensive range of topics from its government and architecture to its influence on culture and politics, sharing personal insights from the author's 1958 visit.

The theologians and major thinkers of the medieval period developed their thought in complicated ways, giving rise to the term scholasticism, which was the method of learning associated with the great schools of the period. Theology was the center of thought, and finding one's way through the many and complex theological ideas introduced during this era can be very difficult. This accessible reference work clarifies these ideas and provides an extensive guide to the main theological features of medieval theology. Author James Ginter provides clear and compelling discussions of major Christian thinkers, sociocultural developments, and key terms and concepts related to the period. Both students and scholars will find this an eminently useful resource for the study of medieval theology.

A captivating look into the society of the Knights Templar Brought to you by the author of Freemasons For Dummies, The Templar Code is more than an intriguing cipher or a mysterious symbol – it is the Code by which the Knights Templar lived and died, the Code that bound them together in secrecy, and the Code that inspired them to nearly superhuman feats of courage and endurance. The Templar Code for Dummies reveals the meaning behind the cryptic codes and secret rituals of the medieval brotherhood of warrior monks known as the Knights Templar. This intriguing guide will cover such topics as who the Knights Templar were, how they rose so high and fell so far, and most importantly why there is so much interest in them today. The Templar Code For Dummies will explore myths and theories of Christian history that appear in the Da Vinci Code such as the quest for the Holy Grail, the Catholic Church's relationship with women that are hotly debated now with special emphasis on the Templar connection. It also explores the surprising part the Templars have played in some of the most important historic events of these past seven centuries, including the French Revolution, the birth of groups such as the Freemasons, and even the American Civil War.

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