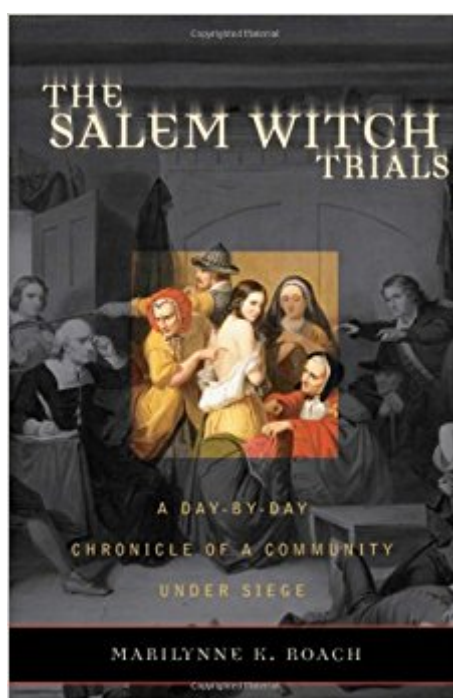


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# The Salem Witch Trials: A Day-by-Day Chronicle Of A Community Under Siege



## Synopsis

Based on twenty-seven years of original archival research, including the discovery of previously unknown documents, this day-by-day narrative of the hysteria that swept through Salem Village in 1692 and 1693 reveals new connections behind the events, and shows how rapidly a community can descend into bloodthirsty madness. Roach opens her work with chapters on the history of the Puritan colonies of New England, and explains how these people regarded the metaphysical and the supernatural. The account of the days from January 1692 to March 1693 keeps in order the large cast of characters, places events in their correct contexts, and occasionally contradicts earlier assumptions about the gruesome events. The last chapter discusses the remarkable impact of the events, pointing out how the 300th anniversary of the trials made headlines in Japan and Australia.

## Book Information

Paperback: 752 pages

Publisher: Taylor Trade Publishing (July 22, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1589791320

ISBN-13: 978-1589791329

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.5 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 65 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #121,226 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #215 in Books > History >

Americas > United States > Colonial Period #248 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Occult &

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## Customer Reviews

Roach's new and exciting book is a marvelous compendium of well-thought-out insights, multiple facts, and little-known details on the events of the infamous 1692 Salem Village witchcraft. Her work, arranged in a day-by-day chronology, allows the reader to visualize how these events began and progressed to become the most massive witchcraft outbreak in America. It is an important addition to the literature of New England witchcraft. (Richard B. Trask, Danvers, Massachusetts Town Archivist)[A] truly impressive day-by-day compendium on the course of the Salem witchcraft trials. This will be an invaluable aid to the scholarship on this pivotal episode in American history. (William T. La Moy, Editor Peabody Essex Museum Collections)The most complete day-by-day

account of the Salem witch trials ever written. [Roach has created] a fascinating chronicle of the witchcraft episode and its long aftermath, filled with revealing social and psychological detail, accurately and gracefully written. A compelling read. (Benjamin C. Ray, Director, Salem Witch Trials Documentary Archive) This fascinating, deeply researched day-by-day account of the events of 1692 to 1697 is an extraordinarily valuable resource for any student of the Salem witch trials. (Frances Hill, Author of *A Delusion of Satan* and editor of *The Salem Witch Trials Reader*) What an accomplishment! Marilynne Roach tells the story with rare detail and deep understanding. Her scholarship and sensibility make *The Salem Witch Trials* an invaluable must-have for those interested in the trials and the times. Reading her work is almost like being there. Outstanding. (Alison D'Amario, director of education, Salem Witch Museum) Monumental.... Roach's detailed reference book provides deep insights into the trial years by letting us listen to the voices of everyone involved. (Publishers Weekly) Presents a detailed chronology of events from January 1, 1692, to January 14, 1697. Drawing on extensive sources, including some recently discovered manuscript material, it provides invaluable basic information in an accessible format that will aid those who are new to the Salem Witch Trials and those who may be revisiting them. (Library Journal) The well-written text is formatted much like a diary of excerpted, paraphrased, and quoted documentation. (G. Wood, SUNY College at Cortland CHOICE) Roach worked on this fascinating chronicle more than 25 years. She tells exactly what happened at the time, based on tons of documents and court testimony. (Denver Post) Marilynne K. Roach's *The Salem Witch Trials* is representative of this ongoing interest: her "day-by-day chronicle" will find a place on the shelves of researchers and history buffs for whom the fascination of Salem never palls. (Thomas S. Kidd, Baylor University Books and Culture) Useful, rigorous and historiographically current reference work. (Marc Aronson Los Angeles Times) Readers will come away with a much fuller picture of who lived in Salem and how they lived... This intriguing book offers an understanding of history that will be helpful to those studying colonial Massachusetts and of course, the notorious trials. (Booklist) This book is a good reference for understanding why the accusations occurred... (Jodelle Greiner Gainesville Daily Register)

Marilynne K. Roach, author and illustrator of *In the Days of the Salem Witchcraft Trials* and former contributor to the *Boston Globe*, lives in Watertown, Massachusetts, near Boston.

Loved the format. It provides a clearer view of how the hysterics started, continued, and finally ended. Also great for genealogy because it specifically names many of the accused and accusers,

and gives dates and content applicable to each.

I bought this to use on my Kindle app for when I went on vacation. Very interesting read. I haven't worked my way through it, but I like the format. It is very day-to-day - almost like reading a diary. If you don't like that type of format, this may not be the book for you. Normally I don't like that format, but the writing is good, and the story is illuminating.

This was a great look in to the times of the trials. You get to see how people thought and behaved in that era let alone the twenty unfortunates accused, badgered, and sentenced to death. The book brings you to present times and how many were found not guilty after they were condemned to death. I have seen the memorial in Danvers (Salem Village) and it puts a face on the names.

I would highly recommend this book to anyone wanting to further their knowledge about the trials. What occurred is horrible and through reading this book you will gain a better understanding of what all involved went through and have even more sympathy for those involved.

An accurate and easy to understand book. If you're interested in American History or human rights, this is a great book. I love how it covers the trials day by day, giving you insight into the lives of these early colonists. This book is obviously a well researched labor of love. I wasn't disappointed.

I like it because it gives a perspective from all points of view without being judgmental. Between my family and my husband's family we have four of the women accused of witchcraft in our history. Three of them were hung as witches and so it is a very personal story for me.

While this book is historically accurate and there is a lot of interesting information, it is almost too much. I can't get through it because there are too many facts and not enough story. Just get to the point!

Outstanding quality, the book looks brand new and not to mention the great information it has. Good read, will be buying from seller again.

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