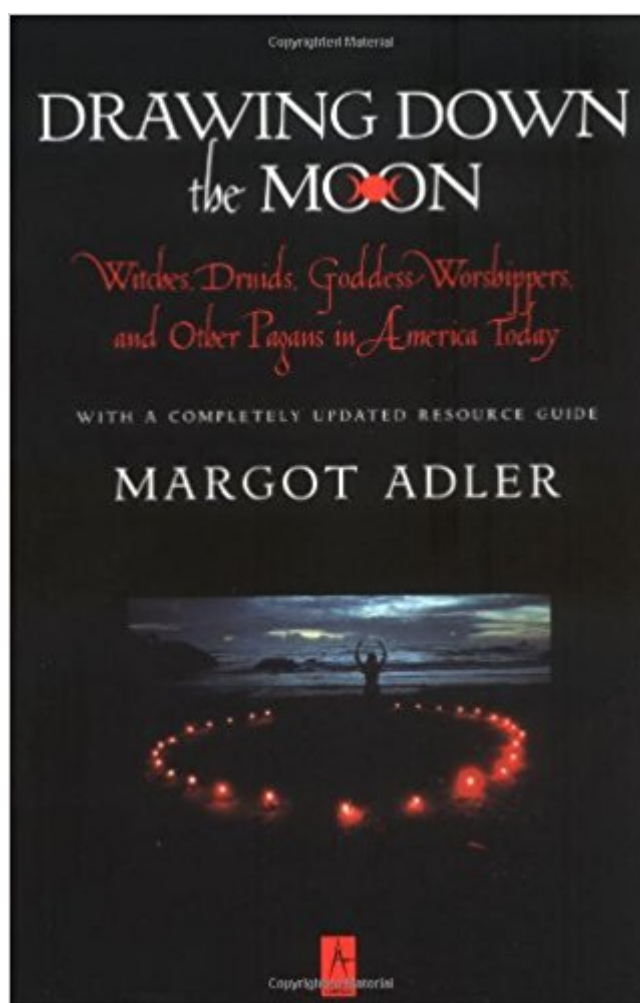


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# Drawing Down The Moon: Witches, Druids, Goddess-Worshippers, And Other Pagans In America Today (Compass)



## Synopsis

Explores the current Neopagan movement in the United States through discussions with various groups whose rituals are inspired by ancient deities, visions from science fiction, or witchcraft.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Popular demand for this clear-sighted compendium of information about the rebirth of Pagan religions hasn't waned since its initial publication in 1979. Distinguished by the journalism of National Public Radio columnist Margot Adler, *Drawing Down the Moon* explains this diverse and burgeoning religion's philosophies and activities while dispelling stereotypes that have long been associated with it. Most people don't realize that pagan simply refers to pre-Christian polytheistic nature religions, such as the various Native American creeds, Japanese Shinto, Celtic Druid, and Western European Wicca. Originally, the word pagan meant "country dweller" and was a derogatory term in Rome in the third century A.D., not unlike calling someone a hick today. If you find yourself feeling queasy when you hear the words witch or pagan, a healthy dose of reeducation via *Drawing Down the Moon* could be the cure. --P. Randall Cohan

Great book to learn about paganism. It is written very scholarly and goes into great detail about the author's studies, experience, and knowledge of the great Goddess religions. Definitely gave me a wealth of knowledge beyond what I could get if I read several other books on the same topic.

Many people recommend this book for those wanting an introduction to Paganism. I have to say, if you are looking for a how to book on casting spells, how to be a witch, or become involved in Wicca, this is perhaps not the book for you depending on your approach to learning a new religion. The problem with today's new age publishing world is over commercialization. Any book store nowadays has a new age section SELLING you paganism book. You encounter a variety of manuals and guides that fill your head with fantasies, and magic, and focus of the "fabulosity" of paganism, and I can't help to form an opinion about how 90% of paganism books today in the market are BS! People flat out make up stuff, from crystal prophecies, to rituals they created, to supposed encounters with "the goddess", etc, etc, etc. How do we know they work? How can we prove or falsify anything a pagan author writes? We can't. And so modern Pagan authors take advantage of this. [Cough Cough] Raven Silverwolf. This book, Drawing Down The Moon, is different. Sure, it is boring, and sure, the author does sound like she's pagan herself, but she plays the role of an anthropologist, a folklorist, a historian. Adler will give you a survey of paganism in America, and it will do so in secular, scholar manner. This is not a book about believing in paganism, it is a book about what pagans believe. If one is really serious about pagan studies, the book is really the start of it. Then you can move on to the more commercialized works, and make your own judgements on different author's version of paganism.

still reading it, lots of research went into this - don't expect to be reading a story book, it's more informative but that's what I like - it's a very big book

I love it

AAA+

I am still reading this. It is a history from her point of view about Wicca Witches and knowledge of the craft. This is in my line of study. I am enjoying it too. Part of searching for self.

I am using it for a book club and it is a very good book for dividing into sections and really learning from it.

As described and shipped on time, thank you!

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