



An Illustrated Dictionary of the Gods and Symbols of Ancient Mexico and the Maya

Mary Ellen Miller, Karl A. Taube

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The Gods and Symbols of Ancient Mexico and the Maya is the first-ever English-language dictionary of Mesoamerican mythology and religion. Nearly 300 entries, from accession to yoke, describe the main gods and symbols of the Olmecs, Zapotecs, Maya, Teotihuacanos, Mixtecs, Toltecs, and Aztecs. Topics range from jaguar and jester gods to reptile eye and rubber, from creation accounts and sacred places to ritual practices such as bloodletting, confession, dance, and pilgrimage. In addition, two introductory essays provide succinct accounts of Mesoamerican history and religion, while a substantial bibliographical survey directs the reader to original sources and recent discussions. Dictionary entries are illustrated with photographs and specially commissioned line drawings. Mary Miller and Karl Taube draw on their research in the fast-changing field of Maya studies, and on the latest Mexican discoveries, to produce an authoritative work that will serve as a standard reference for students, scholars, and travelers.

An Illustrated Dictionary of the Gods and Symbols of Ancient Mexico and the Maya Details

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WITCHCRAFT says

Great reference material when studying the art and mythology of the Mayans.

Francisco Becerra says

This book is a marvelous journey to mesoamerican myth and legend, and of itself a marvelous companion to books like The Penguin Dictionary of Symbols. Being a latin american, this book is also a journey to my roots, to part of my ancestry, which is also a rediscovery of the world. The only faulty thing about this book is that is in B&W.

Claudia Sanginés says

This book works for all of them that want to write or know some general things about Mesoamerican culture.

Lindsey says

Doesn't really sit well as a "curl up with a cup of coffee and read book". But is a great encyclopedia of the gods/goddesses of these cultures, with several examples of the artwork related to them.

Jeffrey says

Illustrated dictionary. First class reference book. First paperback edition 1997

Keena says

Informative. Good way to dip your toes into a vast ocean. The focus is more on Aztec/Central Mexico than on the Maya. Descriptions of the various calendar systems is helpful.

Derek says

<http://www.5cense.com/17/533.htm>

Maria says

I was working with this last year to help me navigate some of the sub themes in my one-act. It was useful but since i have no plans to revisit that work, I'll never read all of the entries.
