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The 21 Lessons Of Merlyn: A Study In Druid Magic And Lore



Synopsis

King Arthur would get advice from his magician, Merlyn, in the mythic stories. The real Arthur (who lived over 500 years before the period of the mythic Arthur) was trained by a Druid bard and poet named Merlyn. The result was an unprecedented period of peace that lasted for twenty years. In Douglas Monroe's *The 21 Lessons of Merlyn*, you'll read delightful stories based on the historic Arthur and Merlyn. Each one is followed by lessons based on the never-before-published 16th century manuscript entitled *The Book of Pheryllt*. In a metaphoric sense, you'll see how Arthur learned his lessons. In a practical sense, you be learning the same sort of lessons that Arthur may have learned. This is truly a complete course in authentic Celtic Druidism and magick. Filled with lore, philosophy, wisdom, rituals, and more, you'll be able to apply many of these concepts to improve your life. If you are looking for accurate information, this is the place to start! Douglas Monroe has studied magick since he was ten years old and has taught in the United States, Britain, and South America, and is the founder of the New Forest Centre for Magickal Studies. His own illustrations and charts fill the book and clarify the deep teachings of the ancient Druids. From learning about Stonehenge to the Rite of the 3 Rays for protective purification; from learning the four herbs that will aid in conserving male sexual energy to discovering the secrets of calling the Dragon (the power of the ley lines); this book is like a full course meal in a cafeteria of magick. If you are really interested in gaining a thorough understanding of the real tradition of the Druids • what they believed, what they practiced and how to incorporate it into your life • then join with 120,000 other people. Get this book today!

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Customer Reviews

"The 21 lessons of Merlyn" tells a good story, but is historically inaccurate. For starters, the Druids came from Ireland in 1000BC...not from Atlantis in 400BC. Easter and the Yule Log are Germanic, not Pagan AND the kissing under the mistletoe tradition is Scandinavian. Also Ogham is not a symbolic magical alphabet. The druids did not practice celibacy to achieve new heights. There were many powerful beings (Mohammad), who had many wives and children. The fact the many people see this book as a genuine resource on druidism is what bothers me the most. This book is based on the works of Iolo Morganwg (The Book of Pheryllt) which are proven forgeries. To those people, I must say...read more reliable books. There are many books available at .com that give a more accurate view on the history of the druids and Celtic lore. Look for resources that do not refer to the book of Pheryllt or "The Lost works of the Druids". Such things don't exist. Druids wrote very little about themselves. They didn't believe in writing down their beliefs (especially magick spells and medicine). The authors view of women is also very disturbing. Yes, women were druids AND female druids could achieve just as much as male druids. The author puts female Celts in a negative view. I neglected to give this book 1 star because the author tells a very creative fictional story of Merlyn and Author. Monroe managed to keep this book interesting throughout. He just needs to find more reliable resources. I hear his second book "The Lost Books of Merlyn" makes up for this one by being more historically accurate, however, I make no claims since I have not read it. I can not recommend this book because it is sexist content and inaccurate views of druidism.

I have a copy of this book as well as it's sequel. I keep them for the express purpose of showing them to people and warning them not to buy them. There are plenty of reviews that explain why, but I will touch on the main themes and their fallacies. 1. The author claims that only men may be druids. (any quick skimming of Irish or Welsh mythology will produce at least one druidess.) 2. The druids were vegetarians. (a documented ritual called the tarb-feis is performed by eating the flesh of a freshly slain bull and sleeping on it's hide, not to mention the overwhelming presence of archaeological evidence of animal sacrifice and feasting) 3. Druids were celibate. (again, a quick skim of Celtic mythology reveals many sons and daughters of druids) I won't get into the multitude of other lies that are in this book, as they have been covered elsewhere. I will end by saying that one value we do know that the druids held was Truth. Monroe has this right, at least. However, he has shamed me and my ancestors by claiming this drivel to be truth. Perhaps this book was all a

free-energy scheme for Monroe; after all, my forefathers are spinning in their graves fast enough to generate electricity.

This book, while certainly amusing, does not border on the "truth" of anything, be it historical druidic practices, modern druidism, or even spiritual enlightenment. For instance, if Monroe is so enlightened, why does he claim that women are less spiritually evolved than men? If he's so enlightened, why does he spend so much time criticizing the Christian faith? Certainly, some one who was *truly* spiritually advanced needn't spend so much time bashing other people's faiths. Monroe's knowledge of other topics is also sadly lacking. He advocates the ingesting of mistletoe (eating one berry has been known to cause fatalities among children, and the oil of mistletoe is even more potent still). Also, if you put wormwood (which can cause miscarriage in pregnant women, though he neglects to mention that) in vodka, it creates a substance known as "absinthe" which can get you jailed for a few years *for merely OWNING,* let alone drinking, the substance. All in all, I found this book to be a highly misinformed work, both historically, medically, and spiritually. If you're looking for some good works on the Druids, try reading a work from the historical section, or at the very least, *do not* read this book. Unless, of course, you're not looking for any amount of intelligence in the books you read.

I'll keep this brief and simple: Douglas Monroe is grossly ignorant about almost everything he discusses in his books. What he knows of genuine history, mythology, Celtic languages and customs, herbalism, treelore, archeology, etc. wouldn't fill a thimble. I'm not talking about someone making an occasional mistake here. Monroe gets almost everything he says about the ancient Druids wrong! Yes, he plants a few lovely fantasies in the manure pile. Yes, he proves once again that almost *anything* can be used to generate magical energy (which is often mistaken by beginners for a spiritual experience) if people really believe in it. But Monroe's books are gynophobic, dishonest, New Age nonsense -- not "authentic Druid spirituality." The ancient Druids *were* the intellectuals of their tribes and they would not have accepted the idea that scholarship "doesn't matter." Readers wanting details can see the earlier reviews here by myself, Ian Corrigan, and other scholars. Or visit the websites of "adf.org," "keltria.org," "druidry.org," or "summerlands.com." You'll see that we often disagree with each other about details, but are united in our contempt for this con artist.

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