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MCMAHON BRAY

Melusine the Serpent Goddess in A. S. Byatt's *Possession* and in Mythology McFarland
 Now you can find more meaning and joy in your life, journey inward, find the divine, and become transformed, when you read *The Goddess Path* by Patricia Monaghan. The Goddess Path can be your guide to speed you on your spiritual quest. Think of this book as a signpost on your spiritual travels, designed to help you nurture your own connection to the goddess and share in her boundless wisdom. Call her into your life with beautiful and ancient invocations. Create your own rituals to honor the lessons she has to teach. As you ponder life-changing questions and venture on brave new experiments, you fan the divine spark into flame--and, in that fire, you are transformed. The Goddess Path includes myths, symbols, feast days, ancient invocations, and suggestions for connecting with the following goddesses for these purposes and more: Amaterasu for clarity Aphrodite for passion Artemis for protection Athena for strength Brigid for survival The Cailleach for power Demeter and Persephone for initiation Gaia for abundance Hathor for affection Hera for dignity Inanna for inner strength Isis for restorative love Kali for freedom Kuan-Yin for mercy The Maenads for ecstasy The Muses for inspiration Oshun for healing love Paivatar for release Pomona for joy Asule and Saules Meita for family health In *The Goddess Path*, Monaghan presents a means to work with the goddess, using ancient and modern techniques that will thrill and amaze you.

From Girl to Goddess The Rosen Publishing Group, Inc

This book is about the energy personified by the classical Greek goddess Themis, who brought her divine and natural "right order" to gods and humans, and who still presides over law courts as the figure of Justice. In many Western countries today, the growing dis-ease in minds and bodies of individuals is often echoed in whole communities. Rather than coming together, they seem to split apart in anger and distress. But Themis energy is equally powerful, and can work to bring together and to heal. From the battle of the Titans and Olympians to the oracle at Delphi and the banquet of the gods, the stories of the goddess weave through these chapters to illuminate how Themis energy is at work today. The authors explore psychological healing in individuals and relate this to new research in neurocardiology on the subtle interactions of body and mind. They show how the international movement for restorative justice is drawing on the same healing tools to benefit victims and offenders alike. And they evoke the extraordinary story of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which shows the world how Themis energy can help transform a ravaged society. This book deepens understanding of the psychological urge towards healing and wholeness which is as much a part of human beings as the urge to destroy. It offers exciting new insights into Jung's unique approach to the relationship between individual and collective psychology. It will appeal to psychologists who work with individuals and groups, to lawyers and others concerned with the failure of current criminal justice systems, and to people involved in religious, political and other groups that seek to build communities which can encompass and even celebrate diversity rather than rejecting it in fear.

The White Goddess Llewellyn Worldwide

Honorable Mention for the 2022 Elli Köngäs-Maranda Prize awarded by the Women's Section of the American Folklore Society Goddess characters are revered as feminist heroes in the popular media of many cultures. However, these goddess characters often prove to be less promising and more regressive than most people initially perceive. Goddesses in film, television, and fiction project worldviews and messages that reflect mostly patriarchal culture (included essentialized gender assumptions), in contrast to the feminist, empowering levels many fans and critics observe. Building on critiques of other skeptical scholars, this feminist, folkloristic approach deepens how our

remythologizing of the ancient past reflects a contemporary worldview and rhetoric. Structures of contemporary goddess myths often fit typical extremes as either vilified, destructive, dark, and chaotic (typical in film or television); or romanticized, positive, even utopian (typical in women's speculative fiction). This goddess spectrum persistently essentializes gender, stereotyping women as emotional, intuitive, sexual, motherly beings (good or bad), precluded from complex potential and fuller natures. Within apparent good-over-evil, pop-culture narrative frames, these goddesses all suffer significantly. However, a few recent intersectional writers, like N. K. Jemisin, break through these dark reflections of contemporary power dynamics to offer complex characters who evince "hopepunk." They resist typical simplified, reductionist absolutes to offer messages that resonate with potential for today's world. Mythic narratives featuring goddesses often do, but need not, serve merely as ideological mirrors of our culture's still problematically reductionist approach to women and all humanity.

From Ancient Myth to Modern Healing Bloomsbury Publishing

A comprehensive, scholarly accessible study, in which the authors draw upon poetry and mythology, art and literature, archaeology and psychology to show how the myth of the goddess has been lost from our formal Judeo-Christian images of the divine. They explain what happened to the goddess, when, and how she was excluded from western culture, and the implications of this loss.

The Sun Goddess Harper Collins

The Sanskrit narrative text *Devī Māhātmya*, "The Greatness of The Goddess," extols the triumphs of an all-powerful Goddess, Durgā, over universe-imperiling demons. These exploits are embedded in an intriguing frame narrative: a deposed king solicits the counsel of a forest-dwelling ascetic, who narrates the tripartite acts of Durgā which comprise the main body of the text. It is a centrally important early text about the Great Goddess, which has significance to the broader field of Purāṇic Studies. This book analyzes the *Devī Māhātmya* and argues that its frame narrative cleverly engages a dichotomy at the heart of Hinduism: the opposing ideals of asceticism and kingship. These ideals comprise two strands of what is referred to herein as the dharmic double helix. It decodes the symbolism of encounters between forest hermits and exiled kings through the lens of the dharmic double helix, demonstrating the extent to which this common narrative trope masterfully encodes the ambivalence of brāhmanic ideology. Engaging the tension between the moral necessity for nonviolence and the sociopolitical necessity for violence, the book deconstructs the ideological ambivalence throughout the *Devī Māhātmya* to demonstrate that its frame narrative invariably sheds light on its core content. Its very structure serves to emphasize a theme that prevails throughout the text, one inalienable to the rubric of the episodes themselves: sovereignty on both cosmic and mundane scales. The book sheds new light on the content of the *Devī Māhātmya* and contextualizes it within the framework of important debates within early Hinduism. It will be of interest to academics in the fields of Asian Religion, Hindu Studies, Goddess Studies, South Asian Studies, Narrative Studies and comparative literature.

Grave Mercy Llewellyn Worldwide

On an island in the shape of a teardrop live two sisters. One is admired far and wide, the other lives in her shadow. One is the Oracle, the other is destined for the Underworld. But what will happen when she returns to the island? Based on the Japanese myth of Izanami and Izanagi, *The Goddess Chronicle* is a fantastical tour de force about ferocious love and bitter revenge. The *Myths* series brings together some of the world's finest writers, each of whom has retold a myth in a contemporary and memorable way. Authors in the series include Karen Armstrong, Margaret Atwood, A.S. Byatt, David Grossman, Natsuo Kirino, Alexander McCall Smith, Philip Pullman, Ali Smith and Jeanette Winterson.

The Body of the Goddess Farrar, Straus and Giroux

The essays focus upon popular culture as it is informed by ancient and current mythic images,

narratives, personalities, icons and archetypes. Topics include: the cult status of the serial sex killer; sexual murder as a contemporary form of religious sacrifice; pornography as an everyday narrative underlying not only sexism, but also racism, homophobia, and militarism; the relation of incest to nuclearism; pornography and the sacred; cyborg myth; and subtextual presence of ancient goddess figures in contemporary narratives, including that of Princess Diana.

Great Goddesses Routledge

Aradia, immortal priestess and daughter of the Goddess of the Moon, has just been asked to take up the raiment of a human body to teach women on earth herbs, spells and magic. With a heavy heart Aradia leaves all that she loves behind only to find herself enmeshed in a brutal web of patriarchal dominance, where men rape, pillage and burn the Temples of the Goddess, and women cry out to be heard against the din of war, poverty and ignorance. "Myth of the Moon Goddess" is an epic trilogy, three consecutive lives of the Goddess Aradia, which open's the karmic portal between life, death and rebirth. Follow Aradia's progress through the Seven Sacred Rays, an age old system of spiritual growth, and along with her... delve into the mysteries of the soul. In this fantasy epic, Aradia is sworn to help the plight of women on earth; unfortunately she converges on a world prepared to do anything to stop her lofty mission. Aradia's first life on earth is blessed by a loving family and a feisty grandmother who teaches her witchcraft. As a young girl encountering great loss and brutality, she is challenged to find passion and a desire to live. Aradia is spirited and hard headed; when she initiates a curse in anger... dire consequences follow! Aradia's second life as Eurynome, child of the forest, begins just where she left off ... angry with men. Yet, her soul recognizes her lover from their previous life together and he teaches her the skills of a warrior. On a pilgrimage to the Temple to become a priestess, her skills of battle are put to the test, but will her warrior's heart learn to trust? Aradia's third life as Czarinaea begins where Eurynome left off ... devastated when her desire to become a priestess is thwarted. Forced to marry, she is loved both by a prince and a king, but through devastating brutality and loss she is challenged to learn the lessons of strength and valor, but will she have the courage to love?

Myth of the Moon Goddess Popular Press

MAIDEN, MOTHER, CRONE presents the Trinity as ancient symbols of the Goddess, predating Christianity by thousands of years. The book explores longstanding myths and symbols, illuminating ancient, universal human challenges that still exist today. Together with in-depth explanations of goddess archetypes and their relevance to 20th century living, this book will lead you to a state of conscious awareness that can change your life.

The Goddess Myth in Contemporary Literature and Popular Culture Bloomsbury Publishing

For as long as humans have sought god, we have found the goddess. Ruling over the imaginations of our earliest civilizations, she played a critical spiritual role as a keeper of nature's fertile powers and an assurance of the next sustaining harvest. As people began to migrate across the world, the faces of the goddess and the roles she played were forever changed. The Goddess takes us back into prehistory, tracing the evolution of the goddess across vast spans of time to examine the transformation of belief and what it says about who we are. The metamorphoses of goddess figures that have taken place and the patterns we may discern in these changes, which span millennia and a wide spectrum of cultures, have much to teach us about the development of human societies and values. This book shows us that the faces of gods and goddesses reflect the lives and souls of the peoples who worship them. It charts the development of traditional Western gender roles through an understanding of the shifting concepts of the goddess from her earliest roots in India and Iran to her more familiar faces in Ireland and Iceland, and analyses the eventual subordination of goddesses to gods. From Demeter to Kali and Guanyin to Gaia, and from mother goddesses to warriors, virgins and destroyers, powerful female figures of worship continue to play a crucial role in belief systems today. The Goddess reveals how spiritual thought ties humanity to its ancient origins and shows us that the story of the goddess is also the story of ourselves.

The Goddess and the King in Indian Myth Reaktion Books

Embark on a literal and spiritual journey of discovery and rediscovery as you explore the ancient world of women-centered culture and the reemergence of goddess consciousness in modern women's lives. Part celebration, part travelogue, and part historical research, this compelling work takes you on a tour of places of historical significance, offering explanations and discussions of artifacts and drawings and their relationship to the goddess of earth and cosmos. Visit Greek temples, prehistoric caves, stone circles, giant passage mounds, and other monuments. At each site, the author draws upon her own experiences and adeptly combines them with ancient traditions, archaeology, and mythology to beautifully conjure landscapes imprinted with the symbolic form of women.

The Myth of Matriarchal Prehistory Penguin

A cultural history of the goddess of love, from a New York Times bestselling and award-winning historian. Aphrodite was said to have been born from the sea, rising out of a froth of white foam. But long before the Ancient Greeks conceived of this voluptuous blonde, she existed as an early spirit of fertility on the shores of Cyprus -- and thousands of years before that, as a ferocious warrior-goddess in the Middle East. Proving that this fabled figure is so much more than an avatar of commercialized romance, historian Bettany Hughes reveals the remarkable lifestory of one of antiquity's most potent myths. Venus and Aphrodite brings together ancient art, mythology, and archaeological revelations to tell the story of human desire. From Mesopotamia to modern-day London, from Botticelli to Beyoncé, Hughes explains why this immortal goddess continues to

entrance us today -- and how we trivialize her power at our peril.

Athena: The Story of a Goddess Simon and Schuster

Illustrated stories from around the world that celebrate female characters in ancient myths and legends.

Ancient Goddesses Barefoot Books

"The Goddess is at once a scholarly and intensely personal journey that shows how the great female figures of archaic and classical Greece can serve to illuminate the present and future of women everywhere. Moreover, the author uncovers the patriarchal representation of the more ancient matriarchal traditions with a sensitivity and sympathy that allows the strength of the goddess to emerge as images of liberation for men as well as women. Here is a radical and brilliantly new understanding of an ancient and honored theme. We find not just jealous Hera but also she who is eternal maiden and solitary widow. Persephone is both the virgin goddess of spring and the awesome queen of death and the underworld. Athens's courage and wisdom, too often seen as masculine attributes, are discovered as authentically feminine. Through her subtle interweaving of the many variants and layers of tradition with her own dreams and experiences, Christine Downing communicates the pertinence of each figure she addresses not just to isolated incidents but to the whole of life. With an energy at once tender and powerful, this book enables the reader to enter deeply into the labyrinth where myth is the image of life and life the image of myth." -- Provided by publisher

The Myth of the Goddess Univ of California Press

According to the myth of matriarchal prehistory, men and women lived together peacefully before recorded history. Society was centered around women, with their mysterious life-giving powers, and they were honored as incarnations and priestesses of the Great Goddess. Then a transformation occurred, and men thereafter dominated society. Given the universality of patriarchy in recorded history, this vision is understandably appealing for many women. But does it have any basis in fact? And as a myth, does it work for the good of women? Cynthia Eller traces the emergence of the feminist matriarchal myth, explicates its functions, and examines the evidence for and against a matriarchal prehistory. Finally, she explains why this vision of peaceful, woman-centered prehistory is something feminists should be wary of.

Women of Myth 2Leaf Press

Giving Western literature and art many of its most enduring themes and archetypes, Greek mythology and the gods and goddesses at its core are a fundamental part of the popular imagination. At the heart of Greek mythology are exciting stories of drama, action, and adventure featuring gods and goddesses, who, while physically superior to humans, share many of their weaknesses. Readers will be introduced to the many figures once believed to populate Mount Olympus as well as related concepts and facts about the Greek mythological tradition.

Gods, goddesses, and mythology Hampton Roads Publishing

Presents evidence to support the author's woman-centered interpretation of prehistoric civilizations, considering the prehistoric goddesses, gods and religion, and discussing the living goddesses--deities which have continued to be venerated through the modern era.

The Goddess Chronicle Univ. Press of Mississippi

Gillian Alban meticulously pursues the Fairy Melusine snake-woman image through the plot and the poetry of A. S. Byatt's novel *Possession*, into medieval legend, and beyond into her antecedents in ancient myth. The book describes the erotically inspiring force of Melusine's love story and draws parallels with goddesses such as Lamia, Ishtar or Inanna, Isis, and Asherah. Mother, creator, and leader, the figure of Melusine was ultimately vilified and tellingly converted into the demon of patriarchal accounts, as seen in the examples of Lilith, Medusa, Scylla, and the serpent in the Garden. Alban deconstructs part of Genesis, including the roles of Adam and Eve and Cain's crime, and illuminates the Old Testament worship of the goddess Asherah alongside the male Yahweh. A forceful exploration of literature, history, and myth, this study sweeps away limiting assumptions about the female sex. Melusine the Serpent Goddess restores the dignity acknowledged to women of old, making a forceful statement about the power and creativity of women.

Goddesses in Myth and Cultural Memory Penguin UK

How have the goddesses of ancient myth survived, prevalent even now as literary and cultural icons? How do allegory, symbolic interpretation, and political context transform the goddess from her regional and individual identity into a goddess of philosophy and literature? Emilie Kutash explores these questions, beginning from the premise that cultural memory, a collective cultural and social phenomenon, can last thousands of years. Kutash demonstrates a continuing practice of interpreting and allegorizing ancient myths, tracing these goddesses of archaic origin through history. Chapters follow the goddesses from their ancient near eastern prototypes, to their place in the epic poetry, drama and hymns of classical Greece, to their appearance in Platonic and Neoplatonic philosophy, Medieval allegory, and their association with Christendom. Finally, Kutash considers how goddesses were made into Jungian archetypes, and how some contemporary feminists made them a counterfoil to male divinity, thereby addressing the continued role of goddesses in perpetuating gender binaries.

The Goddess Book Reaktion Books

Is the idea of goddess at the dawn of civilization a historical fact, or just consoling fiction? In this text, historians and archaeologists investigate the evidence for goddesses in ancient civilizations.

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