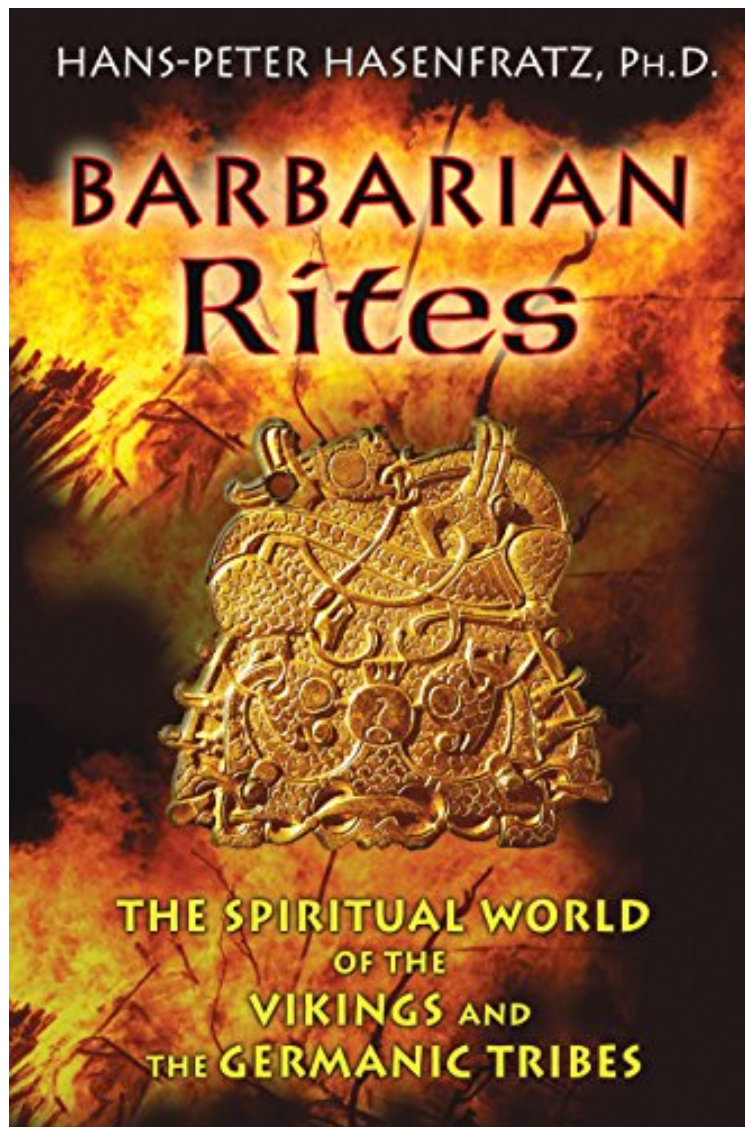


[FREE] Barbarian Rites: The Spiritual World of the Vikings and the Germanic Tribes

Barbarian Rites: The Spiritual World of the Vikings and the Germanic Tribes

Hans-Peter Hasenfratz Ph.D.

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Hans-Peter Hasenfratz Ph.D. : Barbarian Rites: The Spiritual World of the Vikings and the Germanic Tribes before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Barbarian Rites: The Spiritual World of the Vikings and the Germanic Tribes:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent research into customs and rites By Ron Spolar Information

on the ancient Germanic tribes is available on the internet and in a few books. Information concerning the customs, social classes, rituals, various rites, how fate was seen, types of magic including runic; are difficult to find without being hidden in texts describing wars, battles, deities, the Roman influence and mythology. He is a linguist and therefore driven to explain every concept with linguistic comparisons to the different northern languages: Germanic, Iranian and Indian. That is the worst of it but he is not consumed by his interest. My original focus was for information concerning any credible documentation on how the practice of runic divination evolved separate from runes as an alphabet. I received more credible and archeological related information on runic magic and divination in this book than I have found on the internet or in many books on runes. Most are full of myth and speculative logic but few facts. I highly recommend this book for those in search of how our Germanic ancestors saw the world, their behavior, what they believed in, how they worshiped, their social strata, magic practiced, their rites and their customs. All information is referenced to historical sources, authors, and archeology. Very little speculation.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. After "How to Read a Book" by Mortimer Adler, the most important book I've ever read. By Chris Rushlau What we call The West (England, France, Germany, and Scandinavia, plus Spain and Italy when they're behaving properly) are the remains of Germanic kingdoms whose progenitors swarmed out of Asia a couple of thousand years ago. (Italy and Spain got raided serially by various Germanic tribes like Goths, Vandals, Lombards, and Burgundians.) Then the North Germanic branch returned the favor by raiding down across Asia west of the Ural Mts. and set up the Kingdom of Rus, Russia, whose founding father was Rurik the Viking. So what made Germanics tick, and what does all this have to do with today? In a 120 pages of well-written academical prose (not a contradiction in terms as professors in the US would like you to believe), Dr. Hasenfratz introduces you to what you always dimly knew, neatly translated into English by a guy who cares. You know what Odin's name means? That's Odin, chief Norse god? Oh, I forgot to raise the salient (bulging) point: what does that say about the American Dream? Let me mention what I said to a history professor in his seminar at Carleton who'd grown up in Germany, which made him get red in the face but he then gave me the highest course grade I ever got there: "if you take away his Bible and his law-book, every German is a Nazi." Read the book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great gift for any one interested in Asatru or Heathenry! By David Evan den Boer Great way to explore the rituals of the northern European people and for those interested in learning more about what goes on in the life of a heathen!

Discover the untamed paganism of the Vikings and the Germanic tribes prior to the complete Christianization of Europe. Explores the different forms of magic practiced by these tribes, including runic magic, necromancy (death magic), soul-travel, and shape-shifting. Examines their rites of passage and initiation rituals and their most important gods, such as Odin, Loki, and Thor. Looks at barbarian magic in historical accounts, church and assembly records, and mythology as well as an eyewitness report from a 10th-century Muslim diplomat. Reveals the use and abuse of these traditions, myths and magic by the Nazis before the conversion of Europe to Christianity in the Middle Ages. Germanic tribes roamed the continent, plundering villages and waging battles to seek the favor of Odin, their god of war, ecstasy, and magic. Centuries later, predatory Viking raiders from Scandinavia carried on similar traditions. These wild barbarians had a system of social classes and familial clans with complex spiritual customs, from rites of passage for birth, death, and adulthood to black magic practices and shamanic ecstatic states, such as the infamous berserker's rage. Chronicling the original pagan tradition of free and wild Europe--and the use and abuse of its myths and magic by the Nazis--Hans-Peter Hasenfratz offers a concise history of the Germanic tribes of Europe and their spiritual, magical, and occult beliefs. Looking at historical accounts, church and assembly records, mythology, and folktales from Germany, Russia, Scandinavia, and Iceland as well as an eyewitness report of Viking customs and rituals from a 10th-century Muslim diplomat, Hasenfratz explores the different forms of magic--including charms, runic magic, necromancy, love magic, soul-travel, and shamanic shape-shifting--practiced by the Teutonic tribes and examines their interactions with and eventual adaptation to Christianity. Providing in-depth information on their social class and clan structure, rites of passage, and their most important gods and goddesses, such as Odin, Loki, Thor, and Freyja, Hasenfratz reveals how it is only through understanding our magical barbarian roots that we can see the remnants of their language, culture, and dynamic spirit that have carried through to modern times.

Barbarian Rites provides a wealth of facts free from ideological or interpretive overlay, yet does so in a prose that can be read for pleasure as well as instruction. One feels the secure weight of lifelong scholarship behind this book. (Joscelyn Godwin, author of *Atlantis and the Cycles of Time*) Professor Hasenfratz presents both a solid introduction to the mysterious world of Germanic spirituality and something that goes well beyond the introductory as he demonstrates many deeper insights through his lively comparative and holistic approach. (Stephen E. Flowers, Ph.D., director of the Woodharrow Institute and author of *The Secret of the Rune*) A number of books describe the pagan gods of the ancient Norsemen, but very few explain why pagan beliefs appealed to so many for so long. In this outstanding English translation of *Barbarian Rites*, Hasenfratz engages Germanic spiritual tradition seriously and empathetically. He provides an important and useful resource for students of northern European religions at all levels. (Stephen Harris, associate professor of German and Scandinavian Studies at the University of Massachusetts) Do NOT pass

this book by. (Michael Gleason, Independent er, August 2011)Despite their barbarism, Hasenfratz situates the Vikings within Indo-European culture, and suggests that their view of the end of this world and the coming of a new age will resonate with todays new age philosophy. (Publishers Weekly, September 2011)An interesting read for those who are drawn to the ways of Thor, Odin and all their kin. (Nicholas Breeze Wood, Sacred Hoop Magazine, September 2011)Far from being a dry academic text, this is a captivating book that will inform and entertain all levels. (Psychic Magic, Autumn 2011)This is a must-read for Heathens and an essential text for scholars of ancient civilizations. A hearty Well Done!. to the author and translator for an unflinchingly honest look at this culture, and to Inner Traditions for publishing this singular text. (Elizabeth Hazel, FacingNorth.net, October 2011)Barbarian Rites presents the reader with a clean and delightful overview, a treasure hoard of information about the religious and spiritual world of the North. Its reach will satisfy the scholar who wants to make sure he has a complete overview from the creation Gap to Ragnarok, from Yggdrasil to the casting of runes. Moynihans translation is appealingly clear, and his etymological footnotes add to the readers enjoyment. (G. Ronald Murphy, SJ, Prof. of German, Georgetown University)The book, which ends with scholarly notes, a bibliography, and an index, should be considered indispensable for all readers with an interest in the roots of Heathen culture. (Barbara Ardinger, Witches and Pagans Magazine)An exploration of the early religious cultures of the Germanic tribes, Barbarian Rites offers a scholarly look at the history of this ancient culture. It begins by asking what constitutes a Germanic tribe, then proceeds to answer that question by offering in-depth analysis of their social structures, cosmography, pantheon and so on. A wonderful and dense book for anyone interested in the ritual practices of ancient cultures. (Witches' Almanac, December 2013)From the Back CoverHISTORY / FOLKLORE Barbarian Rites provides a wealth of facts free from ideological or interpretive overlay, yet does so in a prose that can be read for pleasure as well as instruction. One feels the secure weight of lifelong scholarship behind this book. --Joscelyn Godwin, author of Atlantis and the Cycles of Time Before the conversion of Europe to Christianity in the Middle Ages, Germanic tribes roamed the continent, plundering villages and waging battles to seek the favor of Odin, their god of war, ecstasy, and magic. Centuries later, predatory Viking raiders from Scandinavia carried on similar traditions. These wild barbarians had a system of social classes and familial clans with complex spiritual customs, from rites of passage for birth, death, and adulthood to black magic practices and shamanic ecstatic states, such as the infamous berserkers rage. Chronicling the original pagan tradition of free and wild Europe--and the use and abuse of its myths and magic by the Nazis--Hans-Peter Hasenfratz offers a concise history of the Germanic tribes of Europe and their spiritual, magical, and occult beliefs. Looking at historical accounts, church and assembly records, mythology, and folktales from Germany, Russia, Scandinavia, and Iceland as well as an eyewitness report of Viking customs and rituals from a 10th-century Muslim diplomat, Hasenfratz explores the different forms of magic--including charms, runic magic, necromancy, love magic, soul travel, and shamanic shape-shifting--practiced by the Teutonic tribes and examines their interactions with and eventual adaptation to Christianity. Providing in-depth information on their social class and clan structure, rites of passage, and their most important gods and goddesses, such as Odin, Loki, Thor, and Freyja, Hasenfratz reveals how it is only through understanding our magical barbarian roots that we can see the remnants of their language, culture, and dynamic spirit that have carried through to modern times. HANS-PETER HASENFRATZ, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of the history of religion at the Ruhr University in Bochum, Germany. The author of numerous works in German on ancient cultures and religions, he lives in Bochum, Germany.About the AuthorHans-Peter Hasenfratz, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of the history of religion at the Ruhr University in Bochum, Germany. The author of numerous works in German on ancient cultures and religions, he lives in Bochum, Germany.