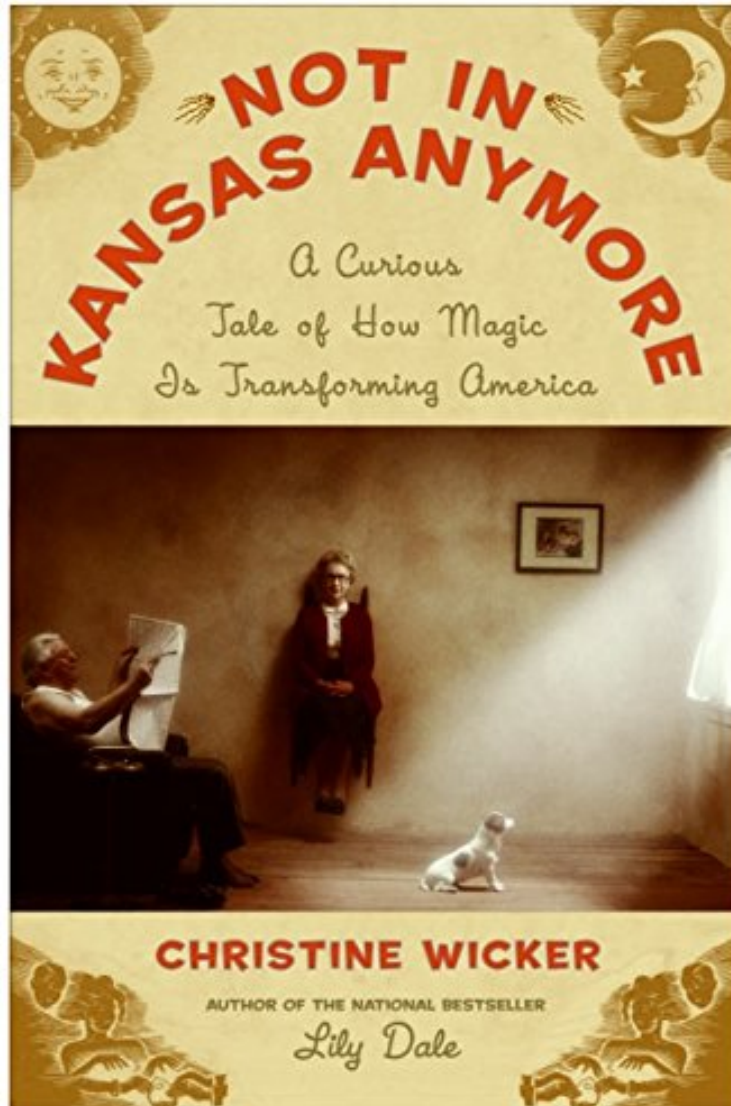


(Download) Not In Kansas Anymore: A Curious Tale of How Magic Is Transforming America

Not In Kansas Anymore: A Curious Tale of How Magic Is Transforming America

Christine Wicker

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Christine Wicker : Not In Kansas Anymore: A Curious Tale of How Magic Is Transforming America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Not In Kansas Anymore: A Curious Tale of How Magic Is Transforming America:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Thought-provoking Read That Will Make You Reevaluate Others' or Your Own BeliefsBy UmbraSumusMy partner and I found this book at a tag sale and thought it might be an

interesting read. We were right about it being interesting, though I was not expecting the journey this book would take me on. As the daughter of a Wiccan father and a Fundamentalist Christian mother I've had an interesting experience, as well as indoctrination of beliefs. I've considered myself an Atheist for more than a decade, yet I understand why people believe differently and generally respect most belief systems. This book gave me a completely new perspective on the occult and on human belief as a whole. Not only did *Not In Kansas* force me to reevaluate the beliefs I was brought up with, but my current beliefs as well. It gave me insight into others' beliefs and traditions. I found myself analyzing the simple things I do in my day-to-day life and why I do those things. I tend to be a bit OCD about many things and was truly intrigued by the thought that a lot of my OCD habits, despite being an atheist, are actually rooted in unexplainable superstitions that I have created in my life. An eye-opening book for anyone, I've ended up purchasing several copies for family and friends to read. I would not say that this book changed my current values or beliefs, but the insight it gave me has been extremely invaluable in trying to relate to the culture of the occult and people who believe differently from myself, or other mainstream beliefs for that matter. 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Lots of fun and good for you
By Gently Feral
When is an array of vampires, elves, witches, Satanists and hoodoo doctors NOT a freak show? When they fall under the respectful, thoughtful gaze of Christine Wicker. What she has done for the spiritualists of "Lily Dale: The True Story of the Town that Talks to the Dead" she now does for a much wider cross-section of American spiritual culture. If you yourself are a magic-worker or "alternative believer" of any kind, you would do well to read this book. We all tend, like everybody else, to look down on people who walk our path in "the wrong way." I will never laugh at people who think they are elves again. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Praise and Thanks from a Rootworker
By Sindy N. Todo
Christine Wicker has done an excellent job of explaining, finally and clearly, what rootwork and hoodoo really is and how magic is so spiritually connected. I am thrilled that she has opened the door for people to understand the differences in all types of magic. This book is a must have for anyone who is curious and would like to have a wonderful viewpoint from a really good listener. She has outdone herself and brought her own personal magical gift into her writing. We are beyond blessed to have Christine as a part of our community! Buy this book now...and watch for your own signs of divinely sent magic! With Great Enthusiasm and Thanks - Sindy Todo - Todomojo

Magic has stepped out of the movies, morphed from the pages of fairy tales, and taken root in the modern mind. Soccer moms are getting voodoo head washings in their backyards, young U.S. soldiers send chants toward pagan gods of war, and a seemingly normal family has determined that they are in fact elves. Hundreds of thousands of Americans are turning toward the supernatural in new ways, blending the ancient and the modern for a hyper-charged spirituality. They are reaching back in time to powers that have sustained the human imagination for thousands of years. For many of us, magic is taking hold in less obvious ways. Almost unconsciously we find ourselves noting mysterious synchronicities that point to a plan for our lives. We are heeding premonitions, marking good omens, scrutinizing our dreams, and interpreting visions as direct communications. Thinking we might be called crazy, most of us never utter a word to anyone. But others of us are bolder. The community of Wiccans, witches, and pagans is growing faster than any other religious group in America. Voodoo, hoodoo, and Santeria are attracting middle-class believers across the country. National bestselling author and award-winning religion reporter Christine Wicker leaves no talisman unturned in her hunt to find what's authentic and what's not in America's burgeoning magical reality. Her investigation leads her from the voodoo temples of New Orleans to the witches' covens of Salem to a graveyard in north Florida as she probes the secrets of an underground society and learns lessons she never dreamed could be taught. Her new teachers are an odd crew: Myrna the Death Puppet, Tracy, Queen of the Vampires, and Siva, a tenderhearted satanist, along with people who truly believe they are fairies, werewolves, and dragons. The reporter in Wicker listens harder than she ever has, and she doesn't let herself roll her eyes -- not even once. What she learns repels her, challenges her, and then changes her in ways she never could have imagined. And if you let it, it might change you, too.

From Publishers Weekly
Starred . Apparently vampires not only exist but are alive, well, and possibly living in your home town. It's also likely that the spirit of novelist Zora Neale Hurston is in North Carolina giving magical people very specific instructions about what to do with her grave dirt. At least this is what Wicker suggests with a lot of wit, a serious dash of journalistic curiosity, and always respect for even the strange and unbelievable characters she encountered as she journeyed across America in search of all things magical. A former religion reporter for the Dallas Morning News and author of several books including *Lily Dale: The True Story of the Town that Talks to the Dead*, Wicker tries to sort out the difference between religion and magic, and examines the many varieties of magical experience found across America. Wicker is many things for readers: a memoirist, a reporter, a narrator of fascinating stories and well-written dialogue and, not least, a humorist. Readers will find themselves unable to put this book down, absorbed in the story Wicker has to tell that is as much filled with laugh-out-loud moments as it is with insights into a topic that continues to fascinate both Muggles and magicians alike. (Oct.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist
*Starred * After Wicker published her book on

American spiritualism, Lily Dale: The True Story of the Town That Talks to the Dead (2003), fans began sharing with her their beliefs in what once was called the occult but now more typically goes by the name magic. Wicker soon set out to discover what was so compelling about the philosophy and practice of magic, or witchcraft. From the moment she introduces a group of self-professed vampires, who challenge her as to whether she is a victim, she sweeps us into some seriously cobwebby corners of the American psyche. Impeccably researched and filled with details on the prevalence of magic throughout American history, the book could be ponderous and freaky, but that Wicker's delightfully self-abnegating tone never allows. When she attends a ritual in Salem, Massachusetts, where historic witch-burning is the basis of a profitable commercial cult, her over-the-top costume makes it hard for her even to walk. Offered a chance for some good mojo to spice up her sex life, she decides to let well enough alone. Wicker never mocks the magicians' and witches' beliefs or their sometimes-extreme personal habits but rather constantly seeks the reasons for belief and the context for personal choice. Such an attitude might ruffle the feathers of those who would rather condemn than understand, but for the curious and open-minded, her book is marvelous. Patricia Monaghan

Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Readers will find themselves unable to put this book down, absorbed in the story Wicker has to tell. (Publishers Weekly (starred review))Impeccably researched . . . For the curious and open-minded, her book is marvelous. (Booklist (starred review))Droll, deadpan humor. (Pages Magazine)Both witty and wise....a fascinating read for the curious about the state of magic in America. (Radiant Magazine)