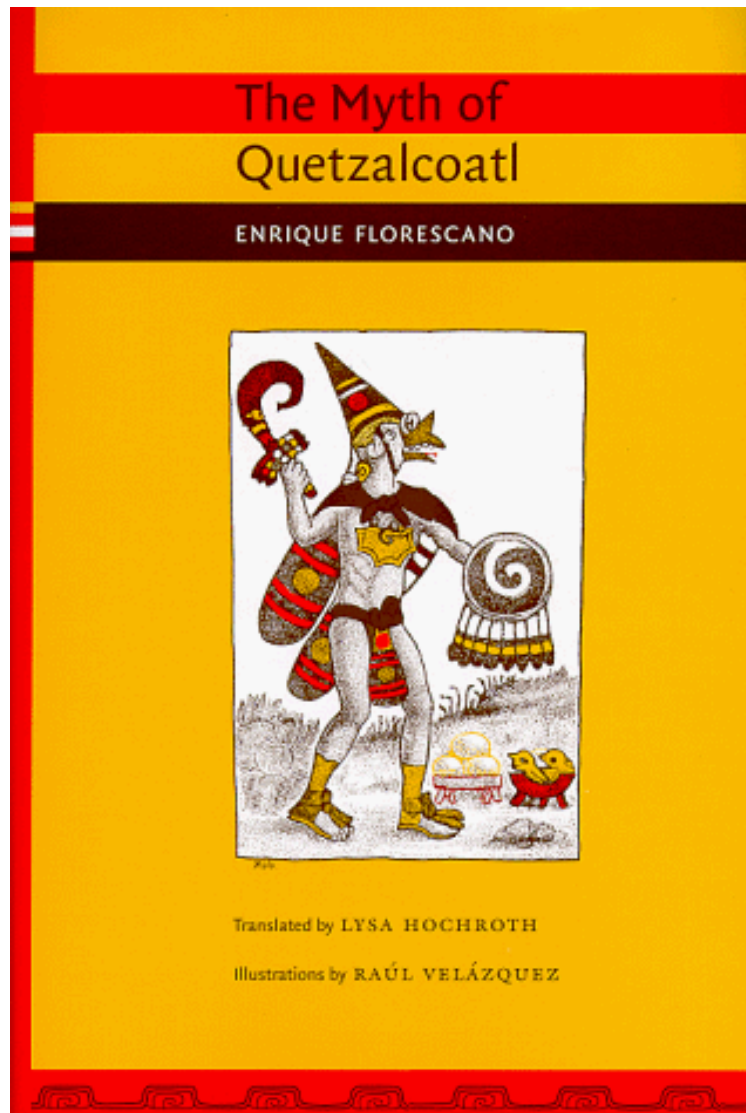


(Download free ebook) The Myth of Quetzalcoatl

The Myth of Quetzalcoatl

Professor Enrique Florescano

**Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2814137 in Books The Johns Hopkins University Press 1999-04-08 Original language: English PDF # 1 .95 x 6.29 x 9.251, #File Name: 0801859999312 pages | File size: 43.Mb

Professor Enrique Florescano : The Myth of Quetzalcoatl before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Myth of Quetzalcoatl:

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Lots of info, but it's a bit droll By MysticJaguar There is alot of information here regarding the figure of Quetzacoatl. But I noticed about a quarter of the way through this book that it was boring. The authors writing style is not up to the task to communicate adequately the mythos around such an important personage. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. A new vision on myth By A Customer I found just fascinating the tracing of the roots of a classical myth into so many different cultures and traditions along the

Mesoamerican cultures: from Teotihuacan and Tula to the historic Aztec period and from one part of Central America to another, to explain how a story becomes a myth. There is of course a similarity on the information because the sources have so many coincidental origins. Quetzalcoatl. It is such a familiar name, the Feathered Serpent of Ancient Mexico. But who is this man, myth, god who was supposed to return from the East to reclaim his power, and was mistook for Cortes. A deep study of the origins of a myth that surrounded a God of such importance and power that nearly no aspect of everyday life seemed to go untouched by him. An historical figure, and a legend, that would signal the end of mortal kingship. A great essay that traces every possible source through comparative literature to find that Quetzalcoatl is related to many names and incarnations, throughout the Mesoamerican pantheons. 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Myth of Quetzalcoatl By Atheon I found the text occasionally tedious and a little repetitive. The progress of the tradition of Quetzalcoatl from its ancient roots at Teotihuacan and Tula to the historic Aztec period and from one part of Central America to another was very interesting, but the information was often presented in a repetitive way. It was almost as though the work had started originally as a series of journal articles or research papers presented at conferences on Mesoamerican mythology all woven together to produce a book length product. The chapter on comparative literature and the evolution of creation myths in different cultures world wide was certainly interesting, but not necessarily original or even germane to the title subject.

Warrior, rain-god, and spirit of the maize, Quetzalcoatl -- the most familiar of the Mesoamerican gods -- is better known for his attributes than for his complex history. Known to the Zapotecs, Olmecs, Toltecs, Mayans, Aztecs, and others, and at times the shared hero of warring peoples, Quetzalcoatl transcends both cultural and chronological barriers. His very name links the earth (coatl, or serpent) with the sky (quetzalli, or precious green feathers). In this comprehensive study, Enrique Florescano traces the spread of the worship of the Plumed Serpent, and the multiplicity of interpretations that surround the god, by comparing the Palenque inscriptions (ca. A.D. 690), the Vienna Codex (pre-Hispanic conquest), the *Historia de los Mexicanos* (1531), the *Popul Vuh* (ca. 1554), and numerous other texts. He also consults and reproduces archeological evidence from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, demonstrating how the myth of Quetzalcoatl extends throughout Mesoamerica. Chapter topics include the diverse manifestations of Quetzalcoatl, the god as civilizing hero, interpretations of his role in creation stories and other myths, and a comparative study of Quetzalcoatl as one of the offspring of the Mother Goddess similar to divinities such as Dumuzi, Tammuz, Osiris, Adonis, and Persephone, from other classical cultures.

From Library Journal Through many centuries of prehistory, Quetzalcoatl came to be the most enduring and widespread of the many deities worshiped by the native peoples of Mesoamerica. This mythic figure appeared under a variety of names and guises but was always associated with the warrior spirit and with crop fertility, particularly with regard to the cultivation of maize. Florescano, director of the National Council of Culture and Arts in Mexico, has amassed a wealth of information on the history and cultural significance of Quetzalcoatl. His well-written and scholarly study, nicely translated by Hochroth, presents thorough research into both the archaeological record and pre-Hispanic and Spanish written accounts. His in-depth analysis also provides comparisons between Quetzalcoatl and the prehistoric vegetation gods of Mesopotamia and the Mediterranean. This fascinating work is recommended for academic libraries with collections in Mesoamerican prehistory and religion. A Elizabeth Salt, Otterbein Coll. Lib., Westerville, OH Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Florescano... has amassed a wealth of information on the history and cultural significance of Quetzalcoatl. His well-written and scholarly study, nicely translated by Hochroth, presents thorough research into both the archeological record and pre-Hispanic and Spanish written accounts. His in-depth analysis also provides comparisons between Quetzalcoatl and the prehistoric vegetation gods of Mesopotamia and the Mediterranean... Fascinating." -- Library Journal "Florescano has written an outstanding work, synthesizing highly complex data from many sources... A brilliant introduction to the underlying themes of Mesoamerican religion, from 1200 BC to the Spanish invasion, and can be read with profit by all those interested in the mental systems of some of the world's most fascinating civilizations." -- Michael D. Coe, Times Higher Education Supplement "Florescano's reconstruction and analysis of the mythical narratives dealing with Quetzalcoatl and its equivalent manifestations result in a fascinating account of how myths simultaneously describe, make sense of, and prescribe practices and beliefs, retaining an adaptability that allows for new articulations as historical changes take place." -- Osvaldo Pardo, Revista De Estudios Hispánicos "A rich and provocative work which will stimulate interest in a central topic of American studies." -- Gordon Brotherston, Journal of Latin American Studies Language Notes Text: English (translation) Original Language: Spanish