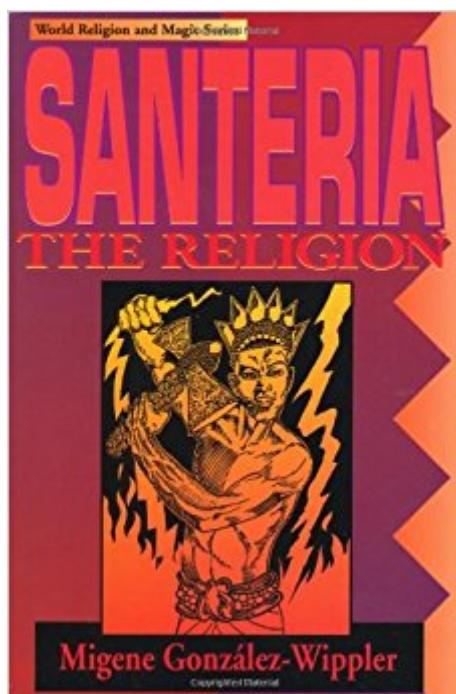


The book was found

Santeria: The Religion: Faith, Rites, Magic (Llewellyn's World Religion & Magick)



Synopsis

Brought to Cuba as slaves, the Yoruba people of West Africa preserved their religion's heritage by disguising their gods as Catholic saints and worshipping them in secret. The resulting religion is known as Santeria, a blend of primitive magic and Catholicism now practiced by an estimated five million Americans. *Santeria: The Religion* is an informative and insightful examination of an African religion's survival in the New World. No one could write this book better than Migene Gonzalez-Wippler. Combining her informed study as an anthropologist and personal experience as a Santerian initiate results in a thrilling book that reveals some of Santeria's most spellbinding elements:

- The orâ™shas: the deities of Santeria. Who they are. What they represent. How they may be contacted.
- The santeros: the priests of Santeria. What they are like. What they do. Initiations into the priesthood.
- The diloggâ™n: shells used in divination. How they are used. Methods to consult the gods with the shells.
- Ewe: the magic of Santeria. Includes herbal potions prepared as medicinal cures.

Santeria: The Religion covers every aspect of this religion, including its rites and ceremonies. Some of these ceremonies may be considered bizarre or controversial--but, if you want to know the truth, get this book. *Santeria: The Religion* contains over 65 remarkable photographs that will take you right into Santeria traditions. Interviews with practitioners reveal aspects of the religion rarely disclosed to non-believers. The time has come to reveal the growing spiritual practice that continues to gain ground worldwide, and to remove the fear and distrust from people who do not understand. Here is the truth about the religion. Get *Santeria: The Religion* today.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An anthropologist and leading authority on Santeria, the syncretism of the Yoruba religion and Catholicism, Gonzalez-Wippler has written numerous books on the subject (e.g., *Santeria*, *African Magic in Latin America*, LJ 12/1/73; *The Santeria Experience*, LJ 2/15/82). Notorious for their secrecy, the Santeros initially misled Gonzalez-Wippler to protect their faith, but in time they recognized her genuine respect for the religion and began relaying accurate information. The book focuses on the Yoruba pantheon of orishas (Goddesses and Gods), the ten or more levels of Santeria hierarchy, the priesthood, the concept of Divine power known as ashe, initiations, Spirit possession, spells and herbs, and the controversial practice of animal sacrifice. A well-researched, fascinating look at a growing, dynamic religion with more than five million practitioners in this country alone.- Kevin M. Roddy, Oakland P.L., Cal.Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.
--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

There are over 100 million practitioners of Santeria in the United States and Latin America. Despite such wide acceptance and practice, Santeria remains, for the larger, non-Hispanic culture, a mystery shrouded in secrecy. Secrecy was once vital to the religion's survival. An African religion brought to the Americas by slaves, it was disguised within a facade of Catholicism. Recently, Santeria has experienced a surge in interest among many cultural groups. Now you can discover the inner secrets of this religion in *Santeria: The Religion* by Migene Gonzalez-Wippler. In this book, you will find more of the true secrets of Santeria revealed than ever before. You will learn about its fascinating history and its previously clandestine practices and even come to understand some of the most controversial beliefs and practices of this religion. Through her extensive personal experience (as an initiate into Santeria) and advanced academic study, Gonzalez-Wippler reveals all sides of this mesmerizing faith. She shows how this complete, dynamic spiritual system is as viable as any of the world's major religions. Santeria may be the best-kept secret of Hispanic culture. If your exposure to this religion has been from seeing voodoo dolls in bad movies, I challenge you to consider an alternative: the truth. No matter your background, if you are ready to discover the secrets of this faith, get *Santeria: The Religion*.

A Santero recommended this book to me because I have recently become interested in the

Religion. It's a great starter. It has a lot of information on the very clandestine practices of the religion. It teaches a lot about the orishas, initiation ceremonies, and the history of the religion. Gonzalez-Wippler also includes some VERY interesting anecdotes.... I would recommend reading the book just for these anecdotes. Still, the book definitely contains some misinformation. The author even admits that, when writing other books (and earlier versions of this book), the initiates from whom she sought information, told her lies so that outsiders would not be let in on the very private practices of the religion. I feel that that might still be true for this book. I was even more suspicious about the accuracy of this book because, in her discussion of Brazilian candomblé, she misspelled nearly all of the terms she used. How can you trust that her information is accurate when she didn't even care to get the correct spelling of the words? Still, it is a good read. Well written, with good information. I definitely wouldn't use it for any academic work, or as the go-to source for information on Santería. Definitely buy it, but do a lot of other research.

What a great book to learn about something so different from our usual beliefs. I highly recommend this to people of all religions who are not closed minded or judgmental of other cultural religions. This book goes into the historical roots of the religion in Africa, through the islands, and then, basically, to Cuba and Puerto Rico (and to Miami in South Florida). It does get somewhat overwhelming with all the names of the Saints, and what they mean to the culture. However, after a couple chapters, it all starts to come together. It is extremely accurate and informative. A must for anyone who is interested in comparative religious studies, or those interested in African based religions. This book has had very high reviews--from highly respected officials in medical offices in South Florida. There are many many pictures of rituals in the book. A must have! This is a keeper for your library--not a read and share.

This book provides an overview into the traditional Santeria religion in the Caribbean. It is somewhat informative and what it is sorely missing is some sort of cohesion. The information seems scattered at times and the writing is lacking. There are not sufficient sources to support the book and it should only be used as a point of reference but not as the sole one.

This is a OK book for beginners that's it all the information inside of it is from the internet

Some would find this a religion of fear. It opened my eye. I love to learn about different religions. I was surprised to find this was the authors 3rd attempt. He is a very humble and respectable author.

If you are curious and tired of not knowing what this religion entails. Get a good read in. I learned quite a bit.

I have not finished reading the book yet from what I have read..... I admire the opinions expressed by her and the honesty involved. There is more to Santeria than just reading a book. To actually live the Santeria lifestyle because of love for it is a whole different feeling.

very easy to read and very comprehensive, excellent study of Santeria which added greatly to my knowledge!

This book was well-written. The writing is engaging, intriguing and personal.

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