



Signs and Symbols

Miranda Bruce-Mitford , Nicola Hodgson , Kim Dennis-Bryan , Neil Lockley , Kathryn Wilkinson (Editor)

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Why is a flag at half-mast a symbol of mourning? Why do brides in the West traditionally wear white, while Asian cultures associate this color with death? Discover answers to these and other mystifying questions in *Signs & Symbols*, a fully-illustrated guide that helps unlock the secret language of the signs, symbols, and traditions around us. A rich source of information for readers of all ages, this book is divided into two sections, first looking at major sources of symbols (basic shapes, colors and numbers, the natural world), then, placing symbols in context of mythologies and religions, the human life cycle, people and culture, and symbol systems. Clear cross-referencing illuminates connections between symbols, while beautiful artwork and photography make this a collector's edition to treasure.

Signs and Symbols Details

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From Reader Review Signs and Symbols for online ebook

Alouise Dittrick says

I got this book from my grandparents when I was a kid, and I love it. It contains information about signs and symbols from around the world, and is organized into several categories. 1. Mythologies and religions. 2. Nature. 3. People. and 4. SymbolSystems. The book isn't very in depth, so if you're looking for a resource for a college paper, or if you want to really get in depth then this probably isn't for you. It does photos and a short description of thousands of different signs and symbols. For an older child, maybe 10 and up, who is interested in this subject matter this book is a fun read.

Brittany Cavness says

What an interesting book. Definitely learned some new things.

Lisa Shafer says

Very small print in places. The illustrations varied from good to awful. At times, color-on-color printing was used, making everything very hard to read.

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Judith Graves says

Handy resource for paranormal writers with beautiful illustrations. Also got a kick out of the cricket umpire's symbols section - 'cause you never know.

Ines says

This is a very visual book presenting the information through many beautiful illustrations, with annotations to help decode the meaning of the larger & more detailed pieces. It certainly is an inspirational work & were

I able to devote more time to research, I would probably buy it to dip into.

The book is divided up into sections beginning with the Cosmos, which covers the visible planets & their satellites, natural phenomena like weather & the seasons plus a few on gold & precious stones; The Natural World, which breaks down into various animals, plants & fruit; Human Life; Myths & Religions; Society & Culture & lastly Symbol Systems (including writing, heraldry, flags, brands & logos).

It is certainly a valiant attempt to cover a vast range of information, hence the necessary brevity of each entry.

I imagine that this book would be helpful for artists, historians, spiritual seekers, researchers of the origins of myths & legends as well as a feast for the eyes of the casual reader.

It is not a 'cover to cover' read, but provides a framework for investigating your particular interest, although there may be references to the same concepts on several pages as some have global relevance in differing areas.

My only criticism would be the lack of depth of information, but it is already quite a hefty tome and it would become unwieldy were there too much added. Of course, having discovered some of the origins I can look those up in more detail elsewhere.

Dendypesjel says

A must-have

Lovekitty says

Back when I was thinking about a fantasy story of mine, I went and got this book because the story involves many things that have to do with profound meaning behind names and things.

I love how this book covers many different ideas, explaining nature, religion, magic, the sun and moon, etc.

And showing what these things mean in other cultures, what they are in legends, mythology and history.

I love the illustration and the format, these things making it a fun, easy and engaging read if you want to learn something new.

Sumayyah says

A good edition to any library.

Degan Walters says

Instead of being a comprehensive book of symbols, this is a thin book with pages crowded with examples of all manner of things that can stand as symbols. I did not find it useful or interesting.
