



Shamanism: Archaic Techniques of Ecstasy (Bollingen Series (General))

Mircea Eliade, Willard R. Trask, Wendy Doniger

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First published in 1951, *Shamanism* soon became the standard work in the study of this mysterious and fascinating phenomenon. Writing as the founder of the modern study of the history of religion, Romanian émigré--scholar Mircea Eliade (1907-1986) surveys the practice of Shamanism over two and a half millennia of human history, moving from the Shamanic traditions of Siberia and Central Asia--where Shamanism was first observed--to North and South America, Indonesia, Tibet, China, and beyond. In this authoritative survey, Eliade illuminates the magico-religious life of societies that give primacy of place to the figure of the Shaman--at once magician and medicine man, healer and miracle-doer, priest, mystic, and poet. Synthesizing the approaches of psychology, sociology, and ethnology, *Shamanism* will remain for years to come the reference book of choice for those intrigued by this practice.

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