

## An Abc Of Witchcraft Past And Present

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 An ABC of Witchcraft Past & Present  
 Drawing Down the Moon

*An Abc Of Witchcraft Past And Present*

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### ROBERTS MORA

[An Outline of the Original Witchcraft](#) Routledge

The past century has born witness to a growing interest in the belief systems of ancient Europe, with an array of contemporary Pagan groups claiming to revive these old ways for the needs of the modern world. By far the largest and best known of these Paganisms has been Wicca, a new religious movement that can now count hundreds of thousands of adherents worldwide. Emerging from the occult milieu of mid twentieth-century Britain, Wicca was first presented as the survival of an ancient pre-Christian Witch-Cult, whose participants assembled in covens to venerate their Horned God and Mother Goddess, to celebrate seasonal festivities, and to cast spells by the light of the full moon. Spreading to North America, where it diversified under the impact of environmentalism, feminism, and the 1960s counter-culture, Wicca came to be presented as a Goddess-centred nature religion, in which form it was popularised by a number of best-selling authors and fictional television shows. Today, Wicca is a maturing religious movement replete with its own distinct world-view, unique culture, and internal divisions. This book represents the first published academic introduction to be exclusively devoted to this fascinating faith, exploring how this Witches' Craft developed, what its participants believe and practice, and what the Wiccan community actually looks like. In doing so it sweeps away widely-held misconceptions and offers a comprehensive overview of this religion in all of its varied forms. Drawing upon the work of historians, anthropologists, sociologists, and scholars of religious studies, as well as the writings of

Wiccans themselves, it provides an original synthesis that will be invaluable for anyone seeking to learn about the blossoming religion of modern Pagan Witchcraft.

[The Rebirth of Witchcraft](#) Llewellyn Worldwide

From the best-known authors on witchcraft, a three-part reference for discovering and celebrating the Female Principle of Divinity. The Witches' Goddess is of great practical value in discovering and celebrating the transforming energy of the Female Principle of Divinity. A companion to The Witches' God, this is an important, three-part work by the Farrars, providing an in-depth exploration of the Goddess in her many aspects at a time when Western Culture is awakening to the influence of Feminine Divinity, both individually and collectively. In part one, they outline the numerous faces of the Goddess: her presence throughout history, her Earth and Moon symbolism, her Madonna and Magdalene disguises, her revelation in Woman, and her influence today. In part two, they examine thirteen goddesses from history, including Ishtar, Isis, Hecate, and Aphrodite, and offer rituals for invoking them. Part three is a comprehensive dictionary of more than 1,000 goddesses from cultures all over the world and throughout time. Each section features helpful line drawings, diagrams, and photographic illustrations. The Witches' Goddess is part of The Paranormal, a series that resurrects rare titles, classic publications, and out-of-print texts, as well as publishes new supernatural and otherworldly ebooks for the digital age. The series includes a range of paranormal subjects from angels, fairies, and UFOs to near-death experiences, vampires, ghosts, and witchcraft. Routledge

Heralded as one of the greatest figures in the history of modern witchcraft, Doreen Valiente made an unparalleled contribution to contemporary

spiritual practice. This book tells her fascinating story, from her earliest encounters with the Craft to her work with Gerald Gardner and her emergence as one of the foremost thinkers in the revival of Paganism and witchcraft. Revealing previously unknown details drawn from first-hand testimony and her personal papers, Doreen Valiente Witch reveals how Valiente's singular vision captivated millions of modern witches and Pagans around the world. Published in association with the Centre for Pagan Studies and the Doreen Valiente Foundation. Praise: "Doreen Valiente is the mother of the modern witchcraft movement."—Christopher Penczak, bestselling author of *The Inner Temple of Witchcraft* "Doreen Valiente is a shining star, a heroine, and role model for the witchcraft community."—Judika Illes, author of *Encyclopedia of Witchcraft* "Doreen Valiente has been called the mother of modern witchcraft and that is no exaggeration. She helped open the path that many of us walk some variation of today, and led the way with a grace and strength we could all hope to emulate."—Deborah Blake, author of *Everyday Witchcraft* "I am thrilled to see at last a well-researched biography of Doreen Valiente...This is a must read for the historical and personal perspective on the modern adaptations of the Old Religion."—Ann Moura, author of the *Green Witch* series "Doreen Valiente was a seminal influence on the modern magical world. Her lasting contributions to our community are both valuable and vast."—Tess Whitehurst, author of *Holistic Magic* "An amazing story of a strong and powerful-minded woman who truly took her own spirituality by the reigns...The best way to describe this book is that it is not just a biography, but it is a public service and a true gift to the Craft community."—The Wild Hunt "It is a wonderful read...Philip Heselton writes beautifully and has researched with his usual care...Above all, he paints Doreen to the life, with accuracy and affection."—Ronald Hutton, Professor of History, University of Bristol

*Witchcraft from the Inside* Penguin

Penczak invites witches to continue their spiritual evolution by exploring the ceremonial arts. Learn how these two traditions intersect in history and modern magickal practice.

[A Witches' Canon Part 2](#) An ABC of Witchcraft Past and Present

Traditional Witchcraft and an Exploration of Its Magical Techniques, Rites and Symbols. The truth is, Witchcraft never altogether went away. The old Witchcraft was driven deep into the shadows only to emerge again as a vibrant, nature-based spiritual practice, well attuned to our modern times. It is a cooperative religion, born in the Stone-Age yet ideally suited for this present Age of Science and Technology. A religion and magical practice of Dance, Fun and Mirth. After all, who said that religion is not to be enjoyed? *A Witches' Canon*, Part 1, was written to provide a fact-based referenced guide for those wishing to further explore the Religion and Celebratory Rituals of Traditional Wicca. *A Witches' Canon*, Part 2, provides a practical, referenced guide to the social aspects of Traditional Wicca; of Coven Organization, Initiations, Rites and Rituals. *A Witches' Canon*, Part 3, is a fact-based referenced guide to the practice of Magical Witchcraft, both nice and naughty. If it isn't fun, then it ain't worth doing.

[Essays on Women in Western Esotericism](#) Greenhaven Publishing LLC

The definitive history of how witchcraft and black magic have survived, through the modern era and into the present day Cursed Britain unveils the enduring power of witchcraft, curses and black magic in modern times. Few topics are so secretive or controversial. Yet, whether in the 1800s or the early 2000s, when disasters struck or personal misfortunes mounted, many Britons found themselves believing in things they had previously dismissed - dark supernatural forces. Historian Thomas Waters here explores the lives of cursed or bewitched people, along with the witches and witch-busters who helped and harmed them. Waters takes us on a fascinating journey from Scottish islands to the folklore-rich West Country, from the immense territories of the British Empire to metropolitan London. We learn why magic caters to deep-seated human needs but see how it can also be abused, and discover how witchcraft survives by evolving and changing. Along the way, we examine an array of remarkable beliefs and rituals, from traditional folk magic to diverse spiritualities originating in Africa and Asia. This is a tale of cynical quacks and sincere magical healers, depressed people and furious vigilantes, innocent victims and rogues who claimed to possess evil abilities. Their spellbinding stories raise important questions about the state's role in regulating radical spiritualities, the fragility of secularism and the true nature of magic.

*The Witchcraft Reader* Springer Nature

"This complete self-study course in modern Wicca is a treasured classic - an essential and trusted guide that belongs in every witch's library."---Back cover

[Music, Witchcraft and the Paranormal](#) Yale University Press

Now available with an updated cover, Scott Cunningham's *Truth About Witchcraft* provides a wonderful introduction to Witchcraft and Wicca for those new to the craft. Exploring the history of folk magic and the contemporary practices of Witchcraft and Wicca, this highly accessible book shares simple rituals for love, prosperity, raising energy, and more. You will also discover helpful tips and techniques for utilizing crystals, herbs, candles, cauldrons, and wands. Dispelling the many myths and misunderstandings that surround Witchcraft, this convenient guide shows how to work with timeless rituals and natural energies in order to create positive changes in your life. Whether you want to learn about the Goddess and the God or the special holidays known as sabbats and esbats, you will discover these answers and much more in *Scott Cunningham's Truth About Witchcraft*.

[Women and Gender Issues in British Paganism, 1945-1990](#) The Crowood Press

"A great reference that explains the ins and outs of one of the oldest recognized traditions in Wicca . . . a marvelous find" (Hermetic Library).

Everything is here in this most comprehensive and revealing work on the principles, rituals and beliefs of modern witchcraft, including: The Sabbats, Casting & Banishing the Magic Circle, The Complete Book of Shadows, The Great Rite, Initiation Rites, Consecration Rites, Spells, Witches' Tools, Witchcraft & Sex, Running a Coven, Clairvoyance, and Astral Projection. *A Witches' Bible* is part of *The Paranormal*, a series that resurrects rare titles, classic publications, and out-of-print texts, as well as publishes new supernatural and otherworldly ebooks for the digital age. The series includes a range of paranormal subjects from angels, fairies, and UFOs to near-death experiences, vampires, ghosts, and witchcraft. "A very good overview and outline of how formal covens work, the structure behind them and a basic framework for these Rites within Gardnerian Wicca . . . this book alone can help those interested in this Path in completely avoiding the mass produced, watered down dreck that passes for mainstream witchcraft books."

—ombre-portee.com

*A Witches' Canon* Llewellyn Worldwide

Motivated by his personal experience in the drug and occult culture of the 60Us and his radical conversion to Christ, Alexander uses his background in

law and journalism to authoritatively and clearly demonstrate the true nature of neopaganism.

[Wicca](#) Harvest House Publishers

This book explores the ways in which changing views on gender and the place of women in society during the latter half of the twentieth century affected women's participation and standing within British Paganism. More specifically, it examines how British Wiccans and Wiccan-derived Pagans reacted to the rise of 'second-wave' feminism and the Women's Liberation Movement in the UK - with a special emphasis on the reception of feminist theory hailing from the USA - and to the emergence of feminist branches of Witchcraft and Goddess Spirituality during the 1970s and 1980s. The book draws on primary sources never before analyzed in an academic context and makes a valuable contribution to the growing body of knowledge on gender and religion during the twentieth century, as very little research has been conducted on the relations between the history of modern Paganism and that of second-wave feminism in the UK.

**Doreen Valiente Witch** FriesenPress

*Witchcraft for Tomorrow* answers many frequently asked questions about witchcraft including: 'How can I find a witches' coven?' and 'How can I become a witch?' Doreen Valiente tells you what the old religion of witchcraft has to offer the new age of Aquarius; how the age-old Craft of the Wise can be practised in the modern world; how to initiate yourself as a witch and found your own coven. The author, who was the leading figure in the establishment of the modern Wiccan movement, includes a new *Book of Shadows* (the witches' handbook of rituals and instructions) based upon ancient magical tradition but geared to the age of the future. There are witch songs, spells, incantations and practical advice on how to run a coven and how to acquire your own collection of magical implements; as well as methods of divination and other witch lore. The author shows how the oral traditions of witchcraft throw light not only upon the origins of the present-day witch cult and the activities of the witch leader George Pickingill and his covens, but also upon the mystery of the founding of the famous magical order, the Golden Dawn. Also discussed is the relationship between the witchcraft of Britain and Europe and the magical belief of the Far East. Do both traditions hark back to the legendary city of Shamballah and to the shamanistic practices of Asia? And why do the secret circles of the witches resemble those of the Tantric sex-magic of India?

**Cursed Britain** BoD - Books on Demand

There are an abundance of approaches to witchcraft and modern Wicca today with many encouraging an "anything goes" approach, opposed to what Gerald Gardner, the founder of modern witchcraft, set out. *Contemporary Witchcraft: Foundational Practices for a Magical Life* offers an alternative for the seeker who wishes to gain a deeper understanding of a more traditional approach to the Craft. By tapping into the essence of the teachings handed down by Gardner, and later Alex Sanders, this book provides the reader with invaluable tools and techniques that will enable them to set a foundation upon which to build their ongoing magical and spiritual practice. Regardless of whether the seeker is interested in joining a coven or not, contemporary witchcraft is about dedication and devotion in order for the greater mysteries to be revealed. *Contemporary Witchcraft: Foundational Practices for a Magical Life* offers an insight into how the non-initiate can achieve this in their own practices

[Magical Religion and Modern Witchcraft](#) Zondervan

From the best-known authors on witchcraft, a three-part reference for discovering and celebrating the Masculine Principle of Divinity. A companion to the Farrars' *The Witches' Goddess*, this volume documents the ancient balance between God and Goddess. In part one, they explore the numerous faces of God throughout history: the Anti-God, the Son/Lover God, the Vegetation God, the War God, and more. In part two, they examine twelve gods from history and feature an invoking ritual for each god. Finally, part three offers a comprehensive dictionary with over 1,000 gods from cultures all over the world and throughout time. With over 30,000 copies sold, this title is likely to become the standard work on the masculine god aspect. *The Witches' God* is part of *The Paranormal*, a series that resurrects rare titles, classic publications, and out-of-print texts, as well as publishes new supernatural and otherworldly ebooks for the digital age. The series includes a range of paranormal subjects from angels, fairies, and UFOs to near-death experiences, vampires, ghosts, and witchcraft.

*The Temple of High Witchcraft* David & Charles

Since 1951, when the last of the Witchcraft Acts was repealed, many books have been written about the reappearance of witchcraft and the development of a pagan theology. Churchmen have denounced it. Sociologists have wondered at it. Journalists have penned sensational stories about it. But until the publication of this book, no one had told the real story of it from the inside as frankly as it is told here. Doreen Valiente, one of witchcraft's most widely known figures, was a close friend of the late Gerald Gardner, generally regarded as the founder of present-day witchcraft. Initiated by him and for a time High Priestess of his coven, Doreen Valiente helped him rewrite his seminal *Book of Shadows*. She records the break with Gardner that split his coven, the controversy surrounding Alex Sanders, 'King of the Witches' and memories of many other witches whom she has known, including the lady called 'Dafo', Robert Cochrane, Leslie Roberts and Sybil Leek. Doreen Valiente took part in many witchcraft rituals and had strange psychic experiences as a result. Described here are the clairvoyant communications she received purporting to come from 'John Brakespeare', an eighteenth-century witch. *The Rebirth of Witchcraft* traces the lineage of the present-day witchcraft from its forerunners through to modern feminist neo-paganism and the new wave of interest in ecology and holistic medicine.

*Positive Magic* Llewellyn Worldwide

Anthropology's long and complex relationship to magic has been strongly influenced by western science and notions of rationality. This book takes a refreshing new look at modern magic as practised by contemporary Pagans in Britain. It focuses on what Pagans see as the essence of magic - a communication with an otherworldly reality. Examining issues of identity, gender and morality, the author argues that the otherworld forms a central defining characteristic of magical practice. Integrating an experiential ethnographic approach with an analysis of magic, this book asks penetrating questions about the nature of otherworldly knowledge and argues that our scientific frameworks need re-envisioning. It is unique in providing an insider's view of how magic is practised in contemporary western culture.

[The Truth About Witchcraft](#) Liverpool University Press

An Outline of the Original Witchcraft introduces the writings of various writers 'rejecting their contention that it evolved from a fertility cult. Instead, it contends it emerged from the Goddess religion of ancient times It shows how the Roman authorities closed the temples, forcing the craft to continue

its practices in hiding. It also presents the view that the three degrees correlate with the three sections of the Tree of Life

#### **Wicca** Llewellyn Worldwide

“A rare gem. One of the only magical self-help books that is beautiful, moral, and wise. Marion’s methods of working have greatly influenced my life.” —Margot Adler, author of *Drawing Down the Moon* “Written by one of America’s Witch elders, this revised and expanded edition of this beloved classic can enrich the spiritual practice of longtime practitioners as well as those beginning their explorations of magical realms.” —Selena Fox, High Priestess, Circle Sanctuary, Psychotherapist & Shamanic Healer “Well written and fascinating, *Positive Magic* is a book you must read and keep by your side. Weinstein explains what you need to know and does it in a way that keeps you all the way through. An intelligent approach to using magic in your life.” —Merlin Stone, author of *When God Was a Woman* and *Ancient Mirrors of Womanhood* Here is a new edition of one of the best-loved introductions to magic that is still used in metaphysical classes around the world. The author makes ancient magic techniques accessible, offering them as practical tools for daily life. Addressing the needs of today’s readers—beginners and adepts alike—the author provides well-researched historical background on astrology, witchcraft, tarot, and the I Ching as well as channeling, spirit contact, and the connections between quantum physics and traditional magic.

#### The Encyclopedia of Witches, Witchcraft and Wicca Llewellyn Worldwide

The word Witchcraft has been misunderstood for centuries. In the past 500 years, millions of people have faced persecution, torture, and even death after being accused of practicing Witchcraft. For many people the word "Witch" still conjures up images of secret spells and diabolical midnight rituals. So what exactly is Witchcraft (also called Wica or Wicca), and how did it evolve into one of today's fastest-growing religions? *Witchcraft From the Inside* presents the history of Witchcraft—from its roots in ancient fertility religions, to the madness of the *Malleus Maleficarum* and the European Witch trials, to the growth of modern Wicca in Britain and the United States. Essays contributed by leading Wiccan authorities explore the present state of Wicca and provide a glimpse into the future of this peaceful nature religion. Author Ray Buckland studied Witchcraft under Gerald Gardner, the man largely credited for the revival of Witchcraft and the establishment of Wicca as a modern religion. Mr. Buckland was instrumental in bringing

Gardnerian Witchcraft from England to the United States and is considered to be one of the leading American authorities on Witchcraft. In the following excerpt, Mr. Buckland explains the mundane truths behind the seemingly horrific ingredients of the legendary "witches' brews". We know, from Shakespeare and other sources, that the Witches threw into their pots the most gruesome ingredients, right? There were things like the tongue of a snake, bloody fingers, catgut, donkey's eyes, frog's foot, goat's beard, a Jew's ear, mouse tail, snake head, swine snout, wolf's foot, and so on. Pretty disgusting by the sound of it—if you take them at face value! In fact these were all the most innocuous of ingredients: normal plants and herbs. Today all plants have a Latin name, so that they may be distinct and positively identified. Yet years ago they were known only by common, local names. A plant or herb might be known by one name in one part of the country and a quite different name in another part of the country. And these names were colorful ones, frequently given to the plant because of its looks, color, or other attributes. In the above list, adder's tongue was a name given to the dogtooth violet (*Erythronium americanum*); bloody fingers was the foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*); catgut was the hoary pea (*Tephrosia virginiana*); donkey's eyes were the seeds of the cowage plant (*Mucuna pruriens*); frog's foot was the bulbous buttercup (*Ranunculus bulbosus*); goat's beard was the vegetable oyster (*Tragopogon porrofolius*); Jew's ear was a fungus that grew on elder trees and elm trees (*Peziza auricula*); mouse tail was common stoncrop (*Sedum acre*); snake head was balmony (*Chelone glabra*); swine snout was the dandelion (*Taraxacum dens leonis*); and wolf's foot was bugle weed (*Lycopus virginicus*). So the seemingly fearsome concoctions that the Witches mixed up in their cauldrons were nothing more than simple herbs going into a cookpot!

#### *Handbuch religionswissenschaftlicher Grundbegriffe* Llewellyn Worldwide

This is the only book of its kind on witchcraft that has been written by a practising witch. It is intended to be not merely a history, but a guide to the many strange byways of a vast and fascinating subject. Witchcraft is as old as the human race, and it is actively practised today, by people of all classes. To its devotees, witchcraft is more than spells and charms, or even secret meetings and rituals; it is a philosophy and a way of life. It claims to be the oldest form of religion, that of nature-worship and magic. Since the last Witchcraft Act was repealed in 1951, the revival of public interest in witchcraft has been the subject of continuous controversy. This book is a serious contribution to the study of a subject too long obscured by prejudice and sensationalism.

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