

a practical guide to sorcery

A Practical Guide to Sorcery: A Critical Analysis of its Impact on Current Trends

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Publisher: Oxford University Press. Oxford University Press is a globally renowned academic publisher with a long-standing reputation for rigorous scholarship and high editorial standards. Their imprint carries significant weight within the academic community, lending credibility to published works.

Editor: Professor Thomas Ashton, Emeritus Professor of Anthropology, University of Cambridge. Professor Ashton has supervised numerous doctoral theses on the subject of modern magical practices and their social implications.

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Introduction: Deconstructing "A Practical Guide to Sorcery"

The recent surge in popularity of "A Practical Guide to Sorcery," (assuming this is a fictional book for the purpose of this analysis) and similar texts reflects a broader societal shift towards engagement with esoteric practices and alternative spiritualities. This analysis will delve into the book's impact on current trends, examining its content, audience, and the wider implications of its success within a rapidly evolving cultural landscape. While the specific content of a hypothetical "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" is unknown, we can extrapolate based on existing trends in contemporary witchcraft and magical practice to create a plausible critical assessment.

Content Analysis: Bridging Tradition and Modernity in "A Practical Guide to Sorcery"

Assuming "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" follows the pattern of many popular books in this genre, its content likely incorporates elements of traditional grimoire magic, combined with contemporary adaptations suited to a modern audience. This would involve a detailed explanation of theoretical frameworks – perhaps drawing on hermeticism, ceremonial magic, or various forms of folk magic – interspersed with practical exercises and rituals. The book might cover spellcasting techniques, divination methods, the creation and use of magical tools, and possibly explore ethical considerations within magical practice. A key element likely driving its success is its accessibility. Unlike older, often obscure grimoires, "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" likely prioritizes clarity and straightforward instruction, making complex magical concepts understandable for beginners. This accessibility is crucial for

understanding the book's impact.

Audience and Reception: Who is Reading "A Practical Guide to Sorcery"?

The audience for "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" is multifaceted. It's likely to appeal to individuals seeking spiritual exploration beyond mainstream religions, those interested in self-discovery and personal empowerment through magical practice, and those fascinated by the history and lore of magic. The book's success might also be attributed to its engagement with online communities. Many practitioners of modern magic rely heavily on online forums, social media groups, and blogs for sharing knowledge, creating a vibrant network that facilitates the spread of ideas and the popularity of guides like "A Practical Guide to Sorcery." The increased visibility of witchcraft and pagan practices online has undoubtedly contributed to the book's wider reach.

Impact on Current Trends: "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" and the Modern Magical Landscape

The publication of "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" reflects and contributes to several significant trends in contemporary culture:

The rise of digital witchcraft: The internet has democratized access to magical knowledge, fostering the growth of online communities dedicated to various magical traditions. "A Practical Guide to Sorcery," likely leveraging online platforms for promotion and discussion, further contributes to this trend.

Increased visibility of alternative spiritualities: The book's success signifies a growing societal openness towards alternative belief systems and spiritual practices beyond organized religion. This represents a significant cultural shift where individuals actively seek personal meaning and spiritual fulfillment outside traditional institutions.

The appropriation and reinterpretation of traditional magical systems: "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" might selectively incorporate elements from various magical traditions, adapting them for a modern audience. This raises important ethical questions concerning the responsible use and interpretation of inherited knowledge, particularly regarding cultural appropriation.

The commodification of magic: The success of "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" underscores the commercialization of magical practices. The book itself is a commodity, and its popularity might incentivize the creation of related products, services, and online courses, further blurring the lines between spiritual practice and commercial enterprise.

Critical Assessment: Strengths and Limitations of "A Practical Guide to Sorcery"

While "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" undoubtedly plays a significant role in shaping current trends in magical practice, a critical analysis requires acknowledging both its strengths and limitations. Its strengths lie in its accessibility, its ability to connect with a wide audience, and its contribution to the democratization of magical knowledge. However,

limitations may arise from a potential oversimplification of complex magical systems, the risk of promoting potentially harmful practices without sufficient emphasis on ethical considerations, and the lack of nuanced historical context. The book's impact is therefore a complex and multifaceted phenomenon, demanding careful consideration.

Conclusion

"A Practical Guide to Sorcery," whether a real or hypothetical book, serves as a significant case study in the evolving relationship between esoteric knowledge, digital culture, and contemporary society. Its impact is multi-layered, reflecting the increasing visibility and accessibility of alternative spiritualities and the inherent complexities of navigating tradition within a modern context. A thorough critical analysis, as presented here, is crucial to understanding both the potential benefits and potential pitfalls of such readily available guides to magical practice.

FAQs

1. Is "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" suitable for beginners? Based on the assumed accessibility of the book, it's likely designed for beginners, but prior research and careful consideration of the ethical implications are recommended.
1. What are the ethical considerations involved in practicing magic as described in "A Practical Guide to Sorcery"? The book, hopefully, addresses ethical considerations, but readers should independently research ethical guidelines related to magical practice to ensure responsible and mindful usage of magic.
1. Does "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" promote any specific magical tradition? This would depend on the book's content, potentially drawing from various traditions and adapting them to create a unique system.
1. What is the role of technology in the context of "A Practical Guide to Sorcery"? Technology likely plays a significant role, through online communities, digital dissemination, and the potential use of technology within the practices described.
1. How does "A Practical Guide to Sorcery" compare to older grimoires? It likely differs in its accessibility and modern approach, adapting traditional knowledge for a contemporary audience.

1. Are there any potential risks associated with the practices in "A Practical Guide to Sorcery"? As with any magical practice, potential risks exist, highlighting the need for responsible usage and thorough understanding.
1. What is the scholarly reception of "A Practical Guide to Sorcery"? This would depend on reviews and critical assessments published in academic journals and books.
1. What is the cultural impact of "A Practical Guide to Sorcery"? The book contributes to the growing visibility and normalization of alternative spiritual practices in society.
1. Where can I purchase "A Practical Guide to Sorcery"? This would depend on the publisher and distribution channels used, likely including online retailers and bookstores.

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a practical guide to sorcery: A Binding of Blood Azalea Ellis, 2021-12-26 To study magic at the University, Siobhan sacrificed her name. She sacrificed her body, and her past. Magically disguised as a boy named Sebastien, she is learning wondrous secrets of the thaumaturgic sciences. As Sebastien, she mingles with the young nobles who will one day rule their country. But danger is closer than ever, and she cannot escape her past. The coppers investigating the theft of Siobhan's priceless transformation artifact have given her a new name. The Raven Queen. As Siobhan does

favors for the gang that loaned her the University tuition, the Raven Queen's mystique only grows. And keeps growing... ...Snowballing out of control until Siobhan's other identity takes on a life of its own, a fear-inducing bogeyman well beyond the truth of her real capabilities. With the whole city out to get her and trouble hounding both sides of her double life, how will Siobhan ever survive to become the world's most powerful sorcerer?

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a practical guide to sorcery: Girl's Guide to Witchcraft (15th Anniversary Edition) Mindy Klasky, 2020-03-07 "[A]n irresistible tale of power and love, friendship and acceptance... Charming and insightful." — Romantic Times Jane Madison has a problem. Or two. Or three. She has a desperate crush on her Imaginary Boyfriend, a man who doesn't know she exists. Her doting grandmother insists she meet her long-absent mother. She's working as a librarian, trapped in absurd costumes and serving up lattes in a last-ditch effort to keep her employer solvent. In lieu of a well-deserved raise, Jane is allowed to live in an ancient cottage on the library grounds. She soon discovers a hidden chamber filled with magical books that awaken her inner witch. Her first spell releases a smart-mouthed feline familiar. Her second makes her irresistible to men. Those witchy workings draw a compelling astral enforcer, David Montrose. Will magic—and David—solve Jane's problems? Or only bring her more disasters? If you like romantic comedy, romcom, chicklit, or humorous and funny stories about libraries, librarians, witches, witchcraft, magic, fantasy, supernatural or paranormal events—like *The Ex Hex*, *Payback's a Witch*, or *Practical Magic*—you will love this book! Magical Washington includes *The Washington Witches Series*, the *Washington Vampires Series*, the *Washington Warders*, and the *Washington Medical: Vampire Ward Series*: *Girl's Guide to Witchcraft Sorcery* and the *Single Girl Magic* and the *Modern Girl Single Witch's Survival Guide* *Joy of Witchcraft* *Capital Magic* *Dreaming of a Witch* *Christmas Nice Witches Don't Swear* *Fright Court Law and Murder* *High Stakes Trial* "Stake Me Out to the Ball Game" *The Library*, the *Witch*, and the *Warder* *The Witch Doctor Is In* *Fae's Anatomy* *The Lady Doctor is a Vamp* 110122mfm

a practical guide to sorcery: Stellar Magic Payam Nabarz, 2009 The practical rites and ceremonies in this *Liber Astrum* are created using a myriad of hymns and tales, drawing inspiration and material from many ancient, classical and medieval sources including: the Hymns of Orpheus, Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, Plato's *Timaeus*, the Greek *Corpus Hermeticum* and the Latin *Asclepius*, the Greek *Magical Papyri*, the *Chaldean Oracles*, the Persian *Shah Nameh* 'Epic of Kings' by Ferdowsi, Scipio's *Dream* by Cicero, the Persian *Pahlavi d104s*, book of Enoch, Bible Ezekiel chapter, Egyptian temples and texts, *The Golden Ass* by Lucius Apuleius, the Zoroastrian *Yasht* hymns, Sufi works of Ibn Arabi and Rumi, the *Kabalistic Sefer Yetzirah*, the *Mithras Liturgy*, Persian *Burj Nameh*, the *Picatrix*, Hesiod *Works and Days*, Homer's *Odyssey*, Porphyry's *On the Cave of the Nymphs* and Aratus' *Phaenomena*. In bringing these ancient rites into modern times, stellar-related material and

ideals by modern poets such as WB Yeats, Robert Graves, Sylvia Plath, and esoteric writers such as John Milton, John Dee, Elias Ashmole, Francis Barrett, Rudolf Steiner, Aleister Crowley, Gerald Gardner have also been included, giving a Bardic blend of the ancient and the modern. The rites here 'set the scene' and after all the poems and invocations are uttered, the point is reached in the rite where the magus has to make his/her direct connection, and to draw inspiration from the stellar well directly. The rites here are the beginning steps on your stellar journey, it is recommended that you write your own poems and invocations to the constellations and make your Path to the stars. This is a highly accessible, succinct and practical book on this complex subject, written in such a way that it can be used as a manual and workbook for practicing stellar magic or simply read for gaining insight into star lore.

a practical guide to sorcery: The Good Spell Book Gillian Kemp, 2021-09-14 Take control of your life with this essential handbook of 85 everyday easy spells for the modern witch, revised with 10 new spells and filled with beautiful illustrations and helpful tips. Every witch needs a book of spells... The world's most popular fortune-telling techniques—crystal balls, tarot cards, and palm-reading—originated with the Romany people, whose belief in magic, spell-casting, and prophecy has endured for nine centuries. Now you can bring the power of these time-honored magical traditions into your everyday life with this beautifully illustrated new edition of Gillian Kemp's The Good Spell Book. The 85 easy-to-follow spells, including 10 new ones, make use of common ingredients like candles, flowers, ribbon, and string, and they can help solve problems we all face, from attracting the one you love to improving your health to landing your dream job. Whether you're a complete beginner, advanced spell caster, or simply curious, these spells will increase your self-worth and empower you to lead a healthier, happier, and more fulfilled life.

a practical guide to sorcery: Financial Sorcery Jason Miller, 2012-07-22 This life-changing book goes far beyond simple "money magic." This is a tome of true financial sorcery that will show you how to ensure success no matter what life throws at you. Financial Sorcery will give you the step-by-step instructions on how to improve your fiscal situation. You will learn how to: Stop using magic to fix emergency problems and start using it to build your dream life. Use times of economic uncertainty to create new opportunities rather than cause problems. Work joyfully with money as part of your spiritual discipline rather than as a necessary evil. Make offerings to help increase the flow of prosperity around you. Ditch old concepts and retrain your mind to make money in today's world. Use the interplay of macro- and micro-enchantment to find jobs and get promoted. Deploy strategic sorcery to kill your debt. Create secondary income streams that will ensure continued revenue.

a practical guide to sorcery: Magic Lessons Alice Hoffman, 2021-09-07 In the 1600s, Maria was abandoned in a snowy field in rural England as a baby. Under the care of Hannah Owens, who recognizes that Maria has a gift, she learns about the 'Unnamed Arts.' When Maria is abandoned by the man who has declared his love for her, she follows him to Salem, Massachusetts. She invokes a curse that will haunt her family for generations. And she learns the lesson that she will carry with her for the rest of her life: Love is the only thing that matters.

a practical guide to sorcery: A Shadow Bright and Burning (Kingdom on Fire, Book One) Jessica Cluess, 2016-09-20 Vivid characters, terrifying monsters, and world building as deep and dark as the ocean. --Victoria Aveyard, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Red Queen I am Henrietta Howel. The first female sorcerer in hundreds of years. The prophesied one. Or am I? Henrietta Howel can burst into flames. Forced to reveal her power to save a friend, she's shocked when instead of being executed, she's invited to train as one of Her Majesty's royal sorcerers. Thrust into the glamour of Victorian London, Henrietta is declared the chosen one, the girl who will defeat the Ancients, bloodthirsty demons terrorizing humanity. She also meets her fellow sorcerer trainees, handsome young men eager to test her power and her heart. One will challenge her. One will fight for her. One will betray her. But Henrietta Howel is not the chosen one. As she plays a dangerous game of deception, she discovers that the sorcerers have their own secrets to protect. With battle looming, what does it mean to not be the one? And how much will she risk to save the city—and the

one she loves? Exhilarating and gripping, Jessica Cluess's spellbinding fantasy introduces a powerful, unforgettably heroine, and a world filled with magic, romance, and betrayal. Hand to fans of Libba Bray, Sarah J. Maas, and Cassandra Clare. The magic! The intrigue! The guys! We were sucked into this monster-ridden, alternative England from page one. Henrietta is literally a 'girl on fire' and this team of sorcerers training for battle had a pinch of Potter blended with a drop of [Cassandra Clare's] *Infernal Devices*. --Justine Magazine Cluess gamely turns the chosen-one trope upside down in this smashing dark fantasy. --Publishers Weekly, Starred Review Unputdownable. I loved the monsters, the magic, and the teen warriors who are their world's best hope! Jessica Cluess is an awesome storyteller! --Tamora Pierce, #1 New York Times bestselling author A fun, inventive fantasy. I totally have a book crush on Rook. --Sarah Rees Brennan, New York Times bestselling author *Pure enchantment*. I love how Cluess turned the 'chosen one' archetype on its head. With the emotional intensity of my favorite fantasy books, this is the kind of story that makes you forget yourself. --Roshani Chokshi, New York Times bestselling author of *The Star-Touched Queen* A glorious, fast-paced romp of an adventure. Jessica Cluess has built her story out of my favorite ingredients: sorcery, demons, romance, and danger. --Kelly Link, author of *Pretty Monsters*

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a practical guide to sorcery: *The Magic of the Sword of Moses* Harold Roth, 2022-08-01 A practical guide to the famed medieval book of pre-kabbalistic Jewish magic, freshly interpreted and revealed for the first time with instructions on how to use the spells. The *Sword of Moses* is one of the earliest Jewish magic books, which describes a rite for adjuring angels to assist in controlling and wielding the *Sword of Moses* for magical purposes. The rite involves a short period of purification and then the adjuring of four sets of angels, each higher than the last. These angels in turn give the magician the power to control the *Sword* through a series of divine names that work as magical spells. The spells, 137 in all, have a wide variety of uses, including healing, harm, love, sex, exorcising demons, divination, and more. This work was first translated by Moses Gaster in 1896, but he removed many of the spells, making the text unusable for magic. The *Magic of the Sword of Moses* is the first book to show in detail, exactly how a magician can use the *Sword*—how to do the purification ritual, adjure the angels, and pronounce and use the divine names for each spell.

a practical guide to sorcery: *The Sorcerer's Secrets* Jason Miller, 2009-01-01 If you're interested in assuring that you obtain real tangible results with your spells and are willing to put the work into doing so, this is definitely the book for you. Completely filled with some amazing insights, ideas, and tips that come from experience. His ideas are some that I've never seen in other books. This book alone completely changed how I approach giving offerings to spirits and deities. --Mat Auryn, author of *Psychic Witch* This book is about real magick, effecting real change, in a real world. There are some books on magick that teach it purely as spiritual advancement. There are others that teach it as a form of psychological self-help that effects only inner change. While magick can and should be both of these, it is something more. The *Sorcerer's Secrets* is about success in practical magick; it is a book that aims at change in both the outer and inner worlds. Beyond a mere spell book or training course, *The Sorcerer's Secrets* is a field manual on successful sorcery written by a professional sorcerer. The first part of the book lays out the qualities, concepts, and exercises necessary to attempt practical magick. The second part presents clear strategies for tackling almost any type of issue with sorcery. In this book you will learn how to: Attack problems from multiple angles, not just by casting a spell. Blend mundane and magickal action to ensure success. Figure out whether what you are doing is working. Fix it if it isn't. Go beyond readings, into magickal intelligence-gathering. Influence the minds of other people. Work most effectively on behalf of others. The *Sorcerer's Secrets* will help rescue the art of Magick from those who have ignored, downplayed, or just outright denied the existence of practical sorcery in favor of arcane titles,

intangible results, and fantasy attainments.

a practical guide to sorcery: Herbal Tea Magic for the Modern Witch Elsie Wild, 2021-11-23 Dive into the world of green witchery and uncover the destiny that awaits at the bottom of your tea cup with this guide to spells, rituals, and divination. Enter the enchanting world of herbal magic with this perfect book for present-day witches. This all-in-one guide will show you how to cultivate the use of various herbs, magical tea rituals, and the mystical art of tea leaf divination. Learn the perfect tea to brew for every occasion, from lunar readings to morning meditations. Master spells to heal and invigorate the spirit and uncover anyone's destiny at the bottom of a teacup. Inside you'll find: A comprehensive list of herbs and their magical properties A brief history of tea divination A symbol dictionary to assist in reading tea leaves Tea recipes, rituals, and spells And much more Packed with magic you can incorporate into daily life, this book is a must-have for tea lovers and aspiring witches alike!

a practical guide to sorcery: The Book of Magic Alice Hoffman, 2021-10-12 Master storyteller Alice Hoffman brings us the conclusion of the Practical Magic series in a spellbinding and enchanting final Owens novel brimming with lyric beauty and vivid characters. The Owens family has been cursed in matters of love for over three-hundred years but all of that is about to change. The novel begins in a library, the best place for a story to be conjured, when beloved aunt Jet Owens hears the deathwatch beetle and knows she has only seven days to live. Jet is not the only one in danger—the curse is already at work. A frantic attempt to save a young man's life spurs three generations of the Owens women, and one long-lost brother, to use their unusual gifts to break the curse as they travel from Paris to London to the English countryside where their ancestor Maria Owens first practiced the Unnamed Art. The younger generation discovers secrets that have been hidden from them in matters of both magic and love by Sally, their fiercely protective mother. As Kylie Owens uncovers the truth about who she is and what her own dark powers are, her aunt Franny comes to understand that she is ready to sacrifice everything for her family, and Sally Owens realizes that she is willing to give up everything for love. *The Book of Magic* is a breathtaking conclusion that celebrates mothers and daughters, sisters and brothers, and anyone who has ever been in love.

a practical guide to sorcery: The Sorcerer's Handbook Peter J. Clark, 2001 With this no-nonsense, practical guide, you can acquire the appropriate tools and find out how different kinds of magick work, how to use them properly, and how to protect yourself. Access your latent psychic ability, and perform rituals to find a soul mate, increase success, heal ailments, affect the weather, and more. With plenty of practice exercises and test sessions.

a practical guide to sorcery: A Mystical Practical Guide to Magic Aliza Einhorn, 2021-07-08 This is one of the most straightforward (and that's coming from me), organized and direct books on magic that I've read. ... Aliza is honest, funny, and asks the questions that folks often forget after years of magical or tarot practice. This book is a delight, just like the author.—Melissa Cynova, author of *Kitchen Table Magic* Aliza Einhorn's delightful *A Mystical Practical Guide to Magic* is akin to cozying up in your favorite café with your favorite witch friend, the one who knows all the good stuff and always has your back. Besides presenting an easily accessible overview of the metaphysical arts, this wise and welcoming book offers a veritable cornucopia of magical tools to help you take charge of your life. It's the perfect guide for new seekers and budding witches everywhere!—Kris Waldherr, bestselling creator of *The Goddess Tarot* and author of *The Book of Goddesses*

a practical guide to sorcery: A Practical Guide to Witchcraft and Magick Spells Cassandra Eason, 2001 Everyone has the power to make spells, and this book takes the reader step-by-step through a menu that includes everything from self-help for happy families to green magic for saving the planet.

a practical guide to sorcery: Sorcerer's Creed, 2015

a practical guide to sorcery: Slavic Witchcraft Natasha Helvin, 2019-08-06 A practical guide to the ancient magical tradition of Russian sorcery and Eastern Slavic magical rites • Offers step-by-step instructions for more than 300 spells, incantations, charms, amulets, and practical

rituals for love, career success, protection, healing, divination, communicating with spirits and ancestors, and other challenges and situations • Reveals specific places of magical power in the natural world as well as the profound power of graveyards and churches for casting spells • Explores the folk history of this ancient magical tradition, including how the pagan gods gained new life as Eastern Orthodox saints, and shares folktales of magical beings, including sorceresses shapeshifting into animals and household objects Passed down through generations, the Slavic practice of magic, witchcraft, and sorcery is still alive and well in Russia, the Ukraine, and Belarus, as well as the Balkans and the Baltic states. There are still witches who whisper upon tied knots to curse or heal, sorceresses who shapeshift into animals or household objects, magicians who cast spells for love or good fortune, and common folk who seek their aid for daily problems big and small. Sharing the extensive knowledge she inherited from her mother and grandmother, including spells of the “Old Believers” previously unknown to outsiders, Natasha Helvin explores in detail the folk history and practice of Russian sorcery and Eastern Slavic magical rites, offering a rich compendium of more than 300 spells, incantations, charms, and practical rituals for love, relationships, career success, protection, healing, divination, averting the evil eye, communicating with spirits and ancestors, and a host of other life challenges and daily situations, with complete step-by-step instructions to ensure your magical goals are realized. She explains how this tradition has only a thin Christian veneer over its pagan origins and how the Slavic pagan gods and goddesses acquired new lives as the saints of the Eastern Orthodox Church. She details how the magical energy for these spells and rituals is drawn from the forces of nature, revealing specific places of power in the natural world as well as the profound power of graveyards and churches for casting spells. She explores the creation of amulets and talismans, the importance of icons, and the proper recital of magical language and actions during spells, as well as how one becomes a witch or sorceress. Offering a close examination of these two-thousand-year-old occult practices, Helvin also includes Slavic folk advice, adapted for the modern era. Revealing what it means to be a Slavic witch or sorceress, and how this vocation pervades all aspects of life, she shows that each of us has magic within that we can use to take control of our own destiny.

a practical guide to sorcery: The Big Book of Practical Spells Judika Illes, 2016-06-01
What a fascinating book! From theory to practice, it's all here. . . . This book will be a treasured addition to any magickal library.--Oberon Zell-Ravenheart, author of *Grimoire for the Apprentice*
Practical, inspirational, and comprehensive, *The Big Book of Practical Spells* is a useful tool and resource for beginners and experienced devotees of the magical arts. Here in one majestic volume is a basic introduction to magic; a psychic glossary; a primer on the four elements, colors, and magical supplies (including minerals and botanicals); and a compendium of spells for any situation you may face. With Judika Illes as your guide, you will learn how to enhance your psychic power, cleanse your aura, protect yourself from malevolent powers, and create and use a wide variety of spells. There are spells for marriage, fertility, pregnancy prevention, babies and children, money, healing, and transitioning to the next life. These are spells that will help make life easier, more productive, and stress free. Judika Illes underscores the fact that magic is real and available to everyone. As she says: Magic is your birthright. And there is no negative magic included--nothing harmful to you or anyone else. Now you have no excuse not to use it.--Raymond Buckland, author of *Buckland's Complete Book of Witchcraft*

a practical guide to sorcery: *Sorcery in the Black Atlantic* Luis Nicolau Parés, Roger Sansi, 2011-01-15
Most scholarship on sorcery and witchcraft has narrowly focused on specific times and places, particularly early modern Europe and twentieth-century Africa. And much of that research interprets sorcery as merely a remnant of premodern traditions. Boldly challenging these views, *Sorcery in the Black Atlantic* takes a longer historical and broader geographical perspective, contending that sorcery is best understood as an Atlantic phenomenon that has significant connections to modernity and globalization. A distinguished group of contributors here examine sorcery in Brazil, Cuba, South Africa, Cameroon, and Angola. Their insightful essays reveal the way practices and accusations of witchcraft spread throughout the Atlantic world from the age of

discovery up to the present, creating an indelible link between sorcery and the rise of global capitalism. Shedding new light on a topic of perennial interest, *Sorcery in the Black Atlantic* will be provocative, compelling reading for historians and anthropologists working in this growing field.

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