



The Oxford Book of the Supernatural

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The Oxford Book of the Supernatural From Oxford University Press

From the eerie visitation of Scrooge by Marley's ghost, to the three witches brewing evil on the heath in *Macbeth*, to the deadly lust for blood of Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, we have always been fascinated by things that go "bump in the night." The supernatural has chilled our hearts and has fired our imaginations, and it has fueled the writings of our greatest authors, from Odysseus's journey to the underworld in Homer, to Faust's bargain with Mephistopheles in Goethe. *The Oxford Book of the Supernatural* compiles some of the very best writings on this fearsome subject, drawing from both ancient and modern, from East and West, and from Christian, Islamic, and Buddhist traditions. Here readers will enter a foreboding realm of ghosts and vampires, werewolves and witches, dreams and telepathy, demonic possession and near-death experiences. Drawing from both factual accounts and the finest works of literature, and including writers ranging from Homer to Hardy, Pliny to Primo Levi, and Apuleius to A.S. Byatt, Enright offers material that probes the dark corner where the supernatural and natural worlds collide, igniting our deepest anxieties and fears. At times touching, grotesque, eerie, and frightening, *The Oxford Book of the Supernatural* will interest anyone who is curious about the supernatural or the occult. But whether you believe in the unearthly or not, this literate anthology will satisfy what Virginia Woolf has called "the strange human craving for the pleasure of feeling afraid."

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

This is a desk reference for all things paranormal. Enright covers subjects both malignant and benign, and as diverse as ghosts, telepathy and spontaneous human combustion. As eclectic as the subject matter are the sources: excerpts from Shakespeare and Stoker, Goethe and Jung, Huxley and King James I. Enright includes both Eastern and Western philosophies spanning from ancient to modern beliefs.

Review

'beguiling and generous miscellany ... this anthology offers a feast of all sorts of supernatural beliefs and practices'

Michelle Roberts, Sunday Times

'fascinating book'

The Economist

'His introductions to chapters are always helpful, shrewd and succinct ... wide-ranging in subject-matter, taking in everything from apparitions to poltergeists and golems, and even old favourites like spontaneous combustion.'

Times Literary Supplement

'D.J. Enright can only enhance his reputation with The Oxford Book of the Supernatural. He has covered everything conceivable and inconceivable. Enright startles and delights in every chapter ... a riveting book.'

Moira Shearer, Daily Telegraph

'... an eclectic anthology of snippets of stories, anecdotes, articles, plays and poetry covering magic, witchcraft, vampires, fairies, dreams, near death experiences, and much more.'

David V Barrett. New Statesman and Society

'... madly eclectic and deeply entertaining ... DJ Enright shows his unfailing radar for what will fascinate. This is a book for sceptics and believers alike - very highly recommended.'

Maggie Trougott. The Independent on Sunday. Dec'94

About the Author

About the Editor

D.J. Enright is one of England's most prominent poets. He also edited *The Oxford Book of Death*, which *Newsweek* called "lively, moving, witty, and thought-provoking."

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Edward Emory:

The feeling that you get from The Oxford Book of the Supernatural could be the more deep you digging the information that hide inside words the more you get considering reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to know but The Oxford Book of the Supernatural giving you buzz feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by simply anyone who read the item because the

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