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The Satanic Scriptures



Synopsis

The Satanic Scriptures hands down the wit, wisdom and diabolical perspective of the Church of Satan's High Priest, Magus Peter H. Gilmore. These essays, articles and diatribes have been collected from over twenty years of the High Priest's writings for his infernal cabal, some first issued in the pages of publications available only to insiders. From the magic of toys to techniques of time travel, Magus Gilmore leads the reader down a Left-Hand Path where few will find what they expect. Why is Satanism the Feared Religion? Is it Satanic to be a fascist? Same-sex marriage—would it be acceptable in a United Satanic America? What do Satanists think about terrorism, and where do they lay the blame? The answers may surprise you. Magus Gilmore reveals principles of Satanic Ritual in a frank discussion of forbidden rites. What is a Satanic Funeral? How do Satanists marry? Find out now, as these unholy ceremonies have never before been disclosed outside of the Church of Satan's Hellish Hierarchy. Here is the philosophy for those bold enough to be their own Gods—or Devils. This new tenth anniversary edition of The Satanic Scriptures adds a new essay: "Walpurgisnacht LI A.S." This is the address High Priest Peter H. Gilmore gave to the assembled members of a secret event celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Church of Satan.

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Customer Reviews

Peter Howard Gilmore is an American author and administrator of the Church of Satan. He was appointed High Priest of the Church in 2001 by Magistra Blanche Barton. Within the church, he is known as Magus Peter H. Gilmore, High Priest of the Church of Satan. As a representative of the

Church of Satan, Gilmore has been interviewed on numerous television and radio programs dealing with the topic of Satanism, including appearances on The History Channel, BBC, The Sci-Fi Channel, Point of Inquiry, and Bob Larson's Christian radio show. Gilmore has collaborated with death metal band Acheron in their earlier releases. Illustrator Blanche Barton (born Sharon Densley on October 2, 1959) is an American religious leader who is Magistra Templi Rex within the Church of Satan, and is addressed by Satanists as Magistra Barton. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A great book, filled with wit, wisdom and sound observations by Peter H. Gilmore, the appointed High Priest of the Church of Satan. As a Satanist, this is a valued addition to my library, and a great supplementation to the Satanic wisdom codified in the published works of Anton LaVey (The Satanic Bible, The Satanic Witch, The Satanic Rituals, The Devil's Notebook, and lastly Satan Speaks!) and Blanche Barton (The Secret Life of a Satanist and The Church of Satan). More recently, for a pretty penny, I was able to obtain a copy of The Church of Satan (now out-of-print) from Miss Barton herself with a personalized signature, a rare opportunity which will likely never be repeated. However, a new and expanded version of the CoS book is reported to be coming in the future. We shall see. This book shows Gilmore's stunning intellect and incredibly broad horizons, as he makes it seen that he is knowledgeable and talented in a wide variety of areas. As LaVey would've said, "This is Satanic wisdom from a truly Satanic perspective." That perspective, that "third side of the coin," is where you will always find the Satanist, skewering "sacred cows" and assailing enthroned lies. Often as I read it, I find Gilmore is able to bring a devilish grin to my face. Highly recommended addition to any serious Satanist's library.

As part of the greater Satanic conversation, this volume stands as a testament to what Peter Gilmore brings to the office of High Priest in the Church of Satan, and indeed Satanism in general. As Peggy Nadramia - Gilmore's wife - describes in the afterword, Gilmore is involved in many creative pursuits, painting and music among them. For the audience who has not been introduced to him through those endeavors, the written pieces in this book allow the reader a glimpse into the mind of a man who is an efficacious communicator, on the front lines of Satanism's defense for decades. The structure of the pieces is calculated to deliver in such a way that would make reading the essays out of order a mistake. It was for me, anyway. Before I read this from cover to cover, I read most of the essays as their subject drew me. While I agreed with the points Gilmore made in each of them, the weight of the words didn't effectively hit me until I read them in order. Reading the

essays in sequence got across overarching points that he couldn't possibly have conveyed in each individual piece. In that sense, there were shades of the effectiveness I saw in LaVey's "Satanic Bible" in terms of conveying what the Satanic perspective concludes. The timeline stretches from Gilmore's time serving in the Priesthood when LaVey was High Priest, dealing with the Satanic Panic, to where I think he really shines and makes contributions to Satanism that are really exemplary of his current title of Magus. His reflections during the Satanic Panic are valuable for those in the intelligent minority who are inclined to think that there is some way to "get through" to everyone in the (fairly unintelligent) majority - a warning against the unSatanic extensions of solipsism. In "Time Travel - Cheap and Easy," he describes a way for Satanists to effectively use our human penchant for habit to express an entirely different time, and I personally believe it can be used as a method to more efficiently articulate emotions creatively. There is also a tendency for Gilmore to use cosmological metaphors to make his points. He refers to each Satanist as a sort of black hole, drawing others into his or her center of gravity in a very clever twist on Aleister Crowley's notion that "every man and woman is a star." Similarly, he describes other, more parasitic kinds of individuals as "intellectual black holes," and wisely warns to avoid them, lest time and energy be completely wasted. Be careful not to mix the two, though. The metaphors are being used for very different reasons. Gilmore also seems to find a lot of value in one of LaVey's essays called, "Satanism is Americanism." At many points in his book, Gilmore references classic American values, freedom and exceptionalism most of all. Perhaps there's a reason the United States has sometimes been called the world's first "Satanic republic." Something I find beautiful about Satanism is that what it opposes is, to a great degree, what Satanists have in common. There are some concepts that we will agree on, but we will all apply them differently in our lives. Gilmore makes several comments on culture, namely in music and art, that discuss possible avenues for the Satanist to express his or her individual creativity. To my mind, this speaks to the way America finds its culture. It came about through rebellion, and the individualistic nature on which it was founded encourages culture to be brought about as the manifestation of individual pursuits. Finally, a brief word on the aesthetics. Gilmore's work on Satanic ritual is not to be overlooked, and he paints a picture with each description (not to mention the ritual instructions) that allows the reader to vividly imagine a place of his or her own inside the ritual environment, and compelled me almost to envision the ritual taking place even as I was reading them. That aside, the book itself is a work of beauty. It was designed by members of the Church of Satan, and the excellent design and feel are exemplary of how high the standards of the church's elitism really are. I eagerly anticipate any creative work Gilmore will release in the future.

There is not much to write about this book which hasn't all ready been said. I can give nothing but praise. If you have ever read any of Anton LaVey's works, than you should (If you are smart enough) have a good understanding of the foundation of Satanism. Magus Gilmore adds to the current cannon with a delightful read that will be a must have on any bookshelf of a true Satanist or person who wishes to develop a further understanding of Satanism as a whole. Every essay and story is a delight to read. You will be laughing at times and nodding your head in others. My favorite being "Green-Eyed Hamsters" and "Time Travel-Cheap and Easy." Would you expect anything less from the current leader of the Church of Satan? Magus Gilmore and his ilk have proven time and time again why they have earned the right to carry on LaVey's legacy and are true Satanist. All the rest are just Niggernaughts. I am not a Church of Satan member but quite frankly, I would be damn proud to be. This is a definite buy. Other Titles to read: The Satanic Bible Satan Speaks! The Devil's Notebook The Secret Life of a Satanist: The Authorized Biography of Anton LaVey The Church of Satan: A History of the World's Most Notorious Religion Essays In Satanism Bearing The Devil's Mark The Fire Within: Nemo on Satanism Vol 1 A Mirror Darkly The Book of Satanic Quotations The Blood In My Veins (Poems 1995-2005)

It is an ok book it adds on the satanic bible of Anton Lavey. But when this book really shines apart from the Laveyan satanic philosophy is on the section that deals with the appreciation of classical music and the suggestions it makes on some good exponents of the art and the insight that the author gives on them.

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