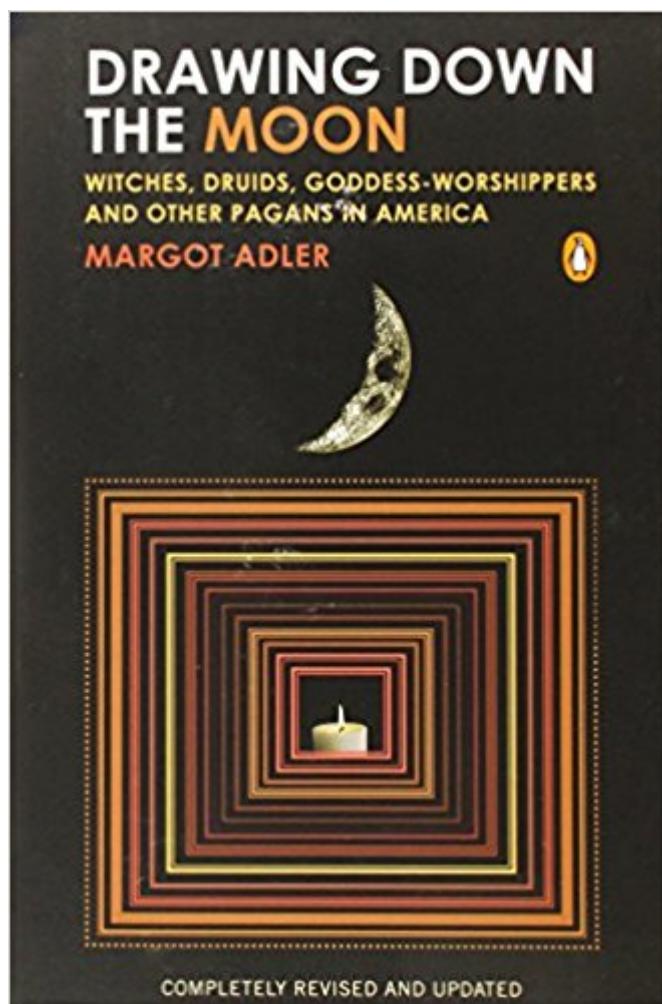


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# Drawing Down The Moon: Witches, Druids, Goddess-Worshippers, And Other Pagans In America



## **Synopsis**

Now fully revised—the classic study of Neo-Paganism. Almost thirty years since its original publication, *Drawing Down the Moon* continues to be the only detailed history of the burgeoning but still widely misunderstood Neo-Pagan subculture. Margot Adler attended ritual gatherings and interviewed a diverse, colorful gallery of people across the United States, people who find inspiration in ancient deities, nature, myth, even science fiction. In this new edition featuring an updated resource guide of newsletters, journals, books, groups, and festivals, Margot Adler takes a fascinating and honest look at the religious experiences, beliefs, and lifestyles of modern America's Pagan groups.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Given the lurid connotations Neo-Paganism has acquired... *Drawing Down the Moon* is a healthy corrective. (The New York Times Book Review)

Margot Adler has been a radio producer and journalist since 1968, pioneering live, free-form talk shows on religion, politics, women's issues, and ecology. She lectures on the subject of Paganism and Earth-centered traditions and leads workshops on the art of ritual, celebration, and song. She is currently the New York Bureau Chief for National Public Radio as well as a well-known correspondent on NPR's All Things Considered. Her most recent book is *Heretic's Heart: A Journey Through Spirit and Revolution*.

This book is a good history of the neo-pagan movement. It is clear that some time has passed since the writing of the book and present day, but when looking for a historical perspective, that isn't all bad. It has lots of resources in the back to find out more information, although I have not yet checked to see if those are also out of date. My only negative, the sheer amount of time that was spent discussing feminism and neo-pagans. I get that there was/is a strong correlation between the two movements, but it seemed a little excessive to me. I'm very happy it contained information about a variety of neo-pagan groups.

The latest edition has been brought up to date on many counts, though it would readily stand on its own legs with regards to an overview of a variety of pagan religions/beliefs as well as to paint a historical picture of where/how many different systems have come/evolved from. It gives you plenty of brainfood to mull on as well as a lot of historical perspective (even if it is limited to the lens of one author and several hundred different practitioners of various systems).

Although the author, a High Priestess of the Craft has passed this past July, 2014, she has left behind a book worthy of including on your shelf if you are interested in Neo-Paganism and surrounds. She did a lot of research, asked a lot of questions and wrote on many topics. This book has been around a long time and she revised this last edition.

Anyone remotely curious about Paganism needs to read this book. This is an academic look at the Neo-Pagan movement in America, free from the prejudices of fundamentalist ideology. The book tells the facts about the Pagan community as well as how Pagans view themselves. It also addresses traditional prejudices from conservative Christianity and modern misconceptions.

Great book!!! A personal favorite of mine. Plenty of information on traditions and their origins. I really enjoy the straight forward information and not a lot of hard to believe made up fluff that you sometimes get with Pagan books. This is not a how to book, The author is really searching for the heart of what it really means to be a Pagan and a Witch.

Amazing book! This is a must read for anyone interested in paganism. It's incredibly in depth and eye-opening. I recommend taking notes or highlighting because there's just so much to take in.

A very well-written history of the modern Neo-Pagan movement. Back when I was first interested in Wicca this was the second book assigned to me and I have recommended it to everyone I've taught or discussed our mutual interests.

When you go to search out a book on witchcraft, the first thing that you notice is that most of the ceremony and ritual performed are pretty close to one another. Delving into the different styles, from Gardnerian to Alexanderian, you find a haunting similarity to them all. This is because they are all drawn from the original book by Margot Adler. Once you read this book, you discover that the person that has everyone's mind and body, is from this book. Basically, we sell this book in our shop as one of the three or four must reads in Witchcraft. This is the book from which the others are copied, even if the new writers change the way it is put in print.

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