



When the Drummers Were Women: A Spiritual History of Rhythm

By Layne Redmond

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In this long-awaited, lavishly illustrated book, drummer Layne Redmond presents an empowering narrative history of the sacred drum in the ancient Goddess civilization, using her extensive collection of images gathered during more than five years of research and travel in the Mideast and Europe. 80 photos & drawings.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

A drummer herself who has taught and performed on the frame drum for many years, Redmond has written an engaging work on the history and meaning of female drumming in ancient spiritual traditions. She bases her work on her travels to ancient sites and other research, tracing the role of sacred drumming from as far back as the Paleolithic era (in the worship of the "Great Mother" or "Great Goddess") and in ancient civilizations in the Near East, India, Greece, and Rome. Along the way, she unearths the first representation of a framed drum at Catal Huyuk (in present-day Turkey), ca. 5600 B.C.E. Redmond even takes us through the rise of Christianity, which silenced both women and drumming in worship, then concludes with the reappearance of drumming in the modern age and its importance as a medium for transformation. Well documented, with an excellent bibliography, this multifaceted study will have great appeal for all readers and especially for music and women's studies collections. ?Joan W. Gartland, Detroit P.L.
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From [Booklist](#)

Women's spirituality circles have taken to drumming in a big way. Redmond has been a leader in reintroducing the frame drum, which, she persuasively argues, has been an instrument of spiritual transformation for millennia. Her marvelous book brings together mythology, history and prehistory, personal experience, musical lore, and scientific information on the healthful effects of drumming. Scores of illustrations show stately goddesses holding frame drums, wild maenads tossing their heads as they pound, and priestesses sanctifying space with the rhythms they beat. Redmond's own story of learning drumming in a society in which women are still actively discouraged from taking up the drums is a paradigm of female experience. Wise and passionate, Redmond's book will find a ready audience, made up not only of those who have attended her popular workshops but also of other women drawn to the ecstatic pulse of the drum.
Patricia Monaghan

From the Inside Flap

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Carrie Correll:

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading addiction give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The knowledge you get based on what kind of e-book you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with training books but if you want sense happy read one together with theme for entertaining including comic or novel. The actual When the Drummers Were Women: A Spiritual History of Rhythm is kind of guide which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

Erica Dennis:

The particular book *When the Drummers Were Women: A Spiritual History of Rhythm* has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was authored by the very famous author. This article's author makes some research prior to write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you will get the point easily after reading this book.

Ronda Hagerty:

Exactly why? Because this *When the Drummers Were Women: A Spiritual History of Rhythm* is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap this but latter it will distress you with the secret this inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such incredible way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning entirely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of gains than the other book have such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I were you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

Kathy Graves:

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