



Secrets of Voodoo

By Milo Rigaud



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Secrets of Voodoo traces the development in Haiti and the Americas of this complex religion from its sources in the brilliant civilizations of ancient Africa. This book presents a straightforward account of the gods of *loas* and their function, the symbols and signs, rituals, and the ceremonial calendar of Voodoo; and the procedures for performing magical rites are given.

"Voodoo," derived from the words meaning "introspection" and "*mystere*" is a system of belief about the formation of the world and human destiny with clear correspondences in other world religions. Rigaud makes these connections and discloses the esoteric meaning underlying Voodoo's outward manifestations, which are often misinterpreted. Translated from the French by Robert B. Cross. Drawings and photographs by Odette Mennesson-Rigaud.

Milo Rigaud was born in Port au Prince, Haiti, in 1903, where he spent the greater part of his life studying Voodoo tradition. In Haiti he studied law, and in France ethnology, psychology and theology. The involvement of Voodoo in the political struggle of Haitian blacks for independence was one of his main concerns after he returned to his country.



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Secrets of Voodoo By Milo Rigaud Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #419949 in Books
- Brand: Brand: City Lights Publishers
- Published on: 2001-01-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .60" w x 5.50" l, .63 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 256 pages

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Editorial Review

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Text: English, French (translation)

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