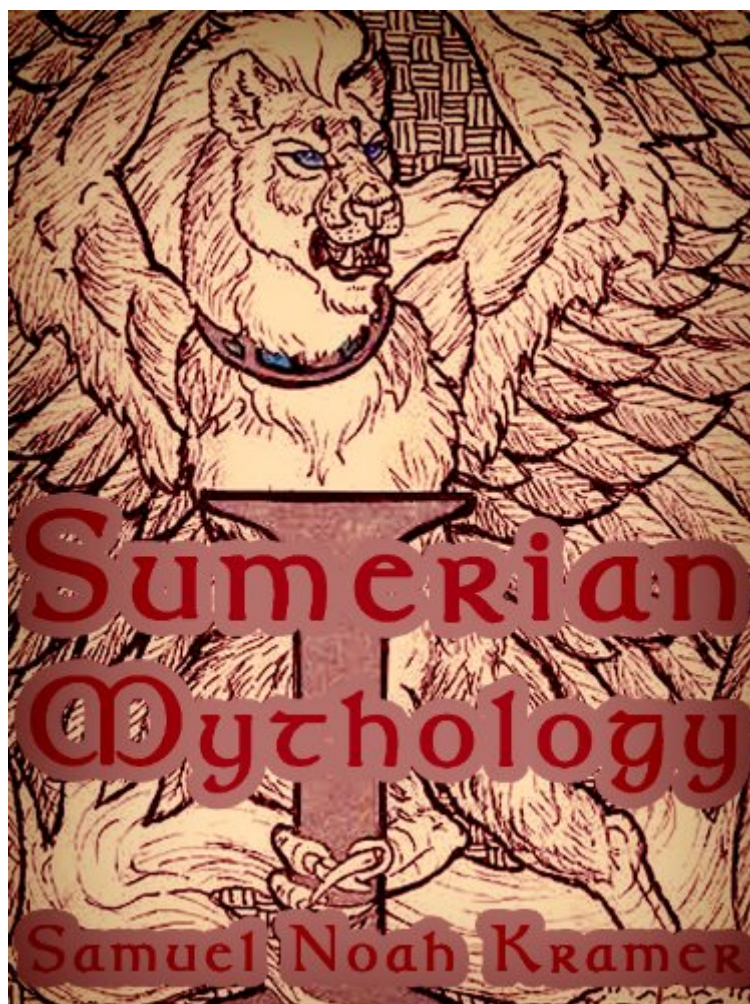


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Sumerian Mythology



Synopsis

The Sumerians were a non-Semitic, non-Indo-European people who lived in southern Babylonia from 4000-3000 B.C.E. They invented cuneiform writing, and their spiritual beliefs influenced all successive Near Eastern religions, including Judaism, Christianity and Islam. They produced an extensive body of literature, among the oldest in the world. Samuel Noah Kramer spent most of his life studying this literature, by piecing together clay tablets in far-flung museums. This short work gives translations or summaries of the most important Sumerian myths.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sumerian Mythology ; Is a great read. I found it well researched and easy to understand. Mr. Kramer didn't look at the beliefs of The Sumerians, with the eye of a twenty-first century researcher, but of a forth millennium B.C.E. believer. It was interesting to see a connection between Ancient Sumerian mythology and the three major religions of today. If you want to find your religionist roots ? This is the book to read.

For anyone who's researching Sumerian Mythology, this book belongs in your collection. Kramer is probably considered one of the top authorities in the subject. The electronic edition does suffer from awkward transitions from text to picture captions along with limited table of contents navigation.

None of that should come as any shock to anyone who's purchased other books on the topic. Trivial complaints about electronic formatting aside, this is a great introduction into the world of Sumer at a very low cost. Kramer's approach is academic, but written in a style for all to understand and enjoy.

I wanted to read the myths. This is not the myths. This is instead a disjointed and confusing discussion of Kramer's research in the 1930's, the archaeological research of institutions long ago, and pretty well useless. If you want to read the stories, this is not the volume for you. Actually, I am not certain who might find this boring tome useful. Save your money.

It does a good job of covering the more important, better known myths, such as the Epic of Gilgamesh. It also does a good job pointing out where text is missing. Overall a valuable addition to my library. I only wish it contained more.

While there are interesting tidbits, this book is closer to a notebook written next the clay tablet rather than a book to be read as a story. More appropriate perhaps not as an ebook, since the heads and tails donot match. Looking forward to a more complete story, and understanding why there has not been nearly as many cuneiforms translated than other literature. Note in particular that cuneiform started as pictographs, and the timing is consistent with the invention of symbols from china through The Great Steppes where the Huns possibly could have been the Ordos people near Mongolia 60,000 years ago, after the Chinese Liujiang people migrated north 100,000 years ago due to global warming and then the Toba eruption 75,000 years in current day Indonesia.

Publication is out of date as would most others that do not take into account the genetic testing completed in 2011 found at: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2148/11/288> The Sumerians did not overtake an indigenous Semite race, but were autochthonous and the current Marsh Arabs are their descendants.

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