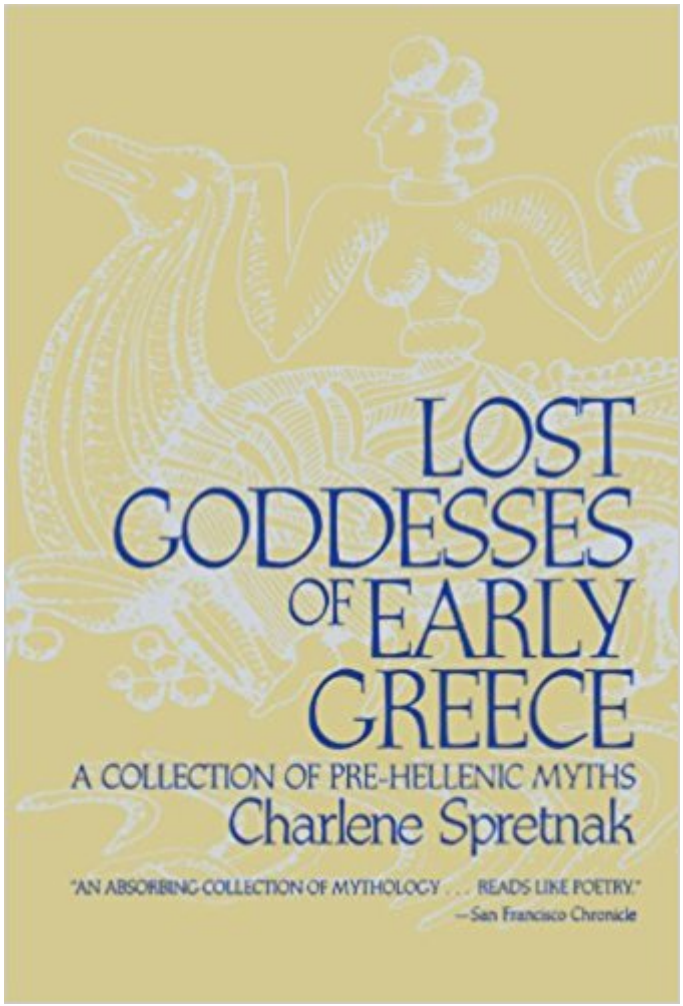
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# Lost Goddesses Of Early Greece: A Collection Of Pre-Hellenic Myths




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## Synopsis

For thousands of years before the classical myths were recorded by Hesiod and Homer, the Goddess was the focus of religion and culture. In Lost Goddesses of Early Greece, Charlene Spretnak recreates, the original, goddess-centered myths and illuminates the contemporary emergence of a spirituality based on our embeddedness in nature.

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"Spretnak’s treatment of the myths is most impressive." --Walter Burkert, author of Greek Religion"Charlene Spretnak has succeeded extremely well in presenting pure characterizations of the Old European goddesses as they were revered for millennia, long before the Indo-European elements were imposed to create Olympian mythology." --Marija Gimbutas, author of The Language of the Goddess"A truly beautiful book. With it Charlene Spretnak has raised new and important questions about the power of myth." --Merlin Stone, author of Ancient Mirrors of Womanhood"The book is essential...both academically accurate and a personal medium of passage." --CoEvolution Quarterly"Charlene Spretnak rediscovers the goddesses’ early significance and in fascinating portraits restores them to their original glory." --Publishers Weekly"A basic text of the goddess movement that has spread through feminist and ecological circles for a decade." --Boston Globe"A poetic revelation of pre-Hellenic mythology." --Los Angeles Times

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Goddess was the focus of religion and culture. In Lost Goddesses of Early Greece, Charlene Spretnak re-creates the original, goddess-centered myths and illuminates the contemporary emergence of a spirituality based on our embeddedness in nature.

[...]Lost Goddesses of Early Greece feature long lost stories of the early goddesses of Old Europe. It starts out with an interesting introduction that sheds light on how Ms. Spretnak researched these myths. This follows with chapters on Gaia, Pandora, Themis, Aphrodite, Triad of the Moon: Artemis, Selene & Hecate, Hera, Athena, Demeter and Persephone. The stories reveal the goddesses in their true forms before the coming of the Olympian gods. The last chapter tells an eye-opening story about Demeter and Persephone. Most people (myself included) are familiar with the mythic story of the rape of Persephone by the God of the Underworld. This book's message is that Goddess worship was around for at least 25,000 years--long before any other religion. These times were relatively peaceful times until invaders brought their warring "Zeus" god to Greece.I found this book to be interesting and it makes sense to me that the Goddess would be the first religion. I have studied the Hellenic Greek myths and it is obvious to me that the classical myths degrade women. Another point is that all of the classical writers were men. I am a believer in the theories revealed in Lost Goddesses of Early Greece. I highly recommend this book to those who wish to explore an unknown road in mythology. I think every female should read this book--it may be a life changing experience for some.

Short, concise, and wonderfully clear-headed.

Great book. Content rich.

A good introduction to a subject that is now well-charted, but could still use more research

I love it and you will too.

Perfect! As described and delivered on time! Thanks!

Great

Very disappointing. I'd hoped this was a more informed and better researched work. The author

never explains what evidence lead her to various reinterpretations of the goddess myths she retells. I do think it is possible that the general plots of some of the myths were changed over time to reflect changing ways of life, and her reinterpretations meant to recapture the meaning of the original goddess myths are not unbelievable. However, I would have been much more interested to hear HOW she arrived at those reinterpretations. Without that crucial information, they come off as fairy stories with happier endings. It would have been better if she had cited comparable goddess myths from other cultures that had contact with Europe that line up with her re-interpretations, and then contrasted them with the version that was handed down by the Greeks, etc., and correlated the alteration with changes in culture in the Greek world that did not occur in the areas where the myths retained more aspects of their original meaning.

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