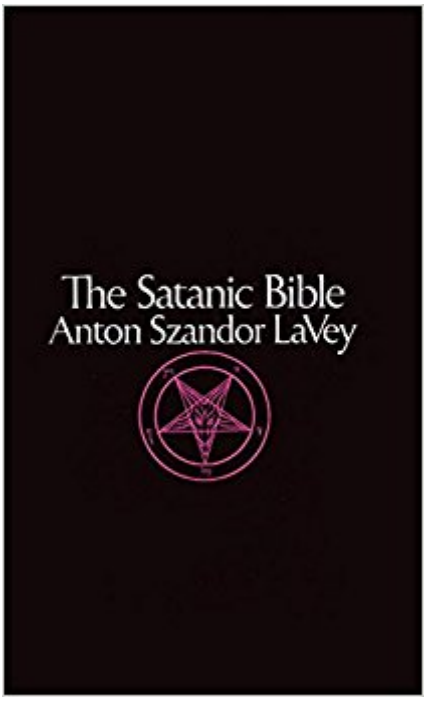
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The Satanic Bible



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Synopsis

Called "The Black Pope" by many of his followers, Anton La Vey began the road to High Priesthood of the Church of Satan when he was only 16 years old and an organ player in a carnival: "On Saturday night I would see men lusting after halfnaked girls dancing at the carnival, and on Sunday morning when I was playing the organ for tent-show evangelists at the other end of the carnival lot, I would see these same men sitting in the pews with their wives and children, asking God to forgive them and purge them of carnal desires. And the next Saturday night they'd be back at The carnival or some other place of indulgence."I knew then that the Christian Church thrives on hypocrisy, and that man's carnal nature will out!" From that time early in his life his path was clear. Finally, on the last night of April, 1966Ã¢â ¬â •Walpurgisnacht, the most important festival of the believers in witchcraftÃ¢â ¬â •LaVey shaved his head in the tradition of Ancient executioners and announced the formation of The Church Of Satan. He had seen the need for a church that would recapture man's body and his carnal desires as objects of celebration. "Since worship of fleshly things produces pleasure," he said, "there would then be a temple of glorious indulgence . . ."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

One might expect The Satanic Bible at least to offer a few prancing demons or a virgin sacrifice, but if you hopped this train expecting a tour of the house of horrors, you're on the wrong ride. Far from a manual for conquering the realms of earth, air, fire, and water, The Satanic Bible is Anton LaVey's manifesto of a new religion separate from the "traditional" Judeo-Christian definitions of Satanism.

While LaVey rails against the deceit of the Christian church and white magicians, he busily weaves his own deceptions. The Satanic Bible claims the heritage of a horde of evil deities--Bile', Dagon, Moloch, and Yao Tzin to name a few--but these ancient gods have no coherent connection between each other or to Satanism, except that all have been categorized by Christianity as "evil." Calling on these ancient names like a magician shouting, "Abracadabra," LaVey attempts to shatter the classical depiction of Satanism as a cult of black mass and child sacrifice. As the smoke clears, he leads us through a surprisingly logical argument in favor of a life focused on self-indulgence. The Satanic Bible is less bible and more philosophy (with a few rituals thrown in to keep us entertained), but this philosophy is the backbone of a religion that, until LaVey entered the scene, was merely a myth of the Christian church. It took LaVey, and The Satanic Bible, to turn this myth into a legitimate public religion. --Brian Patterson

I must say I was disappointed that the forward by Anton LaVey was left out of this edition. It would have given more insight into his background, political philosophy and why he chose the left hand path. Throughout the book I found myself marking pages for reference. It is indeed a pretty dogmatic religion that he started. Many times in the book LaVey railed against the "Religionists" that he asserted he was not himself. I found this a bit hypocritical for him to say. The Enochian keys in the last section of the book were rather uninteresting, and what was with all of the uses of numbers and parentheses in place of the letter Y?

My college age son is studying world religion and is studying many types . He has enjoyed studying this one .

Basically you can find in the book philosophy and rituals. While rituals are somewhat childish/awkward, philosophy itself is interesting and similar to many modern humanistic philosophies.Few thousand years ago in Judaism word satan described someone who teaches non-Judaic philosophy. During ages it grown to describe demonic creature of evil power. Anton Szandor Lavey clearly named his philosophy this way to differentiate it from Book based religions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam). In certain aspect philosophical values are in opposition to the traditional teachings. If you are interested in psychology, you will be surprised, how close many aspects of this book are to what therapists teach their clients to improve their lives. It's a good book for open-minded and intelligent readers, and it really has nothing to do with evil creatures from Biblical hell.

VERY INTERESTING SO FAR HAS EXPAND MY THOUGH AND IDEA CONCERNING SUBJECT

This book is actually bordering on inspiring. For someone who feels fed up with society and wants to believe there's more to life than trying to be good and trying to please others, it's a really good read. It's not too wordy, uses modern speech and the best part is that it defends itself. Which is necessary for Satanism, even now.

To be honest, if you're familiar with the novelist Ayn Rand then this book will have many ideas parallel to hers.The biggest ones are selfishness and unbridled sex. Rand doesn't talk about sex, to my knowledge but selfishness is part of the book that is shown as something natural. As for sex to the LaVeyan Satanist is about enjoying yourself with consent of course, and that's it. Do you like it and your partner too and it's all done with consent? If so, then it's okay.Anyways, the book is good. If you have an annoying prude or whatever, this book is great for releasing that inner chaos which makes the world are more lively and interesting place.WARNING: If you live under a Christian household and are not yet independent you must make sure this book is not found. If found, you may be in deep trouble with theists within the household.

Excellent book that makes more sense than any other religious text

I dig it.Very interesting read, and the book was fresh and in good condition.Will recommend to friends interested in the Satanist community or religion studies.

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