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## SOURCES

Both books devote strong coverage to zombies in popular culture (films and so on) but are noticeably weaker in tracing the literary roots of the phenomenon. The two books carry entries for Seabrook, whose sensationalized book introduced zombies to the wider English-speaking public, but only *Encyclopedia of the Zombie* includes entries on African-American writer Zora Neale Hurston and her 1938 account *Tell My Horse*, in which she describes an encounter in Haiti with a woman alleged to be a zombie. Both works neglect Henry S. Whitehead, who lived in the American Virgin Islands during the 1920s and contributed finely crafted stories on Voodoo themes to the magazine *Weird Tales*. Also missing are the brothers Pierre Marcelin and Philippe Thoby-Marcelin, award-winning Haitian writers whose novels of island life won the praise of critic Edmund Wilson.

Both *Encyclopedia of the Zombie* and *The Zombie Book* are arranged alphabetically by subject, are well illustrated, and include indexes and extensive bibliographies. The former also includes an eighteen-page chronology of zombie films and makes good use of “see also” references, a feature generally lacking in its competitor.

Thanks to its more informal tone and lower price, *The Zombie Book* is a good choice for small public libraries. Despite its neglect of a few key authors, *Encyclopedia of the Zombie* is a better choice for academic and large public libraries, especially those where there are strong interests in folklore and the study of popular culture. Given the popularity of the subject and the lack of overlap between the two books, larger public libraries may want to consider purchasing both.—Grove Koger, retired reference librarian, independent scholar, Boise, Idaho

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**Hidden Religion: The Greatest Mysteries and Symbols of the World's Religious Beliefs.** By Micah Issitt and Carlyn Main. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2014. 531 p. Acid free \$100.00 (ISBN 978-1-61069-477-3). E-book (978-1-61069-478-0) available, call for pricing.

This readable reference book generally seems to meet its stated goal. The authors' preface states their hope “that the information in this book will inspire our readers to take the quest for knowledge further, perhaps exploring fields and issues previously unimagined” (xiv). While it might be a long conversation if a goal were to focus on what “greatest” means in the title, it does seem this work could be a handy supplement or kick start for research.

To begin, there is an opening essay, “Introduction: History and Mystery,” with these discussion sections: “Life, the Universe, and Everything,” “Religious Evolution,” and “Symbols and Secrets.” Reading this discussion is like listening to an interesting speaker, both engaging and stimulating, although a slight frustration for this reviewer was not finding any citations relevant to the historical, sociological, and religious development claims made in the essay.

The book is arranged using these major headings: “Abrahamic and Iranian Religions,” “Dharmic Religions,” “East

Asian Religions,” “African Religious Traditions,” “Indigenous American Religions,” “Oceanic Religions,” and “Western Paganism.” Under those headings are short, introductory essays for religions (and nonreligion), along with confidently presented entries for a large array of visual symbols, beliefs, and practices.

An appreciated feature is the reading list with every entry. Lists include at least two books from good publishers or a book and a website. The value of these websites could be limited or need supplementing. For example, there might be a need to supplement information about Jainism obtained using the Jain Student Center website at the University of Michigan. Also, readers using some reading list sources might need to dig for information; not all of the sources focus only on the mystery or symbol being covered in the entry. In all, the lists did seem a good idea, and the author's use of websites was also helpfully suggestive.

The select bibliography of ninety-nine sources includes books and websites; book publishers included a large number of university publishers, as well as commercial publishers (Cambridge, Oxford, Wiley-Blackwell, Routledge, etc.). There is an eighteen-word glossary that might be helpful and an 11 1/2-page index.

Other related sources not included in the bibliography would be Ferguson's older *An Illustrated Encyclopedia of Mysticism and the Mystery Religions* (Continuum Book, Seabury Press, 1997) and Anthony S. Mercatante's small work *The Facts On File Encyclopedia Of World Mythology And Legend* (Facts on File, 2009), with its good annotated bibliographies. Larger resources would be Thomas Riggs' *Worldmark Encyclopedia of Religious Practices* (Thomson-Gale, 2006) and this publisher's companion four-volume *Religions of the World*, by Melton and Baumann (ABC-CLIO, 2010). Although considerably more expensive, the online *Encyclopedia of Religion*, edited by Lindsay Jones (MacMillan, 2005), would serve as an extensive resource for topics; it contains 939 search hits for “symbols,” a large chapter on “Symbol and Symbolism,” and chapters on iconography for a range of traditions, including traditional African, Buddhist, Confucian, Egyptian, Hindu, Jewish, Christian, and Islamic cultures. Another expensive resource would be the online *eHRAF World Cultures* (Human Relations Area Files, 2014).

This reference book could be a useful title for high school and public libraries. It might also serve academic libraries as a stimulus for research.—Paul Fehrmann, Reference and Instruction Librarian, University Libraries, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio

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**Historical Guide to World Media Freedom: A Country-by-Country Analysis.** By Jenifer Whitten-Woodring and Douglas A. Van Belle. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2014. 575 p. Alkaline \$150 (ISBN 978-1-60871-765-1). Online edition (978-1-45223-422-9) available, call for pricing.

This work fills a gap in the literature by providing a global and historical perspective on media freedom. Much of the information presented here is available in geographic and historical literature about various countries or in journal