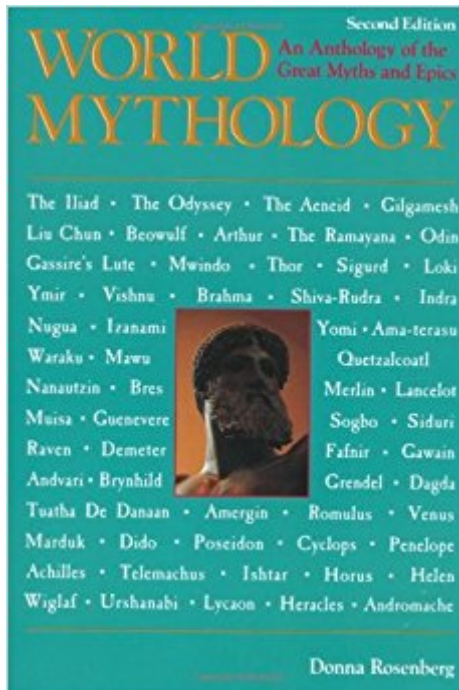




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# World Mythology



## Synopsis

This volume offers 59 of the world's great myths--including selections from The Iliad and the Odyssey, Beowulf, King Arthur and Quetzalcoatl. Each myth is accompanied by an introduction that offers historical background and suggests avenues for literary analysis.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This new edition of World Mythology offers 59 of the world's great myths from Greece and Rome, the Middle East, Northern Europe, the British Isles, the Far East and Pacific Islands, Africa, and the Americas.

McGraw-Hill authors represent the leading experts in their fields and are dedicated to improving the lives, careers, and interests of readers worldwide

I had to buy this for my college mythology class. It's a nice enough text, with many stories from many different cultures. Before each culture, we learn a little about the people and how their stories came about, which I thought helped me understand the stories more. My personal favorites were the Egyptian myths and the Greek myths, of which there were many. It also includes classics like 'King Arthur', 'Beowulf', and 'The Iliad'. It was interesting to note the similarities and differences between the cultures and their stories, many of which were being created at the same time years

ago- but many miles apart. As for the flaws this book has, there is one major one. While I'm sure the translators translated to the best of their ability, if I had to read "flooded their hearts" one more time, I think I would scream. Okay I get it, they're happy, filled with joy, ecstatic, delighted.... but really? "Flooded"? So maybe that was the literal translation, but couldn't the editors have changed it a few times so that the readers didn't die from the repetition? Overall I would recommend this book, especially if you're interested in mythology. Just be aware that there are many different interpretations of myths, and the ones that are in this book may not be the most well known. Additionally I'm not sure if they cut out some parts because they knew this would be a school text. If you know the story of Osiris and Isis, you know that there was one piece of his body that a fish ate... that part of the myth isn't in this book- I guess because they deemed it inappropriate? There is a newer edition out however, which isn't exactly better than this one. At the very least, I had hoped they didn't use the word "flooded" so much in that one... But sadly not so. The new version is the same, with some additional stories included like: "Esfandiyar", "Chi Li", "Jason and the Golden Fleece" among others. (If you need the newer version for class, you could still get away with buying the cheaper 2nd edition and then just copying certain stories from a fellow classmate's book. The newer is \$43 with this one being around \$13!)(Originally reviewed for "Kathleen's Book Reviews")

Good stuff!

I bought this for my son, who's a novice on the subject, and he loved it!

It looks like brand new! I love it!

A few typos and mixed facts/names here and there but very few. It is a good read and great for first time mythology learning. It reads as smoothly as a bed time story.

I really enjoy reading the myths from around the world. This book is always by my bedside. I also enjoy sharing the stories with my family.

The title is something of a misnomer. This is a fine collection of ancient myths found throughout world history. However, it is intellectually dishonest because the author fails to recognize some of the most powerful myths in human history --namely those found in the Bible and Koran. Sure the book would have been huge, but at least a treatise or an explanation for exclusion would have

been appropriate. Furthermore, exclusion of modern myth is suggestively written off as just being repetitive or not existent in our far more sophisticated and complex world. I'll admit that modern myth is scarce, but it exists and is just as important. Myth is an important mirror for humans to see their own reflection and learn about their journey through metaphor. This book does a fine job covering ancient myth from various cultures; however, exclusion of the most influential myths and a nod to some modern classics was a serious oversight.

This anthology of world myths includes prominent tales from Greece and Rome, the Middle East, Northern Europe and the British Isles, the Far East and the Pacific Islands, Africa, and the Americas. At the beginning of each section and specific myth, the author provides key related historical and cultural facts and a brief tale summary that is quite helpful. There is also an extensive notes section along with wide-ranging selected bibliography for further reading. This anthology could be used as the main text for a world mythology class with additional resources added from areas of focus. Ms. Jamieson Haverkamp, M.F.A. Creative Writing candidate at Northwest Institute of Literary Arts (specializing in writing for children and young adults) and author of the 4-time award winning 500+ resource guide Mom Minus Dad Mom Minus Dad: The Essential Resource Guide for Busy Adults with a Newly Widowed Parent Mom Minus Dad: The Essential Resource Guide for Busy Adults with a Newly Widowed Parent Kindle book

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