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# Witchcraft: A Handbook Of Magic Spells And Potions



## Synopsis

A must-have volume for any occultist's library. Featuring a host of information about witchcraft throughout history, this book features magic, spells, potions and voodoo, and much more, all highlighted by more than one hundred black-and-white illustrations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Anastasia Greywolf is a practicing witch and herbalist with many decades (some say centuries) of experience in casting and conjuring. She lives in the Northeastern United States where she is a founding member of the Coven of the Moonbeam Ravine. Melissa West is a painter and printmaker whose work explores the magical place where comfort and menace meet. She lives in Santa Cruz, California, and has exhibited in many galleries in the area as well as being featured in Pilgrimage magazine. You can see more of her artwork at [MSWest.com](http://MSWest.com).

I feel like it mocks our pagan blessed faith .Spells to sprout wings?!'m offended , we aren't a circus and I was hoping for more knowledge not a joke!!'m a witch all year long , not just on Halloween.

I wish I could give it less. For those looking to learn DO NOT getting this book. It is extremely misleading. And doesn't feel right when reading it. This is a horrible and very disheartening use of the word witch.

This quaint little book is a compilation of Folk and Ceremonial Magic, incantation and spells, common belief and eccentric hopes; proven, not proven, good and bad. You can use these specimens as is, or add to them, or create your own. You can be a scientist and test every one of them, but I would be cautious with most of them. Some of them you can enjoy as comedy and glean the happiness of a good joke. Some can be read for the poetry or as short stories. And if that's not all, you can enjoy the illustrations which are very good.

I bought this book because I was hoping to research pagan religious rites for an art project. While it was interesting reading the opening bit about creating magic circles and whatever, the actual spells seem totally divorced from any historical context or any actual cultural traditions. I don't think the spells contained within are based in any research of pagan rituals, it seems like the author made most of this stuff up off the top of their head and then assigned it to different cultures hamfistedly. For example, there are far too many "pagan" spells that call on figures from the Old Testament, or that call on Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary. There are several "Gaelic spells" that call on Jesus. Actual Gaelic gods, like Teach Duinn and Cernunnos might take issue with that. Far more insultingly, all First Nation people of North America are reduced to a single culture (American Indian) and religion (Pow Wow? Huh?) The North American landmass was, and still is, inhabited by a number of different nations with unique cultures and faiths. This book totally whitewashes that, which further leads me to suspect that it is not earnestly researched. More evidence to this effect, is the Cherokee Shaman Charm for Fishing. This fishing charm detailed in the book claims that one should chew up a Venus Flytrap and spit it on the hook and bait, and recite a magic spell (in English, not Tsalagi Gawonihisdi). There are several reasons this undermines the authenticity of this spell as having an actual origin in Cherokee culture. While I'm not sure what era this spell is supposed to come from, the Cherokee were forcibly resettled to Oklahoma, where there are no Venus Flytraps to be found. Before the trail of tears, the Cherokee lived in Southern Appalachia in the northern part of what we today call Georgia. Venus Flytrap plants aren't found in the wild there either. It just doesn't add up. I was looking for actual rites and rituals that had an actual history of practice in various pre-Christian cultures, not some nonsense that somebody made up off the top of their head. Another perhaps well-intentioned but ultimately racist part of the book, is the use of the term "Gypsy" which, if these spells and rites were actually researched and pulled from an actual cultural lineage after doing actual research, I would think that the Romani would be referred to as the Romani, not as a racist slur for Romani people. Do not buy this book. Huge disappointment.

Even reading this makes you uncomfortable. I am agnostic but i greatly enjoy studying and reading up on religions, I was raised pagan and decided to "return to my roots" so to speak and read up on some of the teachings now that I am older and feel that I would understand it more. This sad excuse for a "Grimoire" I feel is insulting and mocks the religion, Some of these spells are an absolute joke, and this seems more of a mixture of ooh so spooky witchcraft you expect to see in Hollywood and Christianity. Many a time in this book it refers to "our dear lord Jesus Christ." which Paganism predates Christianity and i just see this as disgusting and insulting. I feel ripped off and this book was not due my time nor my money. This book i feel does not even deserve to be donated as I do with all books I do not care for. This book belongs in the bin.

I have to say this book is pretty disappointing. First of all "Anastasia Greywolf" or David or whatever your real name is, you are using all male Christian Gods and angels. This is not witchcraft but really just some book of made up stuff by someone who was clearly raised Christian and never truly studied witchcraft and it's true roots and beginnings. There's literally nothing authentic about this book. The cover is cool and the quality of the book is the best part. Other than that, it's a bunch of modern made up spells which any one of us could write at home for free...it's all fake, including the author's name which is ridiculous. I just returned it to . The description is wrong and misleading and if you have purchased this book, I recommend returning it as well. Get your money back and invest in a real book about witchcraft and pagan religions. Gerald Gardner is a good place to start.

I love the fact that this book has spells from many different cultures and sects; it emphasizes the fact that magical works have been thought possible by so many people over the years. I like how it is organized and the layout is lovely! Would recommend for anyone interested in the occult wanting a basic introduction.

A lot of the spells are impractical and pretty silly. To me this book is more of fairy tale witchcraft and can't be taken seriously. Glad I got it on sale with a discount. Look at the photo I added. Nonsense and not worth money...any book that has a curse to hurt an unborn child shouldn't even be in print. This is fairy tale movie boogeyman spells. Lol...good luck!

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