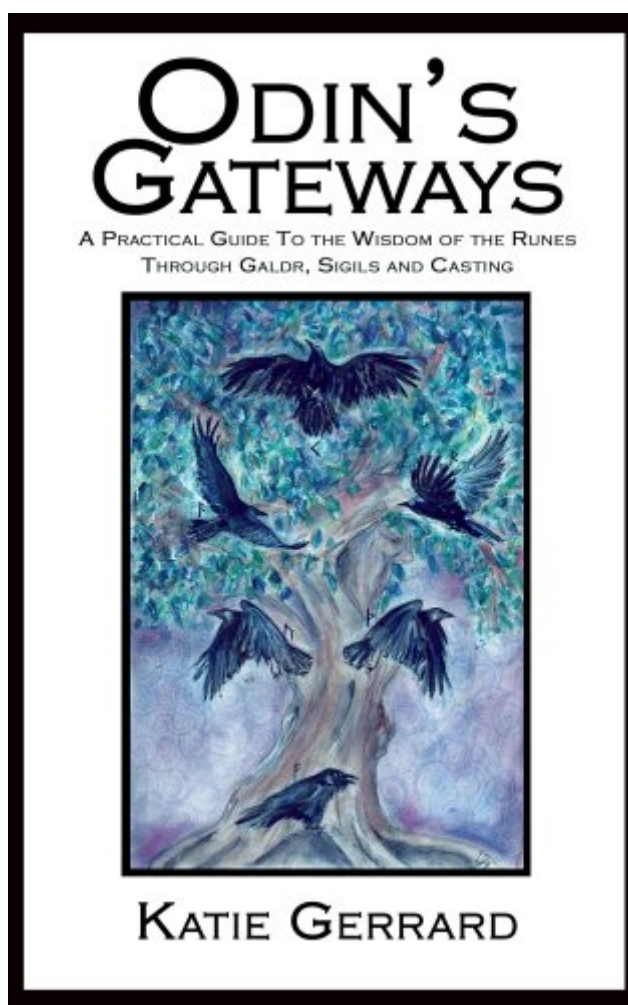


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Odin's Gateways - A Practical Guide To The Wisdom Of The Runes Through Galdr, Sigils And Casting



Synopsis

“The runes you must find | Which the mighty sage stained and the powerful gods made and the runemaster of the gods carved out. (The Poetic Edda, translated by C. Larrington)

The runes are mysterious and powerful magical keys to the primal forces of nature that shaped Norse and Northern European culture. These twenty-four unique and inspiring symbols of the Elder Futhark (first runic alphabet) each possess powerful energies, identities, meanings, and sounds. The runes are invoked and harnessed to create change through inspiration, healing, protection, knowledge and divine wisdom from the Norse gods.

Odin's Gateways is a practical guide to using the runes in our lives, in magic and in divination – a unique journey into the mysteries hidden within the runes, filled with the information and practices necessary to developing a deep personal understanding and relationship with them. By focusing on how to directly harness and channel the energy of the individual runes, the author guides the reader along the path to self knowledge and empowerment. With a deft hand and lucid style, Katie Gerrard cuts to the heart of the runes, combining the wisdom of the Norse Sagas and Rune Poems with practical advice and techniques gained through living and experiencing their powers. The practical magic of the runes is demonstrated through numerous examples of Galdr (incantation), bindrunes (composite runic sigils) and spellcraft for purposes such as protection, healing, childbirth, creating a sacred space, fertility, sleep, battle and cursing. The divinatory meanings of the runes are given, with a range of different reading methods, and advice on how to cast and interpret them. Woven among the manifold techniques and practices contained in her work, the author also explores the history of rune use, providing the highlights from Tacitus and Snorri Sturluson to the modern European and American rune masters who have revived their use.

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Book Information

File Size: 775 KB

Print Length: 190 pages

Publisher: Avalonia (December 31, 2011)

Publication Date: December 31, 2011

Sold by: Æ Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B006S6S54I

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #370,544 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #60

in Æ Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Divination > Runes #316

in Æ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies & Reference >

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Customer Reviews

I absolutely love the author's "voice", her writing style, as she talks the reader through the story of Odin's sacrifice on the tree. She presents a concise (at times a little too concise) picture of Norse cosmology and gives a clear view of the runes and their meanings. While I might have preferred just a little more "meat", I truly appreciate a short, easily approachable book written in clean, clear language (I've been reading R.I. Page all week). This book is one of my three "go-to" books on runes; Katie Gerrard definitely knows her stuff and she presents it in a way that is a joy to read.

This is a fantastic introduction to the Runes! Gerrard provides enough information in this work to get one started with working with the runes. One thing that sets this apart is that she really channels the energy of the runes - not just providing a basic divination meaning as with the sheets or booklets that accompany rune sets. Here she references the teachings of Rune experts and Masters and she lets you know her own experiences as well. This makes you feel like you are working directly with her. A great first step tool before proceeding on to more in depth study of Paxson, Aswynn, and Thorsson. I purchased the printed and kindle version and find both worth it.

I used four books for learning the basics of runes. The rest, as this author suggests, is a personal relationship that you build with the runes. I found the introduction and background to be very informative and accurate - especially with respect to building a relationship with Odin in which there

is fair exchange. This book is not comprehensive, but no book seems completely describe the runes as far as I can tell. I especially liked the description of meeting Heimdallr. I reviewed variations of the Elder Futhark and settled on the ones given in this book. As for intonement, I highly recommend that you search on yoube and hear how others do it. They are similar to the descriptions in this book, but hearing is really neecessary. You really can't teach intonement in written form. Finally, I liked the discussions on how to use them, though you will likely develop some of your own practices. Like the author describes, making your own runes seems to be the best idea - and this is what I did. Overall, this book is well worth the read and well worth referencing from time-to-time while exploring runes.

Ms Gerrard has contributed to the Runic tradition with this book. She takes a modern perspective guided both by tradition, and visionary practice. The Elder Futhark is the focus of her work, yet anyone preferring to study other Futharks can use her methods to deepen and enrich their wisdom. My criticism has more to do with the kindle edition, than with the book. First off the kindle reduces images and graphics to ridiculously small dimensions, creates errors in registration, contains large blank spaces, and gaps in the text. It is possible to muddle through, and worthwhile to do so, but it is an unnecessary annoyance. Ultimately, Ms Gerrard offers a guide which places the responsibility of practice squarely upon the reader, which is exactly where it belongs. She points to a direction, while the depth and duration of that journey is in the hands of the reader.

This book is helpful, and the some of the information on using the runes references specific sagas. Recommend, worth the money. I wouldn't have this as my sole resource about the runes, but it is a good introduction or for additional information/different view. Information on galdr is included with how each rune can be used or read, as well as how to form bindrunes for specific magical purposes. A nice intro to the gods is provided for those who are not familiar with the Aesir & the Vanir. All in all, a good book and glad I bought it.

I bought this book in kindle format after I read an excerpt from her book on seidhr. I was relieved at the lack of attempt to Wiccanize the runes by corresponding them to tarot and such. I have read many of the popular rune books by Thorsson, Aswynn, and Gundarsson, etc, all of which I advise folk avoid, but this one is one of the ones I will suggest from now on.

This book lays the ground work for insight into the power of runes, their energies, and their many

uses. This ranges from runic divination, to galdr, to bindrunes, and other magick craft. Thank you.

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