

The Dream Encyclopedia

James R. Lewis

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From Abraham, “one of the most prolific dreamers in the Hebrew Bible,” and Artemidorus of Daldis, the second-century Greek compiler of the *Oneirocritica* (*The Interpretation of Dreams*), to the Zuni of New Mexico, the *Dream Encyclopedia* provides information on how dreamers, visionaries, and dream interpreters have shaped the history, religions, and cultures of the world. Along with entries on the great dreamers of the Bible, the author includes examples of the importance of dreams to many of the world's Aboriginal cultures, and the surprising ways in which dreams have been instrumental in the creative arts, literature, politics, and scientific discovery.

Dreams often speak in a language made up of symbols and images, and the more complicated symbols, according to the author, should be interpreted in the context of their meaning in the dreamer's life. The dream dictionary which forms the second part of this work is not to be thought of as definitive or exhaustive—the definitions Lewis gives are suggestive, and demonstrate how one may go about exploring the range of a symbol's possible meanings. The author's examination of 250 dream topics, the inclusion of the latest research and science, and the ample bibliography provide guidance for readers who wish to explore in greater depth.

James R. Lewis is a professor of philosophy at the University of Wisconsin, and a recognized authority on cults, religion, and astrology. Lewis is also the published author of several works, including *Angels A to Z* and *The Astrology Book*. He is the recipient of *Choices* Outstanding Academic Title award and Best Reference Book awards from the American Library Association and the New York Public Library Association.

KRISTINE MORRIS (April 13, 2009)

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