



Holy Writ as Oral Lit: The Bible as Folklore

By Alan Dundes

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With great reverence for the Bible, Dundes offers a new and exciting way to resolve some of the mysteries and contradictions that evolved during the Bible's prewritten legacy and that persists today. Using his expert knowledge of folklore, Dundes unearths and contracts multiple versions of nearly every major biblical event, including the creation of women, the flood, the ten commandments, the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord's Prayer, and the inscription on the Cross.

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Editorial Review

Review

The idea that the Bible contains elements of folklore is not new. What makes Alan Dundes's latest book so remarkable, however, is his claim that the Bible is more folklore than anything else. Even more remarkable is the fact that after reading this book, such a claim seems absolutely convincing. This is an outstanding book that belongs on the shelf of anyone concerned either with folklore or the Bible. (Michael P. Carroll, University of Western Ontario)

It has long been recognized by professional biblicalists that the Bible is full of duplications and that the Bible originally circulated orally. Folklorist Alan Dundes' original contribution, carried out with the spriteliness and verve for which he is celebrated, is to show how the duplications are not contingent but inherent in the nature of folklore, and thereby to show how the folkloristic nature of the Bible continues in even its written form. A wonderful book. (Robert Segal, Lancaster University)

Holy Writ as Oral Lit offers insight into the Bible without diminishing it. (*Columbus Dispatch*)

'Holy writ as Oral Lit,' a brief but illuminating excursus into the Bible. (Johnathan Kirsch *Los Angeles Times*, March 99)

The fact of variation in the Bible is an important point, which Dundes documents abundantly. . . Dundes's emphasis on folklore analysis for understanding the biblical writings is salutary. (Ronald S. Hendel, University of California, Berkeley *Religious Studies Review*)

In the most recent of Dundes's three important contributions to the study of religion. It is our good fortune that this most eminent of American anthropologists and folklorists well known for his work on folklore theory and on subjects as diverse as German national character and American joke cycles, has now brought his scholarship to bear on religion. Dundes's work is already widely influential in the United States and deserves to be better known among British scholars of religion. (*Journal Of Contemporary Religion*)

This study provides an explanation for several of the discrepancies found in the Bible. It also gives the reader insight into the method used in this kind of study. (*The Bible Today*)

Dundes persuasively makes his case for the folkloristic origins of biblical literature. (*Western Folklore*)

The Holy Writ as Oral Lit is a very worthwhile book. It is enlightening, convincing, entertaining, and familiarizes the reader with the most important research done on Scripture and folklore. (*Evangelical Review Of Theology*)

A worthwhile book. It is enlightening, convincing, entertaining, and familiarizes the reader with the most important research on Scripture and folklore. In addition, it gives the reader a bird's-eye view of the nature and genres of folklore. (Auss)

While written for the novice studying the orally discursive nature of the Judeo-Christian canon, the book will also be useful to more advanced scholars, especially for its survey of the literature and comprehensive biography. (*Christianity and Literature*)

About the Author

Alan Dundes is known as one of the world's leading authorities on folklore. In more than 30 books he has unveiled the meanings in the oral traditions of many cultures. He lives in Berkeley, where he is professor of anthropology and folklore at the University of California.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Angel Echols:

Do you among people who can't read gratifying if the sentence chained within the straightway, hold on guys that aren't like that. This *Holy Writ as Oral Lit: The Bible as Folklore* book is readable simply by you who hate those perfect word style. You will find the info here are arrange for enjoyable looking at experience without leaving actually decrease the knowledge that want to offer to you. The writer regarding *Holy Writ as Oral Lit: The Bible as Folklore* content conveys the thought easily to understand by a lot of people. The printed and e-book are not different in the written content but it just different in the form of it. So , do you nevertheless thinking *Holy Writ as Oral Lit: The Bible as Folklore* is not loveable to be your top listing reading book?

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Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book can be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the e-book untitled *Holy Writ as Oral Lit: The Bible as Folklore* can be excellent book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

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Carol Ton:

This *Holy Writ as Oral Lit: The Bible as Folklore* is great guide for you because the content which can be full of information for you who always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it data accurately using great organize word or we can point out no rambling sentences

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