

# Sex Mythology

*Eros* - Bruce S Thornton 2018-02-12

*Eros: The Myth of Ancient Greek Sexuality* is a controversial book that lays bare the meanings Greeks gave to sex. Contrary to the romantic idealization of sex dominating our culture, the Greeks saw eros as a powerful force of nature, potentially dangerous, and in need of control by society: Eros the Destroyer, not Cupid the Inseparable, fired the Greek imagination. The destructiveness of eros can be seen in Greek imagery and metaphor, and in the Greeks' attitudes toward women and homosexuals. Images of love as fire, disease, storms, insanity, and violence? Top 40 song cliché for us? locate eros among the unpredictable and deadly forces of nature. The beautiful Aphrodite embodies the alluring danger of sex, while femmes fatales like Pandora and Helen represent the risky charms of female sexuality. And homosexuality typifies for the Greeks the frightening power of an indiscriminate appetite that threatens the stability of culture itself. In *Eros: The Myth of Ancient Greek Sexuality*, Bruce Thornton offers a uniquely sweeping and comprehensive account of ancient sexuality free of currently fashionable theoretical jargon and pretensions. In its conclusions the book challenges the distortions of much recent scholarship on Greek sexuality. And throughout it links the wary attitudes of the Greeks to our present-day concerns about love, sex, and family. What we see, finally, are the origins of some of our own views as well as a vision of sexuality that is perhaps more honest and mature than our own dangerous illusions.

*Myth and Sexuality* - Jamake Highwater 1990

*Myth and Sexuality* is a fascinating study of the ways in which our ideas about sex and gender have been shaped by our cultural myths--ranging from the Ancient Greeks to contemporary America.

**The Mythology of Sex** - Sarah Denning 1996

This captivating work explores changing attitudes toward sexuality and the ways in which a culture's myths reflect those attitudes. Diverse full-color illustrations from life, art and architecture are interwoven throughout. With its insights into the origins of our contemporary ideas about sexuality, masculinity and femininity, and its fascinating look at sexual practices past and present, *The Mythology of Sex* is a provocative reference. 125 full-color illustrations.

**The Bedtrick** - Wendy Doniger 2022-08-22

"Somehow I woke up one day and found myself in bed with a stranger." Meant literally or figuratively, this statement describes one of the best-known plots in world mythology and popular storytelling. In a tour that runs from Shakespeare to Hollywood and from Abraham Lincoln to Casanova, the erudite and irrepressible Wendy Doniger shows us the variety, danger, and allure of the "bedtrick," or what it means to wake up with a stranger. The *Bedtrick* brings together hundreds of stories from all over the world, from the earliest recorded Hindu and Hebrew texts to the latest item in the *Weekly World News*, to show the hilariously convoluted sexual scrapes that people manage to get themselves into and out of. Here you will find wives who accidentally commit adultery with their own husbands. You will read Lincoln's truly terrible poem about a bedtrick. You will learn that in Hong Kong the film *The Crying Game* was retitled *Oh No! My Girlfriend Has a Penis*. And that President Clinton was not the first man to be identified by an idiosyncratic organ. At the bottom of these wonderful stories, ancient myths, and historical anecdotes lie the dynamics of sex and gender, power and identity. Why can't people tell the difference in the dark? Can love always tell the difference between one lover and another? And what kind of truth does sex tell? Funny, sexy, and engaging, *The Bedtrick* is a masterful work of energetic storytelling and dazzling scholarship. Give it to your spouse and your lover.

**The Mythology of Sex** - Sarah Denning 1996

*The Mythology of Sex* explores the ways in which cultural myths reflect attitudes toward sexuality and how these attitudes have changed over time. Drawing on the lore and history of ancient civilizations, recent empires, secret societies, and religions old and new, this handsome guide provides a fascinating approach to understanding the origins of our behaviors, our ideas about the world, and our sexual selves. You'll learn the origins of the virgin/whore dichotomy; find out what the *Kama Sutra* is really all about; discover the original sexual significance of many of today's traditions (including those surrounding Saint Valentine's Day, Christmas, and Easter); and even take a glimpse into a secret society

whose initiation ceremony involved the kissing of animals.

**Sex and the Goddess** - Karin E Weiss Ph.D., PhD 2019-11-25

It has been over twenty years since the full manuscript of my book was edited for publication in 1998. I had begun writing it in the previous decade, the 1980's... a period of flourishing women's liberation movements against the patriarchal status quo. Books about women's sexuality and spirituality were flooding the bookstores, and many writers were producing profound studies of the untold heroism of women throughout history. I was a pioneer in the burgeoning field of Sex therapy and education at the University of Minnesota Medical School's "Program in Human Sexuality." In addition, I conducted women's self-enrichment groups and workshops in my private practice... "Woman's Discovery Institute" ... where I also gave professional Astrology readings and classes. This rich mix of psychology, philosophy, spirituality, and a knowledge of the cyclic patterns of life shown by astrology created within me an avid interest in researching women's unsung heroism throughout history. It brewed in me a heady fascination to stitch it all together in a circle montage that connects all women and all aspects of our multi-layered lives. I based my theory on the lunar cycle, which is eternally linked to women's menstrual, emotional, and psychic cycles. With a friend, I created a series of workshops for women to celebrate their many-faceted selves and gain confidence to pursue their goals. Yet for various reasons my book manuscript remained in my own bookshelf, never getting published. Until now... the times again call for women to claim their autonomy and gain equality in an overly male-dominated and viciously callous world. I am blessed to find in Xlibris a publisher ready to take on the project with me. I am thrilled to finally see my "Life's Masterwork" in print. You will find many divergent ideas in these two volumes. No single woman encompasses all that are described, but as you read and recognize these characters in yourselves and your friends, I hope it will help you gain a full appreciation of your own awesome erotic spirit and sacred sexual powers.

*Sacred Pleasure* - Riane Eisler 2012-01-03

Riane Eisler shows us how history has consistently promoted the link between sex and violence—and how we can sever this link and move to a politics of partnership rather than domination in all our relations.

**Sex Mythology** - Sha Rocco 2014-03-30

This Is A New Release Of The Original 1898 Edition.

**50 Great Myths of Human Sexuality** - Pepper Schwartz 2015-04-20

*50 Great Myths of Human Sexuality* seeks to dispel commonly accepted myths and misunderstandings surrounding human sexuality, providing an enlightening, fascinating and challenging book that covers the fifty areas the author's believe individuals must understand to have a safe, pleasurable and healthy sex life. Dispels/Explores commonly accepted myths and misunderstandings surrounding human sexuality Includes comparisons to other countries and cultures exploring different beliefs and how societies can influence perceptions Areas discussed include: pre-marital sex, masturbation, sexual diseases, fantasy, pornography, relationships, contraception, and emotions such as jealousy, body image insecurity, passionate love and sexual aggression Covers both heterosexual and same-sex relationships

**Testosterone Rex** - Cordelia Fine 2017-03-02

WINNER OF THE 2017 ROYAL SOCIETY INSIGHT INVESTMENT SCIENCE BOOK PRIZE What the judges said: 'Every man and woman should read this book on gender bias ... an important, yet wickedly witty, book.' 'Fine's entertaining and thoughtful book is a valuable addition to the discussion about gender.' Ian Critchley, *Sunday Times* 'In addition to being hopeful, Fine is also angry. We should all be angry. Testosterone Rex is a debunking rumble that ought to inspire a roar.' *Guardian* 'A densely packed, spirited book, with an unusual combination of academic rigour and readability ... The expression "essential reading for everyone" is usually untrue as well as a cliché, but if there were a book deserving of that description this might just be it.' Antonia Macaro, *Financial Times* *Testosterone Rex* is the powerful myth that squashes hopes of sex equality by telling us that men and women have evolved different natures. Fixed in an ancestral past that rewarded competitive men and caring women, these differences are supposedly re-created in each generation by sex hormones and male and female brains. Testosterone, so we're told, is the very essence of masculinity, and biological sex is a

fundamental force in our development. Not so, says psychologist Cordelia Fine, who shows, with wit and panache, that sex doesn't create male and female natures. Instead, sex, hormones, culture and evolution work together in ways that make past and present gender dynamics only a serving suggestion for the future - not a recipe. Testosterone Rex brings together evolutionary science, psychology, neuroscience and social history to move beyond old 'nature versus nurture' debates, and to explain why it's time to unmake the tyrannical myth of Testosterone Rex. For fans of Fine - whose *Delusions of Gender* 'could have far-reaching consequences as significant as *The Female Eunuch*' (Viv Groskop, Guardian) - and thousands of new readers, this is an upbeat, timely and important contribution to the debate about gender in society.

*Challenging Popular Myths of Sex, Gender and Biology* - Malin Ah-King 2013-11-27

This edited volume challenges popular notions of sex, gender and biology and features international, trans-disciplinary research. The book begins with an exploration of supposedly 'natural' sexual differences, then looks at research in evolutionary biology and examines topics such as gender stereotypes in humans. The first chapters explore important questions: What are the fundamental sex differences? How do genes and hormones influence an individual's sex? Subsequent chapters concern topics including: sex stereotypes in the field of sexual conflict, how the focus on genes in evolutionary biology disregards other means of inheritance, and the development of Darwin's theory of sex differences. The last three chapters look at humans, discussing: an interdisciplinary approach to the evolution of sex differences in body height, biological versus social constructive perspectives on the gendering of voices and nature-culture arguments in the current political debate on paternity leave in Norway.

**The Missing Myth** - Gilles Herrada 2013-02-26

In *The Missing Myth*, Gilles Herrada tackles the many questions about the role and meaning of homosexuality in the evolution of our species and the development of civilization: what evolutionary edge same-sex relationships have provided to the human species; what biological mechanisms generate the sexual diversity that we observe; why homosexual behavior ended up being prohibited worldwide; why homophobia has persisted throughout history; why the homosexual community resurfaced after World War II; and others. In this heartfelt, beautifully written, and painstakingly researched text, the author sculpts a vision of homosexuality that integrates its many dimensions. Stressing the connection between the social status of homosexuality and how same-sex love is depicted in the myths of a particular culture, *The Missing Myth* advocates the creation of a new mythos—not only informed by all the fields of knowledge, but also inclusive of the beauty, truth, and goodness of same-sex love.

**The Sex Myth** - Brooke Magnanti 2012-05-03

Why everything the media tells us about sex is wrong ... Is there any truth to the epidemic of sex addiction? Are our children really getting sexualised younger? Are men the only ones who like porn? Brooke Magnanti looks at all these questions and more - and proves that perhaps we've all been taking the answers for granted. Brooke Magnanti is no stranger to controversy. As Belle de Jour she enthralled and outraged the nation in equal measure. Now her real identity is out in the open, Brooke's background as a scientist and a researcher can come to bear in her fascinating investigation into the truth behind the headlines, scandals and moral outrage that fill the media (and our minds) when it

comes to sex. Using her entertaining and informed voice, Brooke strips away the hype and looks at the science behind sex and the panic behind public policy. Unlike so many media column inches, Brooke uses verifiable academic research. This is fact not fiction; science not supposition. So sit back, open your mind and prepare to be shocked ...

**Sex, Culture, and Myth** - Bronislaw Malinowski 1963

Non Aboriginal material.

[Sex Mythology](#) - Sha Rocco 1982

*The Sex Myth* - Rachel Hills 2015-08-04

From a bold new feminist voice, a book that will change the way you think about your sex life. Fifty years after the sexual revolution, we are told that we live in a time of unprecedented sexual freedom; that if anything, we are too free now. But beneath the veneer of glossy hedonism, millennial journalist Rachel Hills argues that we are controlled by a new brand of sexual convention: one which influences all of us—woman or man, straight or gay, liberal or conservative. At the root of this silent code lies the Sex Myth—the defining significance we invest in sexuality that once meant we were dirty if we did have sex, and now means we are defective if we don't do it enough. Equal parts social commentary, pop culture, and powerful personal anecdotes from people across the English-speaking world, *The Sex Myth* exposes the invisible norms and unspoken assumptions that shape the way we think about sex today.

**Sex in the World of Myth** - David Leeming 2018-08-15

In *Sex in the World of Myth*, David Leeming argues that sex is as important in myths as it is in our daily lives. Casting myths as our cultural dreams, Leeming shows that sex is pervasive in all mythologies because it has obsessed and confused us like nothing else. He reveals how sexual myths, like all myths, can have many purposes. The reproductive acts of the ancient Greek goddess Gaia, for instance, may reflect a pre-Olympian matriarchal social system, while tales of the unbridled sexual deeds of the Polynesian Maui, and many others, speak to a natural fascination with the power and mystery of sexual drives. Both a survey of the sex lives of the world's mythological figures and their deep meaning, *Sex in the World of Myth* demonstrates that even when such myths are meant to elicit laughter or titillation, the participation in them of sacred heroes and deities means they are in some sense religious—tales offering us partial answers to the nature of existence in general, and of human sexuality in particular.

**Myths and Mysteries of Same-Sex Love** - Christine Downing 2006

"Myths and Mysteries of Same-Sex Love makes a powerful statement about the realities of gay and lesbian psyche. A gay and lesbian psychic perspective may at first be startling, but once examined, it proves to be unforgettable." -The Advocate

[The Ring of Truth and Other Myths of Sex and Jewelry](#) - Wendy Doniger 2017

In 'The Ring of Truth', Wendy Doniger expertly unfolds the cultural and historical significance of rings and other kinds of circular jewelry through timeless stories taken from mythology, religious traditions, and literature.

[Alone of All Her Sex](#) - Marina Warner 2016

This unique study of the cult of the Virgin Mary offers a way of thinking about the interrelations of Catholicism and ideas of ideal femininity over the longue duree."

## Sex Mythology:

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