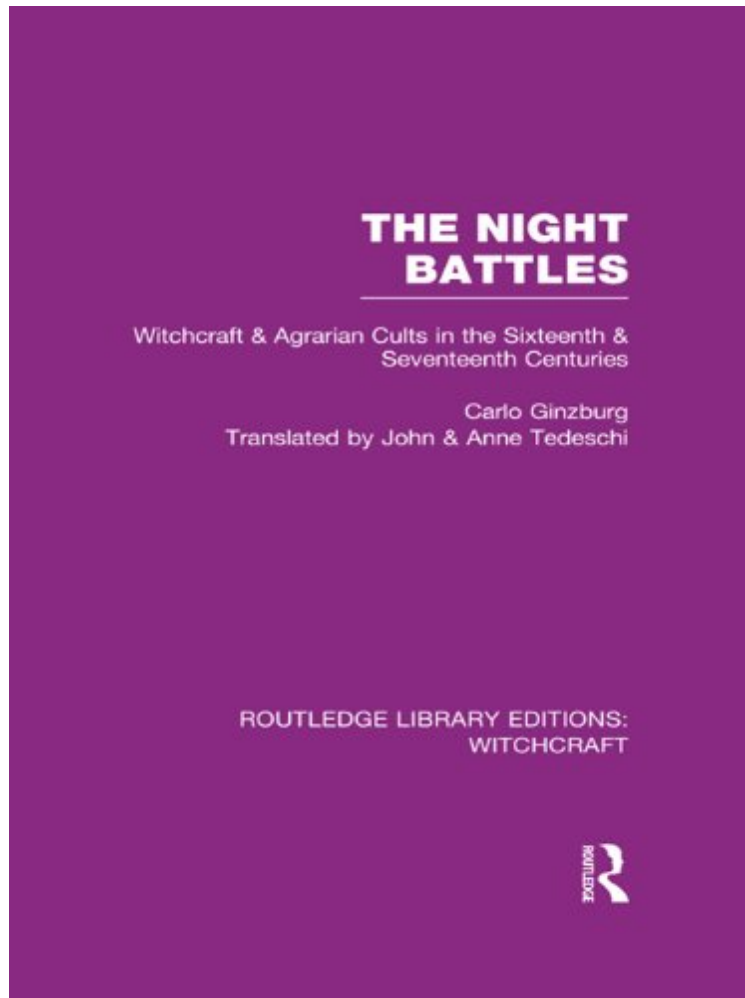


[Library ebook] The Night Battles (RLE Witchcraft): Witchcraft and Agrarian Cults in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries (Routledge Library Editions: Witchcraft)

## **The Night Battles (RLE Witchcraft): Witchcraft and Agrarian Cults in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries (Routledge Library Editions: Witchcraft)**

*Von Carlo Ginzburg*

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**Von Carlo Ginzburg : The Night Battles (RLE Witchcraft): Witchcraft and Agrarian Cults in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries (Routledge Library Editions: Witchcraft)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Night Battles (RLE Witchcraft): Witchcraft and Agrarian Cults in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries (Routledge Library Editions: Witchcraft):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An important book in the historiography of witchcraft Von lb23@cornell.edu Ginzburg's research on the benandanti was

path-breaking when it first appeared in the 1960's. It has become a classic, a required read for any student of history who is interested in the topic of the early modern European witch hunts. Ginzburg reconstructs a narrative in which the notion of what it was to be a "witch" was fundamentally changed by the Friulian peasants' encounters with the Inquisition.0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Mind Blowing Experience! Von Ein Kunde This book is goddamn outstanding! You really see the simple power and depth behind these poor Northern Italian farmers who believed their souls left their bodies in ecstasy to fly through the night to do battle with life-destroying witches on their own grounds! At the very height and heat of Christendom, their beats an ancient, pagan heart. All who wish to know this hidden history, I definitely recommend this!0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. this book kicks ass! Von Ein Kunde this work is extremely mind provoking...bringing to question not only who the benandanti were, but also what their purpose was in a society which bore a quite rigid definition of witches. ginzburg does a marvelous job of uniting various archive sources and creating, if you will, an artistic reality to witches in the early europe of the 16th and 17th centuries.

Kurzbeschreibung Based on research in the Inquisitorial archives, the book recounts the story of a peasant fertility cult centred on the benandanti. These men and women regarded themselves as professional anti-witches, who (in dream-like states) apparently fought ritual battles against witches and wizards, to protect their villages and harvests. If they won, the harvest would be good, if they lost, there would be famine. The inquisitors tried to fit them into their pre-existing images of the witches sabbat. The result of this cultural clash which lasted over a century, was the slow metamorphosis of the benandanti into their enemies the witches. Carlo Ginzburg shows clearly how this transformation of the popular notion of witchcraft was manipulated by the Inquisitors, and disseminated all over Europe and even to the New World. The peasants fragmented and confused testimony reaches us with great immediacy, enabling us to identify a level of popular belief which constitutes a valuable witness for the reconstruction of the peasant way of thinking of this age. Pressestimmen A tour-de-force of reconstruction, building out of scattered and fragmentary sources a whole world for the reader to inhabit. -- Anthony Pagden London of Books A work of genuine intellectual distinction. It is an unusually original contribution to the study of witchcraft in early modern Europe, but its importance is far from being exhausted by that description. -- Peter Burke New York of Books 1985 Kurzbeschreibung Based on research in the Inquisitorial archives, the book recounts the story of a peasant fertility cult centred on the benandanti. These men and women regarded themselves as professional anti-witches, who (in dream-like states) apparently fought ritual battles against witches and wizards, to protect their villages and harvests. If they won, the harvest would be good, if they lost, there would be famine. The inquisitors tried to fit them into their pre-existing images of the witches sabbat. The result of this cultural clash which lasted over a century, was the slow metamorphosis of the benandanti into their enemies the witches. Carlo Ginzburg shows clearly how this transformation of the popular notion of witchcraft was manipulated by the Inquisitors, and disseminated all over Europe and even to the New World. The peasants fragmented and confused testimony reaches us with great immediacy, enabling us to identify a level of popular belief which constitutes a valuable witness for the reconstruction of the peasant way of thinking of this age.