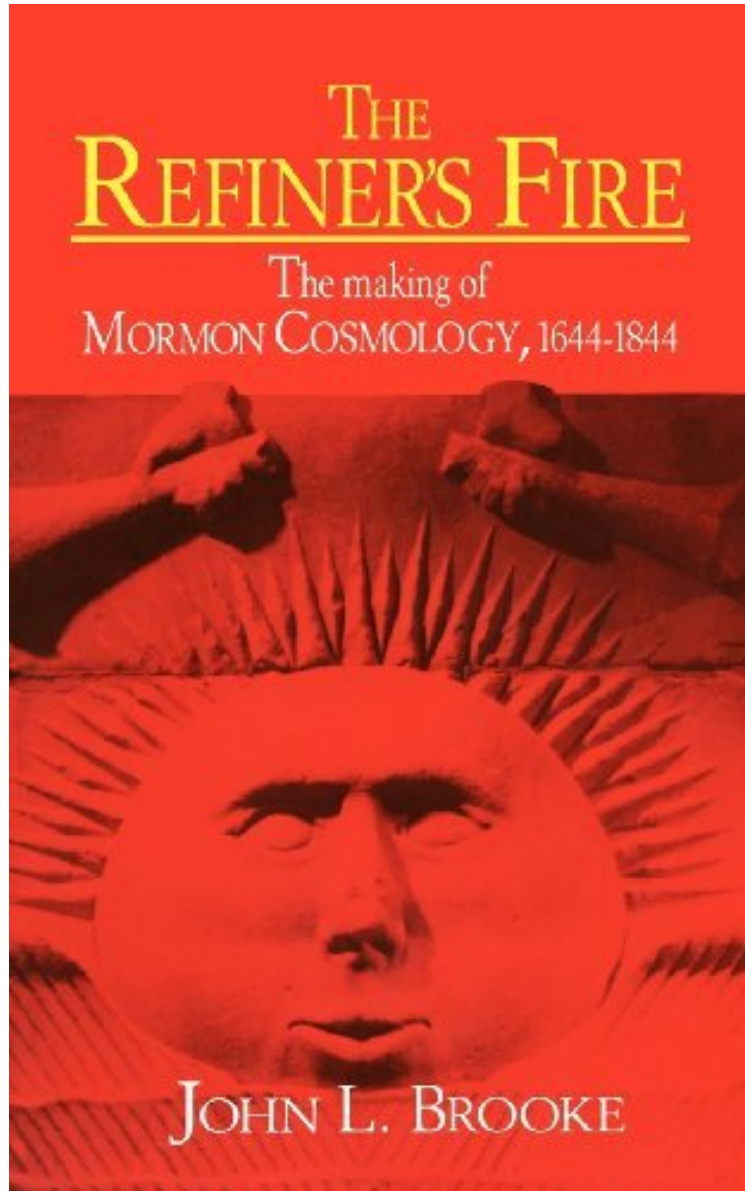


[Free read ebook] The Refiner's Fire: The Making of Mormon Cosmology, 16441844

The Refiner's Fire: The Making of Mormon Cosmology, 16441844

Von John L. Brooke

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Von John L. Brooke : The Refiner's Fire: The Making of Mormon Cosmology, 16441844 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Refiner's Fire: The Making of Mormon Cosmology, 16441844:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Excellent Scholarship Von Ein Kunde This book starts where most LDS "exposes" end. Accepting as documented the

Masonic and occult links of the temple rites, and the occult practices of Joseph Smith, Brooke asks instead what was the psychology that drove Joseph Smith, and what was the psychology in pre-colonial, colonial, and early independent America that his words should fall on such receptive ears? How did it happen that hermeticism, already gone and past in Europe, should appear so resoundingly 200 years later across the Atlantic? It breaks through the rewritten history of early America as purely Christian, to show how earlier events such as the Salem witch trials were symptoms of a magical world view prevalent among major parts of the population. Brooke connects all this with post-Reformation hermeticism. And in so doing, he proposes the evolution of Joseph Smith and his religion in distinct phases. In many ways, the story is a 19th century donnybrook very similar to the modern one imagined by Umberto Eco in "Foucault's Pendulum."

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Overrated Von Ein Kunde Brooke's book is definitely original and demonstrates remarkable industry. Unfortunately, in my opinion it is also fundamentally misguided. At point after point, he misunderstands Mormon theology. He strains to find occultic and hermetic sources for doctrines and practices that -- even bracketing Mormon truth-claims -- are easily enough found in the Bible itself. (In conversation with a friend, he acknowledges that he doesn't know the Bible all that well. It shows.) When he compares the Mormon idea of creation as the shaping of pre-existent matter with Neoplatonic notions of creation ex deo, he betrays woeful misunderstanding of either Neoplatonism or Mormonism or both. This book is a stretch, and it stretches much too far. Unfortunately, I suspect that it will have real impact in "religious studies" courses across the country; this is unfortunate because, put simply, the book is wrong and misleading.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Well-Researched and Original Von Ein Kunde The Refiner's fire is well researched and original. Mr. Brooke's analysis of Mormon cosmology is challenging and thought provoking. However, this book is not perfect. The (historical) links to hermeticism are sometimes a bit tenuous. But the forms are there. On the whole this book is well worth the read. It's good to read a book that doesn't support traditional conceptions of Mormon origins and at the same time is not anti-Mormon. If you don't believe me. . . maybe this appeal to authority :) will help. The Refiner's Fire has received several awards: The Bancroft Prize in American History - Columbia University, the Book Prize of the Society of Historians of the Early American Republic, and the New England Historical Association's Annual Book Award - Am. Hist. Assn.

Kurzbeschreibung This 1995 book presents an alternative and comprehensive understanding of the roots of Mormon religion, which proposes that the faithful will become gods. The book's central thesis is that the origins of Mormonism lie in the fusion of radical religion with magical ideas about recovering the divine powers of Adam lost in the fall from Paradise (ideas known as the hermetic philosophy) that occurred during the Reformation and the English Revolution. The book is organised around the two problems of demonstrating the survival of these ideas into the nineteenth century and of how they were manifested in Mormon doctrine. A final chapter outlines how Mormonism gradually has moved toward traditional Protestant Christianity since the 1850s. Besides religion, this book deals with magic, witchcraft, alchemy, Freemasonry, counterfeiting, and state-formation.

Pressestimmen "John Brooke takes a controversial romp over the field of previous Mormon scholarship. When he has done, he has managed to raise the intellectual pedigree of Joseph Smith by establishing his close kinship with European hermeticists and the subversive sectarians of the Radical Reformation. It is a fascinating argument that traces the influence of ideas through complicated social networks of neighbors and kin. The people 'prepared' for Mormonism are a surprising lot." R. Laurence Moore, Cornell University "The Refiner's Fire explores the complex and always intriguing world of early Mormon theological and ritual evolution with remarkable learning, fairness, and daring--an exciting, sophisticated account sure to generate both controversy and a renewed appreciation of early Mormon spiritual creativity." John Butler, Yale University "This is not just a revealing history of the background of the first Mormons and early Mormonism but a larger history of early American culture that will do almost as much for readers who are interested in the cultural context in which this new American religion developed as it will do for those who simply want to learn more about Mormon beginnings." Jan Shipp, Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis "His book is a model of the historian's enterprise....[Brooke] blends the passion of the detective and the dispassion of the good judge as he describes the background and context of Mormonism." Martin E. Marty, Commonwealth "An insightful contribution to the controversy surrounding the origins of Mormonism." College Research Libraries News "Excellent....This study not only sets Mormon religious history into a frontier occult milieu but offers important understanding of the beliefs and practices of Americans outside the individual and institutional carriers commonly the focus of previous occult histories." The Reader's "The Refiner's Fire is a wonderful book, thoroughly researched and rich in interpretive detail." Curtis Johnson, The Journal of American History "The Refiner's Fire is an important and daring work for which Brooke has received the Bancroft Prize in American history....Combining intellectual and demographic history with rare skill, Brooke sheds great light on transatlantic subcultures that have not been labeled "occult" (read "hidden") for nothing." Religious Studies

ber das Produkt This book presents an alternative and comprehensive understanding of the roots of Mormon religion, which proposes that the faithful will become gods, placing it in the hermetic tradition of the

Renaissance. Besides religion, this book deals with magic, witchcraft, alchemy, Freemasonry, counterfeiting, and state-formation.