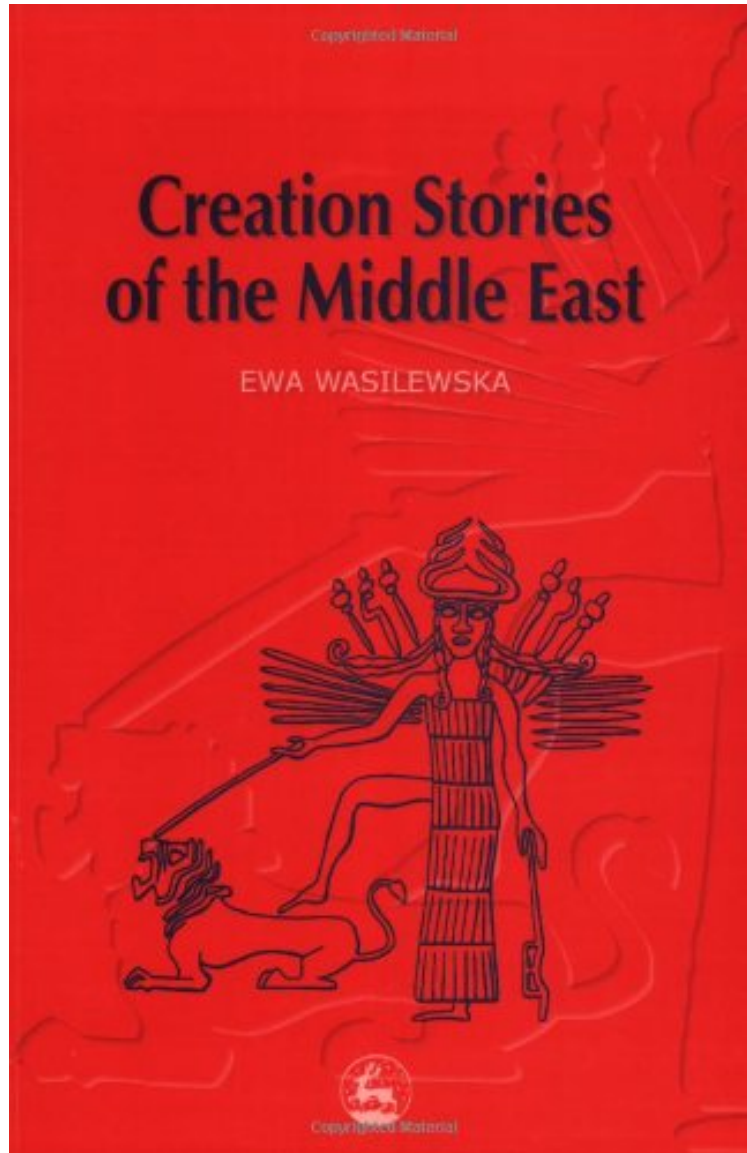


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Creation Stories of the Middle East

Ewa Wasilewska

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Ewa Wasilewska : Creation Stories of the Middle East before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Creation Stories of the Middle East:

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If I had longer to spend in school, I would take more of her classes. That being said this book stands on its own for content. She indeed has mind wrapped around the subject and provides a study on the subject that is both educated and not pretentious. This is book worth every penny and is a volume that you will enjoy time and time again. This book is content rich. And by this, I don't mean it is a book written with an unrealistic point to prove, that confuses points under mile long sentences and too many words. This is refreshing in today's world of contemporary works that are more words than sustance.If you are interested in a book, written by someone who has dedicted her life to a deep and honest scholarly understanding of the subject, this is your book.9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Creation Stories made simpleBy Nicole L BellI have been waiting for this book for over a year! I am of course bias, I have had Ewa as a professor for 4 classes. The book is a great, not only is it informative but it also gives a lot of Ewa's humor. Even if I weren't in Ewa's class I would probably still read the book. (Of course I am really into mythology!)This book is not nearly as academic as most books on this subject. The book is easy to understand, well as easy as mytholgy is to understand. She doesn't show of by making obscure references or using really big words.I recommend this book to anyone who enjoys mythology or is intreseted in the Middle East. Actually I recommend that everyone take a class from Ewa but since that's not possible try reading her book.

'This account of Middle Eastern creation myths is a very detailed in its geographical and historical focus, and impressively wide-ranging in its scope... the painstaking research and critical insight make this a very valuable contribution to the subject.' - Journal Of Beliefs Values This comprehensive study of Middle Eastern creation stories explores the region's 'forgotten' narratives, myths and traditions which have played a central role in the accounts of creation found in the Old Testament and the Quran. Drawing on stories from Ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Anatolia, Syria-Palestine and Persia, Ewa Wasilewska shows how these narratives of creation, destruction and rebirth reach to the very roots of the Biblical and Quranic Genesis. She examines the beliefs of the ancient Sumerians, Egyptians, Akkadians, Babylonians, Assyrians, Canaanites, Hebrews and Arabs, and the early Indo-Europeans, placing them in the economic, political and social context of the region. She investigates the concept of 'religion' as defined by ancient and modern scholars, a concept which she argues emerged only with the establishment of religions focusing on one male deity, and she traces the gradual rise and fall of the female goddesses of creation. Creation Stories of the Middle Eastexplores a significant range of original myths, stories, timelines and maps of the region, invaluable to the student or enthusiast. By returning to the place where writing was first invented, Wasilewska opens up the mythology, religion and history of the last five thousand years in the Middle East.

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