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American Voudou: Journey Into a Hidden World

By Rod Davis

University of North Texas Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 360 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.1in. x 1.0in. Voudou (an older spelling of voodoo) a pantheistic belief system developed in West Africa and transported to the Americas during the diaspora of the slave trade is the generic term for a number of similar African religions which mutated in the Americas, including santeria, candomble, macumbe, obeah, Shango Baptist, etc. Since its violent introduction in the Caribbean islands, it has been the least understood and most feared religion of the New World suppressed, outlawed or ridiculed from Haiti to Hattiesburg. Yet with the exception of Zora Neale Hurston's accounts more than a half-century ago and a smattering of lurid, often racist paperbacks, studies of this potent West African theology have focused almost exclusively on Haiti, Cuba and the Caribbean basin. American Voudou turns our gaze back to American shores, principally towards the South, the most important and enduring stronghold of the voodoo faith in America and site of its historic yet rarely recounted war with Christianity. This chronicle of Davis's determined search for the true legacy of voodoo in America reveals a spirit-world from New Orleans to Miami which will shatter long-held stereotypes about the religion...



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