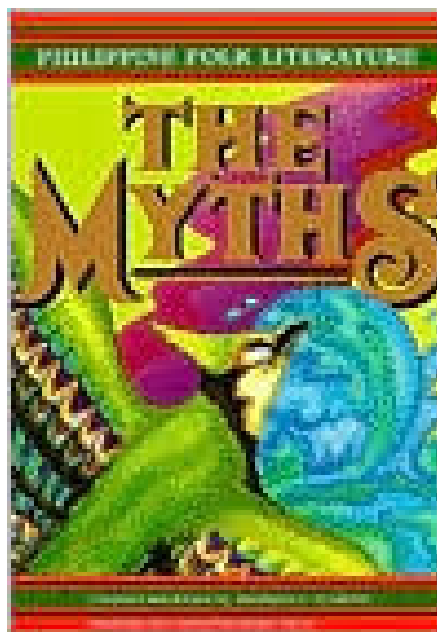




Philippine Folk Literature: The Myths

Damiana L. Eugenio (Editor)

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Philippine Folk Literature: The Myths constitutes Volume II of the author's eight-volume Philippine Folk Literature Series.

The present volume focuses on myths, simply defines as sacred narratives explaining how the world and man came to be in their present form. An "Introduction" distinguishes myth from legend, with which it is usually confused, and offers a system of classification of myths, which follows the arrangement of mythological motifs in Stith Thompson's Motif-Index of Folk Literature.

The myths in this collection are arranged according to the eight categories in the system of classification mentioned above: 1) the Gods: their Activities and Relationships; 2) Cosmology and Cosmogony; 3) Topographical Features of the Earth (water and land features); 4) World Calamities (The Great Flood); 5) Establishment of the Natural Order; 6) Creation and Ordering of Human Life; 7) Origin of Animal Life and Characteristics; and 8) Origin of Plant Life and Characteristics.

Within each category, the myths are arranged by region -- Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao. Exceptions were made in the myths on the origin of animals and plants, which are arranged alphabetically.

As with the other volumes in the series, the selections are given in English translation, in order to make them accessible to an international readership. As in the other volumes, also, this collection is intended to be national in scope. Care was therefore taken to ensure that it contains as wide a representation as possible of different types and sub-types of myths and that it represents as many Philippine ethnolinguistic groups as possible.

Philippine Folk Literature: The Myths Details

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Joarghs says

Every serious Filipino writer must read this volume. It contains the collective soul of our people. It has everything, you just have to look for it.

RE de Leon says

Damiana Eugenio's Philippine Folk Literature Series, of which this is volume II, is perhaps the most definitive collection of Philippine folk literature today, and a critical resource for anyone studying Philippine stories and Philippine culture.

The stories themselves, I must warn you, are culled from *print* sources, since that's pretty much the only way such a collection could be put together within the span of a human lifetime. Where versions of a story vary significantly from each other, the different variants (or examples thereof) gathered by Eugenio are all presented, allowing the reader a good glimpse of the range of variations for each story.

The introduction itself is a precious piece, a good guide to the study of these Philippine folk stories in general, and of the pieces in the book in particular.

Again a bit too detailed for the appreciation of the novice, this is a critical resource for any serious student of Mythology, Mythopoeia, and Philippine folk culture.

(For those who are interested only in general, I recommend book one of this series, which is an Anthology of Philippine Folk Literature.)

RE de Leon

Agoo, La Union

7:21 PM January 2, 2011

Royella Cantos says

sfdg

Mark Isaak says

An excellent collection of mythology, on the whole, covering all parts of the Philippines and all types of myths. (Other volumes, which I have not read, cover other folklore.) In some cases, I would have liked to see a little commentary. For example, a couple myths tell of the origin of corn and tobacco; when were those introduced historically? A glossary of Philippine terms would also be useful. In most cases, the meanings could be deduced from context, but there were still a few words I had to look up. Still, it brings together a

wealth of research from sources most of which would be nigh impossible to find outside the Philippines.

Alex Xd says

samai genesis by damiana eugenio

A says

I can't imagine a more thorough resource for Philippine folklore. This is essential reading for Filipinos.
