

## Santeria Experience

*Gonzalez-Wippler*

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**Gonzalez-Wippler : Santeria Experience** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Santeria Experience:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A FASCINATING, AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL INTRODUCTION TO SANTERABy Steven H ProppMigene Gonzlez-Wippler "was born on Puerto Rico and has degrees in psychology and anthropology... She has worked as a science editor for the Interscience Division of John Wiley, the American Institute of Physics and the American Museum of Natural History ... She is a cultural anthropologist and lectures frequently at colleges in New York City." She has written many other books, such as The Complete Book of Spells, Ceremonies Magic (Llewellyns Sourcebook Series), Powers of the Orishas: Santera and the Worship of Saints, Book of Shadows, Dreams and What They Mean to You (Llewellyn's New Age), etc.This book was first published in 1982, and she issued a "revised and expanded" edition in 1992. She wrote in the Preface to the Second Edition, "This new edition ... has been expanded to include some of the magical practices of the santeros... It is a highly personal book and, because it is autobiographical, it is also revealing. I hope that its message is understood and that the magic of Santera reaches out to every reader."Here are some quotations from the book:"Santera is not confined to the Caribbean and to South America. As a result of the migration of large amounts of Caribbean people, it is now practiced in the great cities of the United States and Canada, inevitably winning converts among many North Americans of varied ethnic backgrounds." (Pg. x-xi)"In order to safeguard these mysteries, the priests and priestesses of Santera (known as santeros and santeras), usually refuse to discuss the secrets of Santera with outsiders." (Pg. xiii)"I will not waste your

time or mine trying to provide a logical explanation for the extraordinary phenomena of Santera... Santera does not need any form of apologia. It is strong and it is real." (Pg. xxvii)"Santera, according to Maria, was the name given in Spanish to the Yoruba religion... The worship of the orishas (deities, saints) as santos gave birth to Santera, which means literally the worship of saints." (Pg. 29)"In an animal sacrifice there is something primeval, deeply connected with the collective unconscious of the race... It is the giving of the blood, the acceptance that blood is the life, the spirit; and that it is being returned to the divine source from which it came." (Pg. 67-68)"Blood sacrifice is not new. The Bible is full of instances where the Hebrews offered blood sacrifices to God. The ritual of circumcision and Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his only son are only two examples of the importance of blood to establish a covenant with the Deity." (Pg. 176)"Like the original Yoruba religion, Santera is a mixture of animism, pantheism, and ancestor worship. One of the first lessons one learns in Santera is that the dead always come first." (Pg. 187)"Santera, an earth religion, worships God and the orishas in the forces of nature." (Pg. 308)"My purpose has not been to write a comparative study of Santera, but rather to relate how my personal experiences in the religion have affected my life." (Pg. 315-316)3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Best book I have ever readBy A CustomerThis book changed my life! It is about Santeria, the religion of worshipping the saints. I thought the events described in this book were fiction when I read it but now I know that they are real. The book prompted me to explore Santeria, and now I am initiated. I can not recommend it more highly.0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. One StarBy teaI don't have this item.

First published in 1982, this book received critical acclaim as one woman's autobiographical account of the magicoreligious system that remains an enigma to the Christian world. In this raw, emotional story, Migene reports her own extraordinary encounters with the religion as both a researcher and initiate. She also shares actual offerings and rituals that you can do to enlist the aid of the African deities for specific purposes!