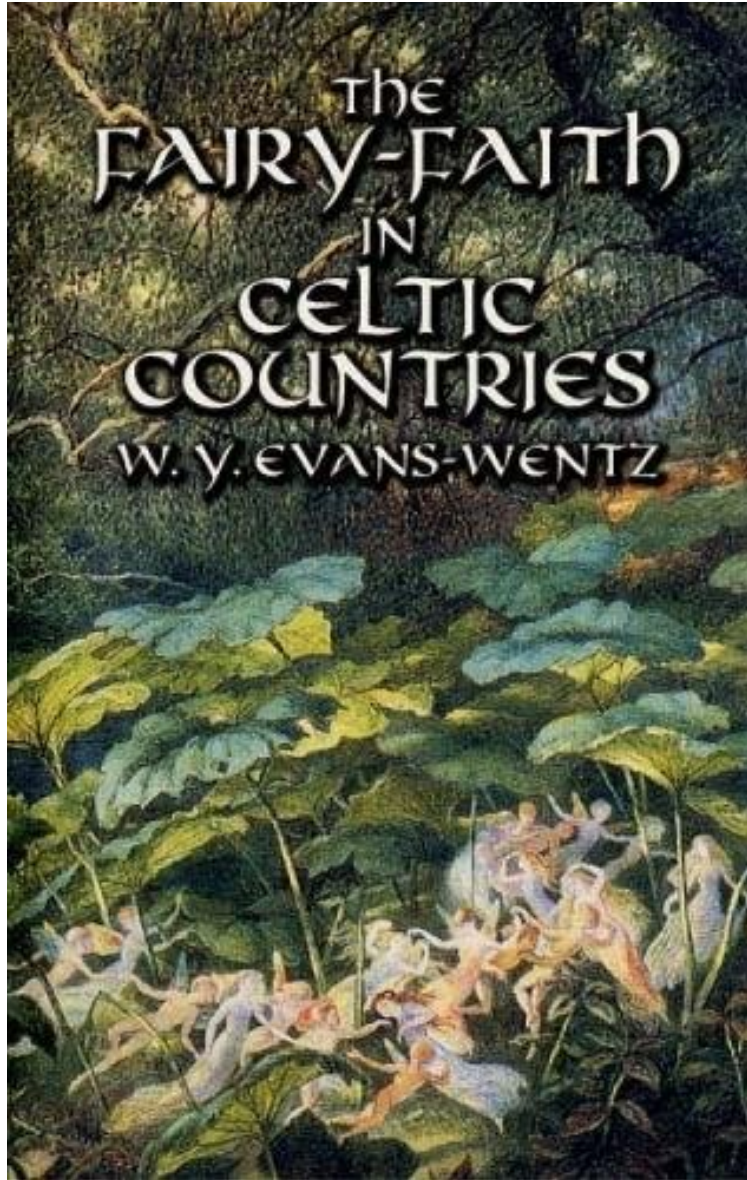


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The Fairy-Faith in Celtic Countries (Celtic, Irish)

W. Y. Evans-Wentz

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W. Y. Evans-Wentz : The Fairy-Faith in Celtic Countries (Celtic, Irish) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fairy-Faith in Celtic Countries (Celtic, Irish):

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Its not just about the fairies. By Ron Spolar An exhaustive research effort to prove the Celtic Doctrine of Rebirth, the existence of the Otherworld, and of course, elves, pixies, fairies and the lot. Includes personal interviews in all Celtic countries plus all available academic research..The author writes run

on sentences sometimes a paragraph long. He likes using big, esoteric words. Author pushes his logic to the max and at times, makes assumptions he shouldn't. Along the way he provides a good review of pagan concepts and we learn much about ways in which Christianity borrowed from paganism to sell Christianity to the pagan peasants. It seems it was fashionable in the early 1900's to believe in seances and the possibility of talking to the dead. I think in part, Evans-Wentz demonstrates being culturally influenced by this. It is surprising how many of the books he quotes from are still being offered for sale and considered valuable enough to keep in print. Do I believe in fairies after reading this book? No, but I can say I understand the Celts better. This is also a good example of someone who looks to science to support their hypothesis. Evans Wentz was hopeful science in the future would consider his beliefs and this work fundamentally scientific; part of orthodox science. Over 100 years later this is, sadly for him, still not the case. However, in his journey to that end, this his doctoral thesis, there is much value in this work in the study of comparative religion, folk beliefs, history and paganism. Similar to Joseph Campbell, he looks for common factors in the different religions. I can see why some of the best Wiccan authors suggest reading this book. It's not just about the fairies. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Celtic Fairy Faith By flgulflover This book provides insight into the psyche of the Celtic people during the early 1900s. It shares mostly stories but also experiences that were passed along word of mouth by many people in their nineties. The similarities of the stories in various parts of the Celtic world offered a view of the times, how they saw sickness, illness and even death of family members, friends or domesticated animals by explaining the cause as fairy activity. The belief in the unseen world of fairies and its "Fairy Faith" was changing with the times. Religion, education and industrialization were suggested as some of the causes for a lack of belief in fairies as well as for the reasons fairies were not as popular or numerous in numbers as in earlier centuries. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Evans-wentz is laying out the Faith of the current and ... By birchlight Evans-wentz is laying out the Faith of the current and past Celtic peoples through story and testimony . As in most faith based ideologies, most information is second or third hand rather than experiential but with deep belief in Fairy and beings of mostly invisible nature that help and hinder our race. Also how it is corrupted and blended with the imposing Christianity.

This collection of reports of elfin creatures in Wales, Ireland, Scotland, and Brittany ranks among the most scholarly works ever published on the subject. The Fairy-Faith in Celtic Countries begins with the author's account of firsthand testimony from living sources, classified under individual countries and introduced by leading authorities on anthropology and folklore. The next section concerns the recorded traditions of Celtic literature and mythology, followed by an examination of a variety of theories and their religious aspects. The book concludes with a remarkably rational case for the reality of fairy life. Narrated with an engaging sense of wonder, this volume offers a valuable resource for students of anthropology and Celtic lore, as well as hours of delightful reading for fairy enthusiasts.

From the Back Cover What are fairies, those romantic and sometimes mischievous little people-- pixies, nixies, elves, fauns, brownies, dwarfs, leprechauns, and all the other forms of the daoine sidhe (fairy people)? Are they real? Folklorists say they are fragments of ancient religious beliefs; occultists call them nature spirits; the peasant tradition says they are fallen angels who were not good enough to be saved or bad enough to be lost. Dr. Evans-Wentz is best known as the author-translator of "The Tibetan Book of the Dead", but his first love was this book, which presents a body of tradition and testimony about an elusive order of life that survives in the natural setting of wild and lonely places. He was not satisfied with merely formal study, but collected first-hand reports of fairies in Wales, Ireland, Scotland and Brittany, and faced up to the key questions avoided by other folklorists. Dr. Evans-Wentz, whose journeys led him from the haunts of fairyland to the wilderness of Tibet, opens a path for us to the luminous reality behind the traditions of folklore.