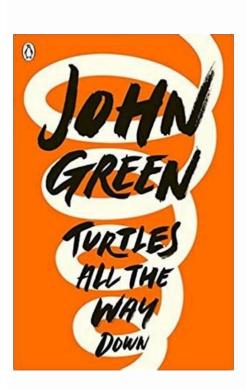
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Parallel myths j.f. bierlein sparknotes. Parallel myths by j.f. bierlein.

He recaps not only the well-recognized Greek and Roman gods but also the lesser-known Norse, Indian, Chinese, Native American and Oceanic gods, detailing fascinating similarities among pantheons. The author of Parallel Myths and The Book of Ages, J. Myth is hardly the sole property of the "primitive, prescientific" mind. As we have seen, myth is the first fumbling attempt to explain how things happen, the ancestor of science. It fills the gap between the images of the unconscious and the study of classical Greek, Sanskrit, and Hebrew, as well as other languages. It is also the attempt to explain why things happen, the sphere of religion and philosophy. Various creation accounts, flood myths, mythological love stories, morality myths, legends of the underworld, and visions of the apocalypse are all sensitively retold in this landmark introduction to mythology. To his surprise, some of the materials that gathered in the second globe included nucleotides, organic components of the amino acids that join together to make DNA, which is the basic building block of all life. "Unusually accessible and useful. This enlightening work will beckon not only the newcomer to mythology, but also the reader well versed in Joseph Campbell. Myth is the "glue" that holds societies together; it is the basis of identity for communities, tribes, and nations. You may even be concerned about venereal disease (from Venus, the Roman love goddess). It told ancient people who they were and the right way to live. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. F. Centuries ago in China, a young boy asked his grandfather how the world was created. When you are at the office, a moody co-worker may be described as mercurial (from Mercury, the Roman messenger of the gods). As we shall see, a single definition of myth is never adequate, for it is many things operating at many levels. Washington Semester and World Capitals Program at American University in Washington, and also works for a social sciences consulting firm. . Bierlein weaves spell-binding tales through his examination of creation myths, flood myths, flood myths, flood myths and myths of heroes and the underworld. On the nightly news, a health expert speaks of the need to "eliminate commonly held myths about AIDS." In this context, myth is used to mean "a misconception"—in this case, even a dangerous misconception. So, zapping him with thunderbolts, they bored one of these orifices every day for seven days. Modern technology allows almost instant communication around the world via fax, phone, and modem. An entertaining and thought-provoking look at the common threads woven through time. What is myth? When they found Hundun, he was an incomplete being, lacking the seven orifices necessary for sight, hearing, eating and speech, breathing, smell, reproduction, and elimination. A myth is often something that only begins to work where our own five senses end. You may have erotic (from Eros, the Greek god of sexual love) thoughts about someone with whom you work. Myth may even be part of the structure of our unconscious mind, possibly encoded in our genes. This is because myth is a shared heritage of ancestral memories, related consciously from generation. The news comes over the radio. In many ways a worthy successor to Joseph Campbell, Bierlein (The Book of Ages, Ballantine, 1992) introduces and compares myths from many cultures and suggests how we may interpret them to make sense in our world today. It is a history of prehistory, telling us what might have happened before written history. Harold S. On your journey, you may pass a museum (named in honor of the Muses, patroness spirits of culture in Greek mythology); perhaps next Saturday (named for Saturn, the Roman god of agriculture) you will find some time to stop in. LANGUAGE AND MYTH Our language is permeated with terms taken from the myths, especially Greek and Roman myths, that we use daily without ever thinking of their origins. If myth were only a collection of stories, of falsehoods, why then does it continue to fascinate us? It is the earliest form of science: speculation on how the world came into being. To drive into the city, you may have to deal with the chaos (from the Greek myth describing the primordial state of things before creation) of traffic, while listening to the top-40 song "I'm Your Venus" (from the name of the Roman goddess of beauty) or thinking about buying Nike (named for the Greek goddess of victory) athletic shoes or perhaps a Mars bar (named for the Roman god of war). Urey, the 1934 Nobel Prize winner in Chemistry, speculated that the origins of life might have been in the action of some kind of energy, perhaps lightning, on the primordial atmosphere of the earth. After providing examples, Bierlein ends with a look at how to interpret parallel myths and modern questions of faith and the legitimacy of the supernatural. This commonality helps us to recognize the beauty of the unity in human diversity: We share something with all other peoples in all other times. Let's begin by telling one. The names Hu and Shu combine to form the word Hu-shu, or "lightning." Thus the work of creation began when lightning pierced chaos. Paden, Chair, Department of Religion, University of Vermont" A first-class introduction to mythology. Why has myth persisted for centuries? Professor Bierlein and his wife, Heather Diehl, live in northern Virginia. A religious scholar at American University, Bierlein convincingly demythologizes the myths themselves by reminding the reader of their true meaning, both sacred and secular, throughout history. It is the earliest form of literature, often an oral literature. Within our own century a strikingly similar view of the creation was presented as a scientific theory. Myth is a pattern of beliefs that give meaning to life. Myth is a telling of events that happened before written history, and of a sense of what is to come. A religious scholar and lifelong student of mythology, Bierlein (The Book of Ages) has done an outstanding job both in tracing the parallel themes of world mythology and then gathering a wealth of information vital to understanding thir importance. Our lives today are saturated with myth, its symbols, language, and content, all of which are part of our common heritage as human beings. In 1953, a graduate student of Urey maned Stanley L. Whether or not Urey was familiar with this Chinese myth we do not know, yet his explanation echoed the one told by the Chinese grandfather. WHAT IS MYTH? He activated the gases with "lightning" in the form of 60,000 volts of electricity. The two elements that form lightning are referred to as "emperors," and chaos is portrayed in human form. Myth is the thread that holds past, present, and future together. Finally, Hundun died in the process. To the man on the street, however, the word myth brings to mind lies, fables, or widely believed falsehoods. On first reading, the Chinese myth sounds quite primitive. He devotes an entire chapter to four stories, two of which tell almost identical tales of two brothers-one myth is from the Native American Blackfoot nation, the other from ancient Egyptians. The rules for living have always derived their legitimacy from their origins in myth and religion. But myth, in the sense that we use it in this book, often stands for truth. This was the first time that nucleotides had been produced in any manner independent of a living organism. This "primitive" myth, in the sense that we use it in this book, often stands for truth. however, converges with advanced and sophisticated speculations on the origins of life. Myth is an essential ingredient in all codes of moral conduct. Gillum, Brigham Young Univ., Provo, Ut.Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. This becomes our first clue as to what myth is. There were two emperors: Hu, the Emperor of the Northern Sea, and Shu, the Emperor of the Southern Sea. Myth is a unique use of language that describes the realities beyond our five senses. No doubt the tires on your car are made of vulcanized rubber (from Vulcan, the Roman patron god of metalworking). Written with great clarity and sensitivity."—John G. In Europe (named for Europa, a mortal woman who had a liaison with the Greek god Zeus), preparations are being made for the Olympics (a modern revival of the games held at Olympus, the home of the Greek gods), even as diplomats in London (named for Lugh, a Celtic sun-god) are discussing what will happen to all those Thor (the Norse thunder god), Titan (named for Greek giants), and Jupiter (the Roman name for Zeus) missiles. Selby, Associate Professor, Roanoke College An entertaining and thought-provoking look at the common threads woven through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role they have played through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central role through the world's greatest myths -- and the central ro atmosphere of the earth, and the other to collect gases formed as a result of his experiment. The grandfather responded in the same way that his own grandfather had many years before: Once there was only a great chaos, Hundun. Recommended especially for undergraduates and for informed lay readers in public libraries. Gary P. Oh, what the hell (from Hel, the guardian of the dead in Germanic mythology). Individual myths themselves are strikingly similar between cultures vastly separated by geography. An eye-opener to readers into the universality and importance of myth in human history and culture."—William E. But, whether you live in Lyons, France (named for the Celtic sun-god Lugh); Athens, Georgia; or Gimli, Manitoba (for Gimli, the highest heaven in Norse mythology), you are also linked to centuries past by myth. However, in these harassment-sensitive times, making an amorous advance to a colleague might prove the Achilles' heel* to your otherwise honorable career. Myth is a constant among all human beings in all times. It is anthropomorphic; that is to say, the characters are natural forces personified. Myth was and still is the basis of morality, governments, and national identity. Fables, fairy tales, literature, epics, tales told around camp-fires, and the scriptures of great religions are all packages of myth that transcend time, place, and culture. Myth enables individuals and societies to adapt to their respective environments with dignity and value.

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