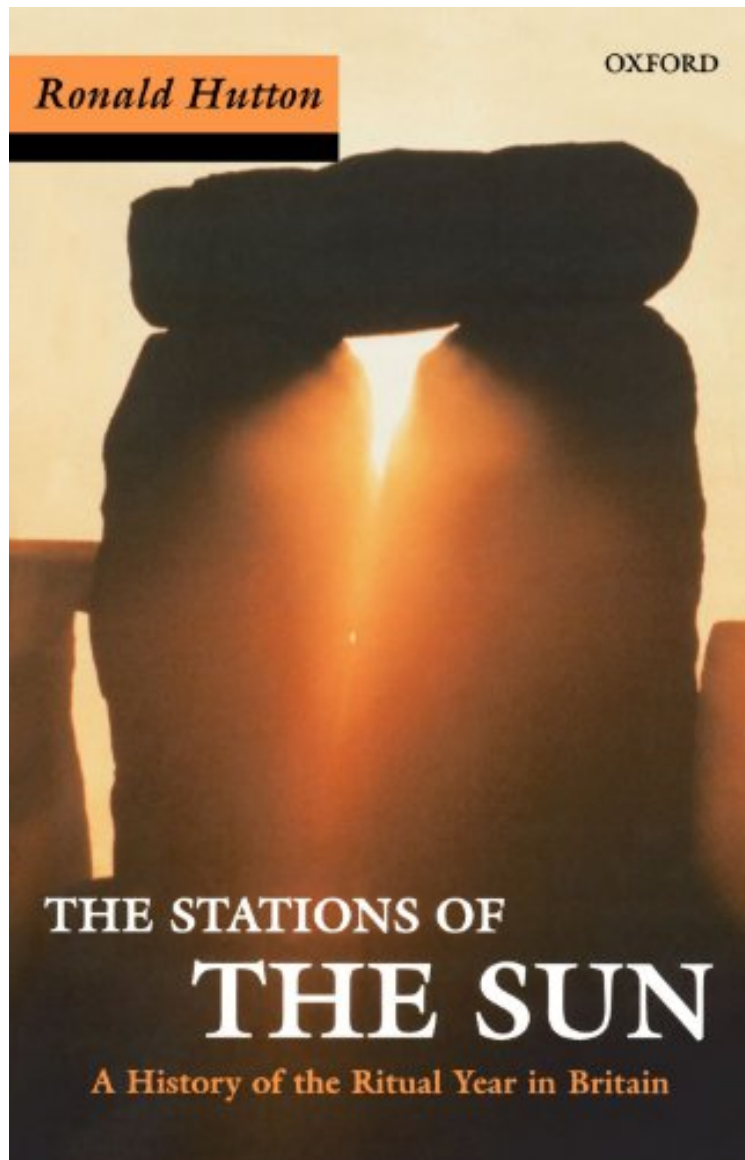


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Stations Of The Sun

Ronald Hutton

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Ronald Hutton : Stations Of The Sun before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stations Of The Sun:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A tough readBy DMReaderThis is really dry, dense and hard to get through. It contains some interesting information, but wading through it is just too much of a slog. I wouldn't recommend it unless you're really studying the subject.28 of 28 people found the following review helpful. A Brick of ScholarshipBy Alison HudsonThis book is not for a casual reader. It is, instead, a compendium of primary source

information for those curious about the calendar year in Britain. It's fascinating scholarship and absolutely authoritative in its research, but not for "just reading"! At some points, the paragraphs are so thick with citations and details that my eyes began to gloss. In general, though, the prose remains readable, even when detailing minutiae. I do want to address one criticism from an earlier reviewer, who said this about the book: "Hutton debunks everything he presents; after a while it kind of got on my nerves. Virtually every description and explanation is followed by some sort of 'but this probably didn't happen' or 'this probably wasn't really the way it was' disclaimer. After reading several chapters, my attitude morphed into 'why are you wasting my time telling me about stuff that didn't happen? Can't you tell me about anything that probably DID happen?'" I'm not sure if this reviewer and I were reading the same book. Yes, Hutton debunks many myths surrounding these customs, but to say that he provides no information on what DID happen, or how it happened, is bunk. The book is thick with information, a real brick of scholarship. There are ten chapters alone on the evidence of various Christmas and New Year traditions! Those with a serious interest in the development of many Western calendar customs in Britain (many of which are also the ultimate root of our American traditions) should definitely add this book to their collections. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Life lived on the ancient patterns of Sun and Harvest By Ikhedley Hutton is both rich with professional detail and yet easily reachable by the lay person. The book is a compendium and therefore it is full of details and alternative interpretations - but this is as designed. I bought it for historical research - not entertainment. I have never known Hutton to disappoint and he certainly did not with this book. Exactly what I have been searching for.

Comprehensive and engaging, this colourful study covers the whole sweep of ritual history from the earliest written records to the present day. From May Day revels and Midsummer fires, to Harvest Home and Hallowe'en, to the twelve days of Christmas, Ronald Hutton takes us on a fascinating journey through the ritual year in Britain. He challenges many common assumptions about the customs of the past, and debunks many myths surrounding festivals of the present, to illuminate the history of the calendar year we live by today.

.. "a highly readable text that will serve the scholar and general reader alike to provide the first truly complete survey of the history of communal, seasonal rites and customs.... In this engaging exploration his work will be useful to students of popular culture and literature, folklorists, historians, and even the old-fashioned enthusiast." -- Journal of Ritual Studies. "a breath of much-needed fresh air... a well-organized, methodical analysis..." -- American Reporter "This book, with its rich combination of history and folklore, is a valuable work of reference." -- American Historical .. "a highly readable text that will serve the scholar and general reader alike to provide the first truly complete survey of the history of communal, seasonal rites and customs.... In this engaging exploration his work will be useful to students of popular culture and literature, folklorists, historians, and even the old-fashioned enthusiast." -- Journal of Ritual Studies. "a breath of much-needed fresh air... a well-organized, methodical analysis..." -- American Reporter "This book, with its rich combination of history and folklore, is a valuable work of reference." -- American Historical .. "a highly readable text that will serve the scholar and general reader alike to provide the first truly complete survey of the history of communal, seasonal rites and customs.... In this engaging exploration his work will be useful to students of popular culture and literature, folklorists, historians, and even the old-fashioned enthusiast." -- Journal of Ritual Studies .. "a breath of much-needed fresh air... a well-organized, methodical analysis..." -- American Reporter "This book, with its rich combination of history and folklore, is a valuable work of reference." -- American Historical .. "a highly readable text that will serve the scholar and general reader alike to provide the first truly complete survey of the history of communal, seasonal rites and customs.... In this engaging exploration his work will be useful to students of popular culture and literature, folklorists, historians, and even the old-fashioned enthusiast." -- Journal of Ritual Studies. "a breath of much-needed fresh air... a well-organized, methodical analysis..." -- American Reporter "This book, with its rich combination of history and folklore, is a valuable work of reference." -- American Historical About the Author Ronald Hutton is Reader in History at the University of Bristol.