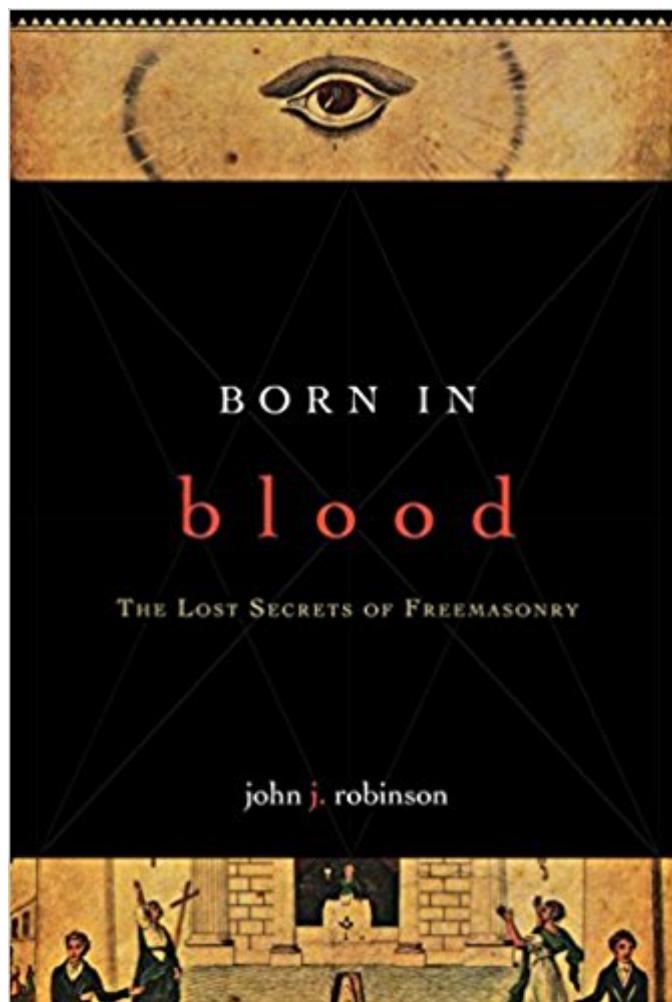


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Born In Blood: The Lost Secrets Of Freemasonry



Synopsis

Its mysterious symbols and rituals had been used in secret for centuries before Freemasonry revealed itself in London in 1717. Once known, Freemasonry spread throughout the world and attracted kings, emperors, and statesmen to take its sacred oaths. It also attracted great revolutionaries such as George Washington and Sam Houston in America, Juarez in Mexico, Garibaldi in Italy, and Bolivar in South America. It was outlawed over the centuries by Hitler, Mussolini, and the Ayatollah Khomeini. But where had this powerful organization come from? What was it doing in those secret centuries before it rose from underground more than 270 years ago? And why was Freemasonry attacked with such intense hatred by the Roman Catholic church? This amazing detective story answers those questions and proves that the Knights Templar in Britain, fleeing arrest and torture by pope and king, formed a secret society of mutual protection that came to be called Freemasonry. Based on years of meticulous research, this book solves the last remaining mysteries of the Masons—their secret words, symbols, and allegories whose true meanings had been lost in antiquity. With a richly drawn background of the bloody battles, the opportunistic kings and scheming popes, the tortures and religious persecution throughout the Middle Ages, it is an important book that may require that we take a new look at the history of events leading to the Protestant Reformation.

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Customer Reviews

Unlike most of its five million members, including many world leaders, who believe that the Freemasons, the world's largest fraternal organization, evolved from the guilds of medieval

stonemasons, historian Robinson persuasively links Freemasonry's origins and goals to the once powerful and wealthy Knights Templar order. Banned and persecuted by a 14th-century papal bull, he claims, the Knights were forced to form an underground society. The author combines scholarly research and entertaining storytelling in tracing Freemasonry as a worldwide political, religious, economic and social body dedicated to self-improvement and charity while governed by secret rituals and symbols (explained here in detail). Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

--This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Historians are always wary of newcomers who try to reinterpret old events in a new way. Here, Robinson (not a professional historian) takes a fresh look at the Peasant's Revolt of 1381 in England and emerges with something really new. It had been thought that this revolt against feudal landlords and royalty was a spontaneous one led by ad hoc people. Robinson shows, in what seems to be a convincing way, that far from being spontaneous, the revolt was a well-planned and highly organized attempt on the part of remnants of the Knights Templar (disbanded by the Pope 65 years earlier) to get retribution against the Knights Hospitaller. Robinson's hypothesis explains many previously unanswerable facts; for those interested in medieval British history and Freemasonry.- Gordon Stein, Univ. of Rhode Island, ProvidenceCopyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

I found 'Born in Blood' to be an excellent and insightful book about the history of the Knights Templar and Freemasonry, and I thought it made a cogent argument for the roots of Freemasonry being found in the persecution and dissolution of the Knights Templar. One thing I particularly liked about this book is that John Robinson, the author, is not a Freemason but is a historian. He delves into a lot of the old records not just of Freemasons' lodges but also of those of medieval stonemasons, the Knights Templar, a lot of fascinating medieval history, as well as more modern history, tying together things so that I can understand the interrelationships between and among them. To read this book was, for me, an education in history that was more in-depth than I received during my basic schooling and college. Robinson presents arguments for this linkage between the Knights Templar and Freemasonry that make sense and are not the tired, fantastical claims that I have read elsewhere. I think Sanford Holst must have read this book, because some of what I read here is information that I believe Holst cites in his own book about the Phoenicians. If you want a sound education in Templar and Masonic history, you would do well to read this book. It is intelligent and thorough, as well as very readable. I enjoyed it very much.

Mr. Robinson presents a summary of his research in the possible origins of freemasonry. A cross between "historical research" and speculation, the book presents a possible historical account and attempts to justify historical correlations with masonic customs and language. Mr. Robinson is not a mason himself and this lends a somewhat objective look at masonic origins. Lack of footnotes and occasional "leaps of faith", removes this work from true research but it is still a thought provoking account and a good book for jumping in among the various chapters. Recommended for freemasons or those interested in masonic history

Well researched and documented. The author takes a logical approach to complex issues in an historical perspective. After reading this book, The evidence overwhelming supports the lost connection between Free Masonry and the Knights Templar. The accepted version that Free Masonry suddenly evolved from the mason guilds of England and Ireland quickly disappears under the overwhelming burden of evidence and history. The book is an excellent read, especially for those of the brotherhood.

Great historical account, I'm passing it along to one of my Masonic brothers to again pass it along to another.

Very good book with a lot of research behind. What I really appreciate is that author is not involved on any side of conflict between Masonry and Catholic Church. This gives him very healthy perspective. I am great fan of history of crusades, medieval history and I am a mason myself. Reading that book opens completely new chapters of speculations on every of that field. A lot of speculations though - however fairly described. In general - very solid, logic way of thinking and great storytelling skills.

Loved this book. His first. Recommend his others too.

This book looks at the evidence to determine the beginnings and the evolution of freemasonry. It might have just as easily been titled "The Secrets of the Knights Templar." The author's theory is that the freemasons arose in England when the Knights Templar were forced underground to flee arrest and torture by church and state's (Pope Clement V and King Philip of France) collaboration to seize their holdings and imprison the 15,000 Templars in France. The overwhelming evidence is

analysis of the freemason terminology, symbols and organization structure, which all arose from the Knights Templar. As an added bonus, the book also shows the origin of many of the terms we use like barrister, the 3rd degree in interrogation, masterpiece, journeyman and corporation. The last few chapters, which deal with the alleged freemason conspiracy, are a little weak. The author gets caught up in disproving "The Brotherhood" by Stephen Knight. But there is no mention of why, beyond statistical probability, so many high degree masons became President of the U.S., or people of political power here and in other countries.

If one has ever wanted to know more about the humble beginnings of Free Masonry, this book will help point you in the way of some illuminating knowledge. The author only wanted to learn about the Peasants Revolt and stumbled upon knowledge of the Knights Templar and then the Free and Accepted Masons. For those who have ears to hear and eyes to see they will find this to be an illuminating text. For those who enjoy history they will find some interesting information which sheds light onto a seldom known and interesting time in history. A well written and researched book with some fascinating new knowledge of our past.

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