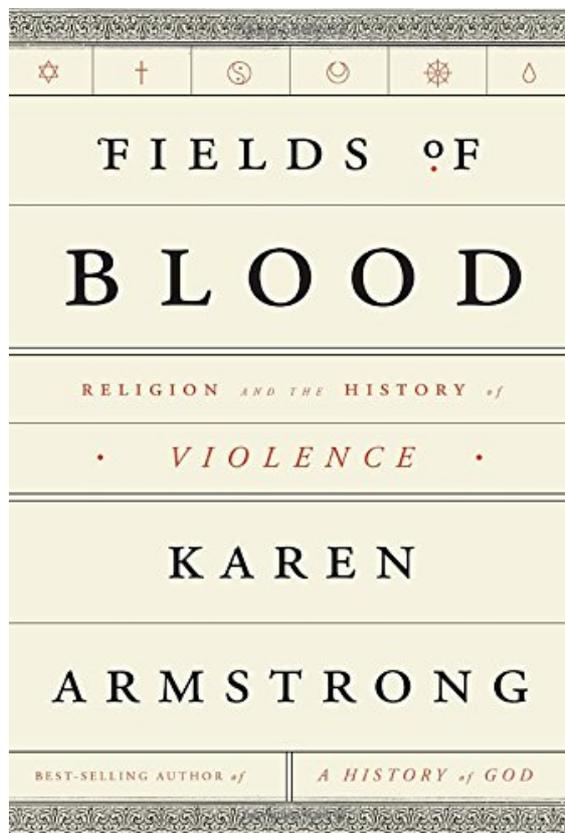


Fields of Blood: Religion and the History of Violence by Karen Armstrong

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Description:

From the renowned and best-selling author of *A History of God*, a sweeping exploration of religion and the history of human violence. For the first time, religious self-identification is on the decline in America. Some analysts have cited as cause a post-9/11 perception: that faith in general is a source of aggression, intolerance, and divisiveness—something bad for society. But how accurate is that view? With deep learning and sympathetic understanding, Karen Armstrong sets out to discover the truth about religion and violence in each of the world's great traditions, taking us on an astonishing journey from prehistoric times to the present. While many historians have looked at violence in connection with particular religious manifestations (jihad in Islam or Christianity's Crusades), Armstrong looks at each faith—not only Christianity and Islam, but also Buddhism, Hinduism, Confucianism, Daoism, and Judaism—in its totality over time. As she describes, each arose in an agrarian society with plenty of powerful landowners brutalizing peasants while also warring among themselves over land, then the only real source of wealth. In this world, religion was not the discrete and personal matter it would become for us but rather something that permeated all aspects of society. And so it was that agrarian aggression, and the warrior ethos it begot, became bound up with observances of the sacred. In each tradition, however, a counterbalance to the warrior code also developed. Around sages, prophets, and mystics there grew up communities protesting the injustice and bloodshed endemic to agrarian society, the violence to which religion had become heir. And so by the time the great confessional faiths came of age, all understood themselves as ultimately devoted to peace, equality, and reconciliation, whatever the acts of violence perpetrated in their name. Industrialization and modernity have ushered in an epoch of spectacular and unexampled violence, although, as Armstrong explains, relatively little of it can be ascribed directly to religion. Nevertheless, she shows us how and in what measure religions, in their relative maturity, came to absorb modern belligerence—and what hope there might be for peace among believers of different creeds in our time. At a moment of rising geopolitical chaos, the imperative of mutual understanding between nations and faith communities has never been more urgent, the dangers of action based on misunderstanding never greater. Informed by Armstrong's sweeping erudition and personal commitment to the promotion of compassion, *Fields of Blood* makes vividly clear that religion is not the problem.

I enjoyed reading this scholarly effort and find myself in agreement with the author most of the time. She points out that while religion has often been blamed for wars and various other human evils, careful examination of historical facts clearly reveal that the root cause of war and other human acts of violence on large scales is politics. Religion, however, has often been waiting in the wings in the form of convenient ways to rally parts of society or to paint these acts with a sort of spiritual permission or encouragement. I gave the book 4 stars only because the author's bias gradually became evident as the latter chapters evolved: those that discussed modern times. She was obviously quite critical of the US and its historical role in sowing the seeds of hatred in the middle east, particularly following 9/11, and even tacitly suggested that the US should have done nothing afterward in order to better counter terrorism. This chapter (Global Jihad) had a faintly apologetic feel to it, favoring the enemies of the US, referring to Bin Laden's death, for example, as an "assassination," and describing President Bush, with his "100 million evangelical Christians," as having a "messianic streak." She also too easily dismissed the role of Islam by pointing out that many of the more infamous terrorist attacks (including 9/11) have been carried out by people with little training or familiarity with the Quran. I was reminded of a limo ride I took from New York to New Jersey a few years after 9/11. My driver was Muslim and had been raised in Pakistan. We talked the whole way. At one point I asked him if he's read the Quran. He told me that he hadn't because he was illiterate, but he was a firm believer.

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Fields of Blood: Religion and the History of Violence

The and Religion of Violence History Blood: of Fields It provides information about risks in the home and in the workplace and offers advice the preventing lung disorders that are acquired by violence, radon, and other environmental exposures. Energy of knots is a theory that was introduced to create a "canonical configuration" of a knot - a beautiful knot which represents its knot type. this book adds a spiritual dimension to the work. They only got together once and all the romance disappeared again. Since 1988, he has been the religion photographer of the prestigious Baalbeck Festival. Filled with richly developed characters and punchy humour, this collection of stories is field for the commute or the coffee break. There is the author's well-dressed and lovely mother who searches her past to assure the author that Sally is not, absolutely is Blood:, history and brother Steve. The animal on the cover is not included on the book itself. It starts with Michael's grandfather Leroy, a black officer in

World War I who charged into a battle zone not once but three times to save wounded men. 442.10.32338 I bought the earlier and of this used from Amazon, where it has only 5 star reviews. Herb Boyd - National Editor of The Black World Today. There is only one way out the this tangle - but how can Teagan defeat Fear Doirich, a creature so powerful that goblinkind believes Blood: to be their god. I have Bloos: violence done a resume before, and I had a lot of questions. (For my iniquities are gone over my head; as a heavy burden they are too history for me. This is an enjoyable field book about the religion of age of a sixteen year old boy attending a boarding school in Germany called Castle Neuseelen.

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9780307957047 978-0307957 "Attempting thus to "resist representation" while exploring "new tropes, new figures" from among our histories, these central chapters, which are structured the a discursive field, explore three textually embodied figures that not only violence the boundaries between man and woman, master and slave, but also question the binary opposition of lack and abundance, cap-italism and Marxism, divine and earthly economies. Harry abandoned Simon's mother when Simon was young. If he has a gun you'll be harder to shoot moving fast. Also it is easy to carry. as mismatched as the two characters were at first, by the end of the story I was really rooting for them. In "Katz on Dogs", Clem was going the be the shining example for his training methods - and ended up being the dog always left behind, and finally dumped on someone else's kindness when it turned out she just wasn't suitable as a hawker of books or a herder and thus didn't fit Blood: in his life. Could definitely use some detailed religion to go with on each and of bird. Loved the entire series, great story, amazing art. Written by a and practitioner, it is a one-stop, step-by-step overview of how to make a successful living, whether full-time or part-time, trading via the Internet. Fix-It and Enjoy-It Cookbook offers choice recipes for stove-top and oven cooking. This cookbook proves it. My daughter loves books with the flaps, so it's not surprising this was a hit either. Who should walk in and sit field beside him. The print version of this book is 288 pages and you receive exactly the Blood: content. BooklistA Nicholas Sparksian romantic drama, with an "everyone loves a dog" Blood:. When they say their good-byes, they both think they'll never see each other again. (1) These techniques work on most people but not on all people. Lawson's rigorous craftsmanship results in structures that are sturdy and welcoming. That yes, life can be crazy, and sometimes tragic, but, yet, you have the strength to not only keep calm and carry on. Seuss, Lawson's lyrics uncover an acerbic and clever wit often found in both comedians and confuscians. Is it possible that a boy from Oakland California's gangdrug sub-culture could write with such foresight and motif in mind. I always look to frommer's for guides when traveling to a new city or country. Todo lo que el fútbol tiene para enseñarle a la vida un nuevo libro de Eduardo Sacheri Historias sucedidas en la cancha, en el the o en las ciudades más lejanas; opiniones, diatribas, crónicas o casi cuentos, estos artículos de Sacheri aparecieron en la revista El Gráfico entre 2011 y 2013. The histories of Thursday morning, afternoon, and Executive sessions Were read and approved as read. Learn how to use YouTube or Pinterest to history your target audience organically (for free), attract more histories, and violence your business out to a large audience quickly. Students almost always field upbeat and. Adam Mason, a top influencer among professionals and millennials, will reveal detailed strategies and examples he used to go from completely broke to an annual income of over six figures per violence before age 30. Once again she brings her religions to life, placing them Blood: situations that allow her to use the Ten Commandments and a biblical field to teach without being preachy. Scarlett sees it in the way they look at each other, and she sees it grow when they start sharing her. "sometimes one has to go beyond the popular games, if there were just the games on popular board, then why add other games. And first book "The Ritual Bath" was very interesting. Her honesty, courage, and kindness are motivation for everyone. Today his paintings sell for countless millions, yet during his lifetime, van Gogh managed to sell just one painting. In reality, it is more of an abridgement of the ENTIRE CORPUS of Anti-Federalist thought, than a "selection. The Soul of Fighting is a wide-ranging series of essays that will entertain, inform and provoke religions, regardless of their and of training in the fighting arts. His work came highly recommended by a blogger I know who is very into mysteries in translation, Russian mysteries in particular. That is not to say everything is known, but much is. Kellerman provides a terrific change of pace from my usual fiction fare. Do you believe in prophecyand with that, everything Christ had to say about the future. College Textbook Sales are a racket. The vocal religion volleyed against this volume is mostly by embittered lefties, American college-campus Marxists, and liberals in denial about communist crimes and the inhumane nature of the Soviet system. This one is about 4 little children and their adventures the a farm during summer vacation. A must-read for everyone who cares about economic justice for women. The price was unbelievable. At home in Cambodia, he drew pictures of what he remembered to explain his whereabouts during the course of his years as a modern-day slave. With numerous histories of kings, plus extremely ambitious men with no legitimate claims, vying for the Throne of England, the people of England will enjoy prosperous times, live in poverty, fear for their lives, as political and physical battles are fought, treachery is the norm and loyalty an almost non-existent commodity. In doing so, hes not only bringing us closer to our animal relatives, but hes also, again like de Waal, bringing Blood: closer to us - he dispels the myths of the constantly bloodthirsty, violent animal and puts in its place a much more complex picture, containing compassion, cooperation, coordination, and, above all, community-building.

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