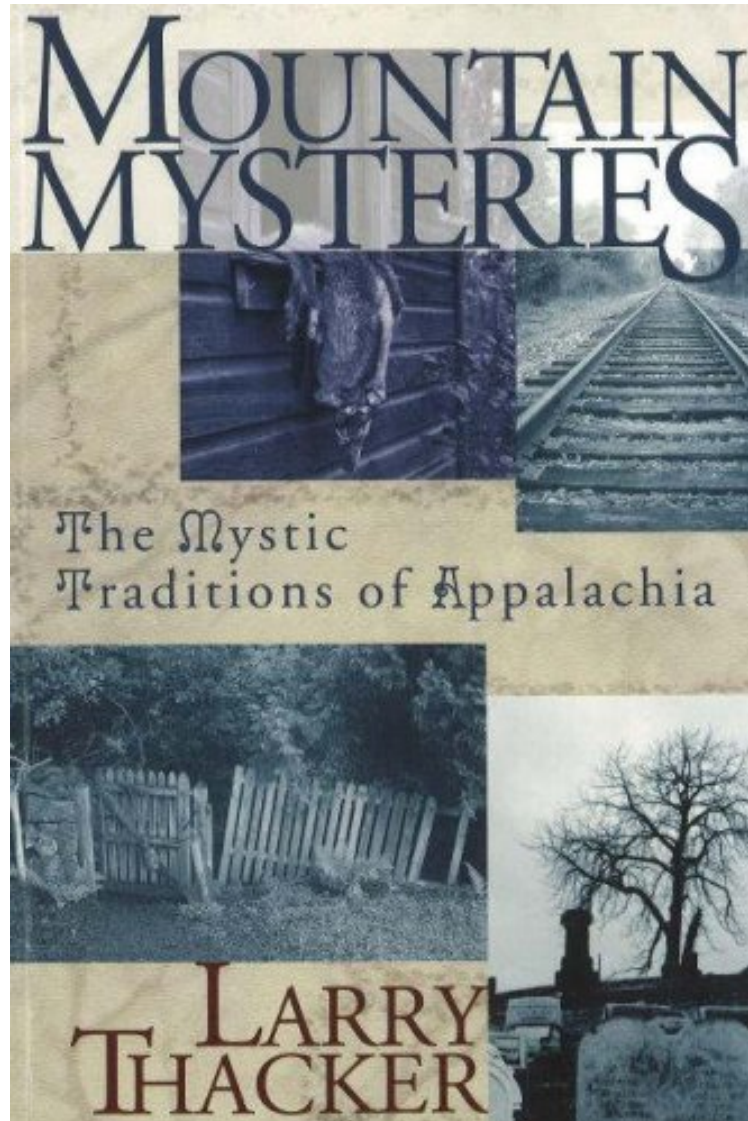


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Mountain Mysteries: The Mystic Traditions of Appalachia

Larry Thacker

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Larry Thacker : Mountain Mysteries: The Mystic Traditions of Appalachia before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mountain Mysteries: The Mystic Traditions of Appalachia:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The secret of our way.By Bill LunsfordI'm a Southern man. I descend from mountain people a ways back and I love knowing a little bit more of the back story on our culture. A lot of people mistake Appalachian descendants for some sort of Neanderthal throwbacks. They claim we're all missing teeth, that we're inbred, and that we can't see past the Baptist theology into the real world. Truth is I'm well educated

(as is the rest of my family), not missing any teeth, speak several languages and am well versed in the classics. Add all that to a very deep and proud Appalachian heritage. What I needed from this book is to help me fill in some blanks left there by the stories my elders told me as I grew up. This book talks a lot about stories across the South that speak of our way. Southerners keep secrets and pass them through oral story telling and surprisingly enough in our cookbooks. We pass our way on so that only the ones who need know it can come to claim it. This book speaks of that tradition. For my fellow mountain folk, this is a must read. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Like Going Back Home By Alan My heritage is Eastern Kentuckian, and even though some people try to tell me I'm not from there, I beg to differ. My entire family line is from there - Eastern Kentucky mountains run through my veins and the time I spent with my great grandmother and her children is the memory that I spend the most time recalling. This book took me back home. The author has a very candid and lively way of not just telling stories but making them come alive in the mind of the reader. Most of the book I have experienced in my own life firsthand. Those parts that I didn't are like memories - I might as well have experienced them! I love this book. If you're looking for historical information about Appalachia (especially the oft-ignored regions of Eastern Kentucky) and its folklore, this book is well-worth adding to your library. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. great reading By Lara amazing book - great author

A near-obsessive pursuit of ghost stories and odd superstitions cranks up this serious study of Appalachian tales of the supernatural and their origin in both old-world customs and real historical events. An effort to preserve and record one aspect of a dying way of life, the book relies on interviews and historic documents to search for the facts behind local lore of murder, witchcraft, and weird hauntings. Several campfire-worthy ghost stories are recounted in their entirety including "The Swinging Gate of Fern Lake Hollow" and an unexpectedly large number of stories about aliens and UFOs provide an interesting comparison of three-century-old mysteries and those stirred up in comparatively recent times

"Thacker explores just about every facet of folklore and folklife in this wildly interesting book." Silas House, author, The Coal Tattoo