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"Superstition": The History of a Word 15th to 21st Centuries

Author: Philippe Martin

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Are we not all a little bit prone to superstition? This book guides us through the diversity of meanings attached to superstition.

Rituals used to predict the future or protect oneself from disease may be considered superstitious by some but religious or folkloric by others. Philippe Martin lets theologians, sociologists, and philosophers speak for themselves as they describe the phenomenon as a way of coping with anxiety, as well as superstitious people. In doing so, he shows how the word draws a line between what is licit and illicit, accepted or not, and outlines the horizon of a world to which we aspire.

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