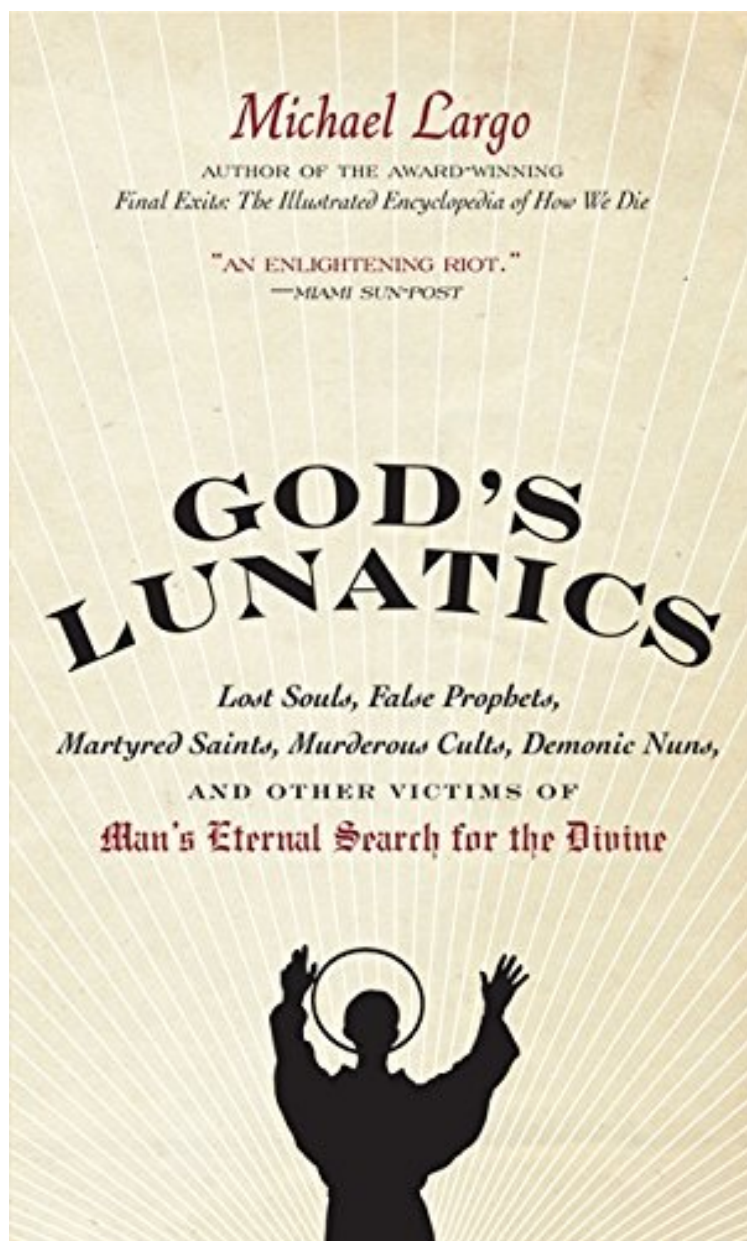


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## God's Lunatics: Lost Souls, False Prophets, Martyred Saints, Murderous Cults, Demonic Nuns, and Other Victims of Man's Eternal Search for the Divine

Michael Largo

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Gods Lunatics is an eyebrow-raising encyclopedia of the strange and shocking side of history's religions, cults, and spiritual movements, by Michael Largo, the bestselling author of the Bram Stoker Award-winning Final Exits. A fascinating compendium of Lost Souls, False Prophets, Martyred Saints, Murderous Cults, Demonic Nuns, and Other Victims of Mans Eternal Search for the Divine, Gods Lunatics contains a wealth of valuable extreme spiritual informationincluding the number of exorcisms performed each year and the proper method for identifying the Antichrist.

An enlightening riot, and one that will steer you away from religion quicker than a pervert priest. (Miami SunPost)One man has made it his mission to document and collect stories of religious fanatics, freaks, believers of all sorts just like this woman. That man, Michael Largo, regales the reader with tales of religion gone awry in Gods Lunatics. (The Daily Beast)This book is fabulous. I cannot recommend it enough: Michael Largos encyclopedia of religious weirdness through the centuries. I loved it. (ExtraordinaryIntelligence.com)An A to Z of the fantastic, scandalous and downright bizarre found within the history of religion. While a perfect book for quick-tempo, episodic reading, I actually found myself sucked into reading it for a stretch of some hours. (Lansing State Journal)In a cleverly subtle style, Largo reveals the puzzling beliefs and excesses of religions . . . measured and nuanced . . . his smartly written A-Z capsule entries allow readers to come to their own conclusions. (Los Angeles Times)Such a great read. . . . Whats here is sometimes scarier than even the most frightening horror film. . . . Will entertain without offending. (Horror-Web.com)Gods Lunatics takes the reader on a whirlwind tour of faiths more ridiculous manifestations. The work presents a Victorian freak show of cult leaders, mystics, and crusaders from throughout history. (San Francisco Bay Guardian)From the Back CoverAn eyebrow-raising expose of the strange and shocking side of history's religions, cults, and spiritual movementsWhat is the meaning of life? Since the dawn of civilization, humankind has sought to answer the mysteries of existence. Unfortunately this restless search for the divine has, all too often, driven seekers in regrettable directionstoward the comically ridiculous and irrational but also the frighteningly horrific and maniacal.Arm yourself with God's Lunatics before your next encounter with those who have been blinded by the light. Award-winning author Michael Largo, "the Capote of kaput" (Atlanta Journal-Constitution), chronicles history's vast and colorful cast of true believersfrom the hidden side of the Bible's eccentric characters to today's street-corner doomsayers, and from extraterrestrial communicators, levitating hermits, and flagellating ascetics to self-serving preachers of overindulgence who believed money, sex, and drugs were the keys to the portal to divine understanding. In addition to the firewalkers, serpent handlers, cultists, terrorists, and alleged time travelers, God's Lunatics also reveals the dubious foundations of the world's major faiths and the many religious customs and laws that continue to influence governments and society, whether you are a believer or not. About the AuthorMichael Largo is the author of The Big, Bad Book of Beasts; God's Lunatics; Genius and Heroin; and the Bram Stoker Award-winning Final Exits: The Illustrated Encyclopedia of How We Die, as well as three novels. He and his family live in Florida with their dog, two turtles, a parrot, two canaries, and a tank of fish.