



The Phoenix: An Unnatural Biography of a Mythical Beast

Joseph Nigg

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Arising triumphantly from the ashes of its predecessor, the phoenix has been an enduring symbol of resilience and renewal for thousands of years. But how did this mythical bird become so famous that it has played a part in cultures around the world and throughout human history? How much of its story do we actually know? Here to offer a comprehensive biography and engaging (un)natural history of the phoenix is Joseph Nigg, esteemed expert on mythical creatures—from griffins and dragons to sea monsters.

Beginning in ancient Egypt and traveling around the globe and through the centuries, Nigg's vast and sweeping narrative takes readers on a brilliant tour of the cross-cultural lore of this famous, yet little-known, immortal bird. Seeking both the similarities and the differences in the phoenix's many myths and representations, Nigg describes its countless permutations over millennia, including legends of the Chinese "phoenix," which was considered one of the sacred creatures that presided over China's destiny; classical Greece and Rome, where it can be found in the writings of Herodotus and Ovid; nascent and medieval Christianity, in which it came to embody the resurrection; and in Europe during the Renaissance, when it was a popular emblem of royals. Nigg examines the various phoenix traditions, the beliefs and tales associated with them, their symbolic and metaphoric use, the skepticism and speculation they've raised, and their appearance in religion, bestiaries, and even contemporary popular culture, in which the ageless bird of renewal is employed as a mascot and logo, including for our own University of Chicago.

Never bested by hardship or defeated by death, the phoenix is the ultimate icon of hope and rebirth. And in *The Phoenix: An Unnatural Biography of a Mythical Beast*, it finally has its due—a complete chronicle worthy of such a fantastic and phantasmal creature. This entertaining and informative look at the life and transformation of the phoenix will be the authoritative source for anyone fascinated by folklore and mythology, re-igniting our curiosity about one of myth's greatest beasts.

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People live in this new day time of lifestyle always try to and must have the spare time or they will get large amount of stress from both day to day life and work. So , once we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely indeed. People is human not really a robot. Then we question again, what kind of activity do you have when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer can unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, often the book you have read will be The Phoenix: An Unnatural Biography of a Mythical Beast.

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Playing with family within a park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of information. Even you love The Phoenix: An Unnatural Biography of a Mythical Beast, you are able to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still need to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its called reading friends.

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