

The Sacred Bee in Ancient Times and Folklore (Dover Books on Anthropology and Folklore)

Hilda M. Ransome



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Hilda Ransome's well-documented and copiously illustrated study of bees points out that no creature has provided man with so much wholesome food; nor has any inspired so many beliefs and superstitions. Illustrations depict bees, hives, and beekeepers as they appear in paintings and sculpture, on coins, jewelry, and Mayan glyphs; and carved into African tree trunks. Chapters cover the folklore of bees and bee culture — from Egyptian, Babylonian, and other ancient sources to practices in modern Europe. The use of honey in religious rites, as well as customs and superstitions in France and Central Europe, folk stories from Finland, and the bee in America are also described.



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