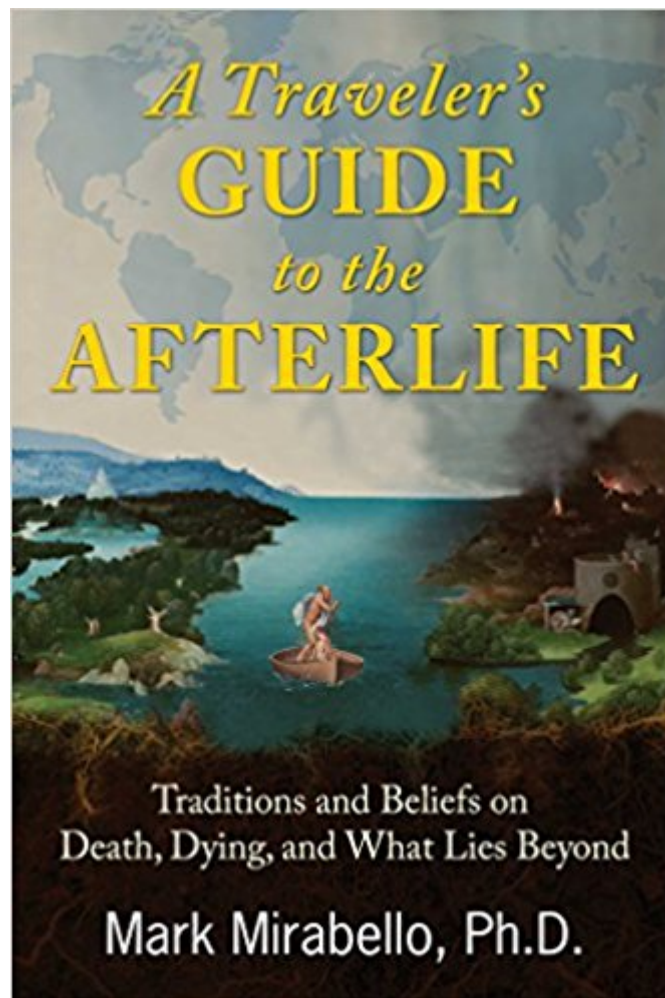




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# A Traveler's Guide To The Afterlife: Traditions And Beliefs On Death, Dying, And What Lies Beyond



## Synopsis

A grand survey of the world's death and afterlife traditions throughout history. Examines beliefs from many different cultures on the soul, heaven, hell, and reincarnation; instructions for accessing the different worlds of the afterlife; how one may become a god; and how ethics and the afterlife may not be connected. Explores techniques to communicate with the dead, including shamanic instructions. Includes an extensive bibliography of more than 900 sources from around the world. Drawing on death and afterlife traditions from cultures around the world, Mark Mirabello explores the many forms of existence beyond death and each tradition's instructions to access the afterlife. He examines beliefs on the soul, heaven, hell, and reincarnation and wisdom from Books of the Dead such as the Book of Going Forth by Day from Egypt, the Katha Upanishad from India, the Bardo Thodol from Tibet, the Golden Orphic Tablets from Greece, Lieh Tzu from China, and Heaven and its Wonders and Hell from Things Heard and Seen from 18th-century Europe. Considering the question "What is Death?" Mirabello provides answers from a wide range of ancient and modern thinkers, including scientist Nicholas Maxwell, the seer Emanuel Swedenborg, 1st-century Buddhist philosopher Nagarjuna, and Greek philosopher Euripides, who opined that we may already be dead and only dreaming we are alive. He explores the trek of the soul through life and death with firsthand accounts of the death journey and notes that what is perceived as death here may actually be life somewhere else. He reveals how, in many traditions, ethics and the afterlife are not connected and how an afterlife is possible even without a god or a soul. Sharing evidence that consciousness is not simply a product of the brain, he offers a strong rebuttal to nihilists, materialists, and the Lokayata philosophical school of India who believe in the "finality" of death. He explains how specters and ghosts are produced and offers techniques to communicate with the dead as well as instructions for an out-of-body experience and the complete procedure for a shamanic journey. With an extensive bibliography of more than 900 sources, this guide offers comprehensive information on afterlife beliefs from the vast majority of cultures around the world and throughout history--a veritable "traveler's guide" to the afterlife.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“An extraordinary exploration of humankind’s collective wisdom about what lies on the other side of death.” (Matthew McKay, Ph.D., author of *Seeking Jordan*) “What stands out in this traveler’s guide to the afterlife is how great minds throughout Earth’s history have over and over said that reincarnation, the recycling of souls, is the machinery of the universe. This book reinforces the importance of the soul in the mind-body-spirit complex that humans are; it should inspire all readers to do what they can to strengthen their soul while alive in the matter world.” (Linda Moulton Howe, Emmy Award-winning investigative journalist and reporter and editor of *Earthfile*) “I have been hoping to find a resource like this for years. Mark’s book has become one of my most valuable reference tools for information on multicultural, multispiritual perspectives on death and the afterlife. The research is impeccable.” (Rev. Terri Daniel, CT, founder of the Death Awareness Institute and The Afterlife Conference) “The suspense of death often kills us, figuratively speaking. That unknown door we all inevitably walk through stands as the proverbial elephant in the room that we all choose to ignore. In this book Mark Mirabello has accumulated the most extensive knowledge on death and the afterlife; it is enough to make a believer out of the skeptic. After reading this book you will face that unknown door with no suspense but instead a sense of wonder and excitement.” (Jason Gregory, author of *Enlightenment Now* and *The Science and Practice of Humility*) “People interested in the research of survival of physical death will find in *A Traveler’s Guide to the Afterlife* a compelling wealth of information. People who are not interested in the subject will benefit from the author’s erudition and his remarkable exploration of the sacred Eastern and Western traditions.” (Anabela Cardoso, retired Portuguese senior career diplomat, editor in chief of the *ITC Journal*, and)

Mark Mirabello, Ph.D., is a professor of history at Shawnee State University in Ohio and a former visiting professor of history at Nizhny Novgorod University in Russia. He has appeared on Ancient Aliens and America's Book of Secrets on the History Channel as well as in the documentary The Kingdom of Survival. He is the author of The Odin Brotherhood, Handbook for Rebels and Outlaws, and the Pulitzer-nominated novella The Cannibal Within. He received his master's from the University of Virginia and his doctorate from the University of Glasgow. He lives in Portsmouth, Ohio.

Excellent book! Very compelling as to life after death.

Loved the book. The research work is very evident. I wanted more. Arrived early.

Very good book this, I hope Mirabello writes more books.

This is an amazing, almost thorough, collection of what various religions and peoples have concluded what death is. Each instance is referenced and there's a list of 900 citations in the back of the book. I am very surprised that the writer did not include anything about Edgar Cayce. Very fascinating!!

A fun read. Many chapters address what you already know or heard of but does contain many "wow, I didn't know that" facts. The final 1/4 of the book sinks into the old tired and boring voodoo and astrology overview that wasn't worth my time.

One of the most significant areas of life where boundaries are dissolving (or evaporating), and in an area quite intimate with the notion of the "lifting of the veil," is in our developing a conscious awareness of the afterlife, the boundary between the so-called "living" and the so-called "dead." The population of psychic mediums is growing, and so are the number of registrants for conferences and workshops that will teach you, too, how to communicate with the "other side." Although a lot of this type of activity concerns bereavement counseling, there's a good proportion of mediums who are passing along information about the state of being "dead" and life among their ilk. Folks with near-death

experiences have told some fairly consistent accounts of what they have experienced, witnessed, or learned about, concerning life on the other side. I've recently come across a book that surveys this topic, doing so not from personal experience or the testimonies of experiencers by sharing with us the rich history in human thought on this subject. A Traveler's Guide to the Afterlife: Traditions and Beliefs on Death, Dying, and What Lies Beyond, is written by an academic historian: Mark Mirabello, Ph.D. His book is both a comforter and provocateur for the reader. While it is comforting to know that belief in and ideas about the afterlife have a long tradition within humanity, it is somewhat unsettling to realize just how little we take it into account in our daily lives. Euripides, Shakespeare, Yoga Vasistha, Chuang-tzu, Eternalism, Hermes Trismegistus, Apocalypse of Paul, Eskimo lore, the Koran, Allan Kardec, Zoroaster, Tibetan Buddhism, Dannion Brinkley, the Bible, and John Dee are among the many historical sources the author uses to educate us about the wide variety of imaginative thinking and revelations that exist about the afterlife. The sources vary in how much they are speaking from personal experience, hearsay, or deep intuition. In any case, the reader comes away with an expanded concept of the afterlife, encouraged to think about more possibilities than before. The book ends with some appendices to help the reader get more intimately acquainted with the domain described in the book. Dr. Mirabello offers suggestions for getting "out of body," so you can explore those places, or how to conduct a séance so you can contact reporters from the other side for their stories.

nothing revealing

This book was bought because of illness I have cancer funny right, but although it is written well it is not what I was hoping for, but rather a collection of other cultures understanding of the afterlife which will not assist in answering any questions or providing a path.

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