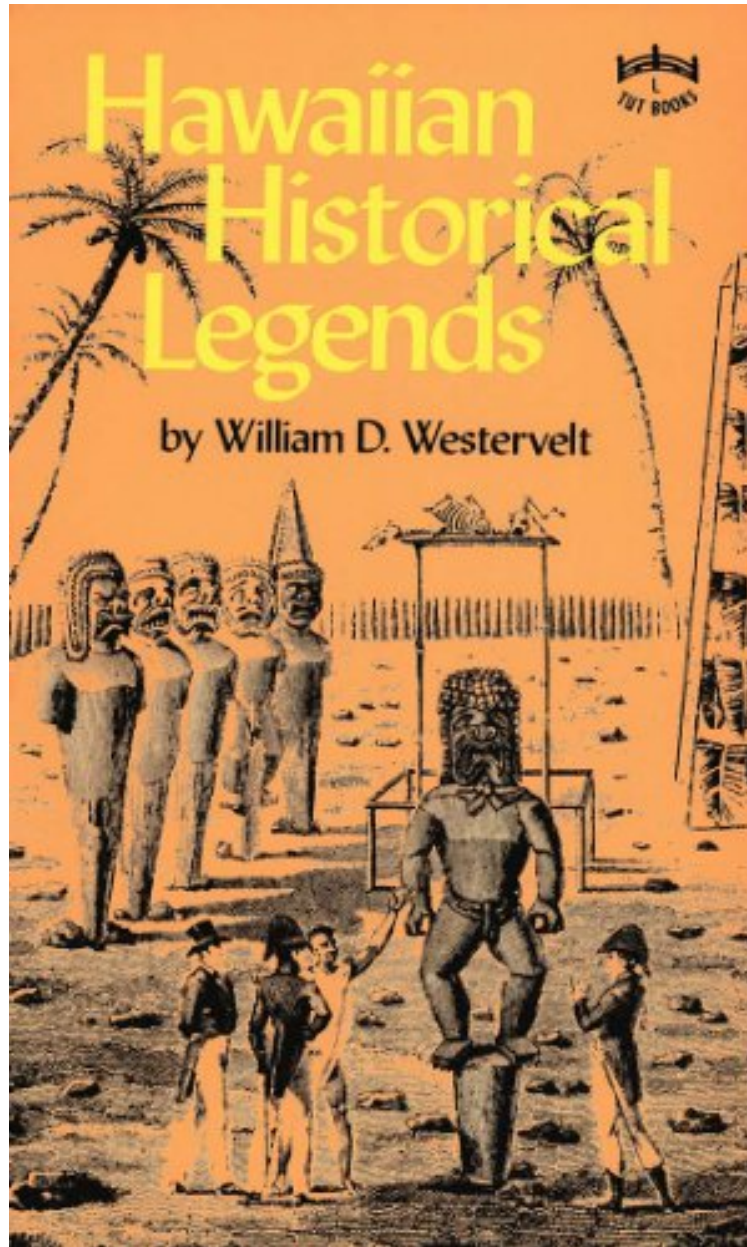


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Hawaiian Historical Legends (Hawaiian Classic Reprints)

William D. Westervelt

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William D. Westervelt : Hawaiian Historical Legends (Hawaiian Classic Reprints) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hawaiian Historical Legends (Hawaiian Classic Reprints):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Legends of the IslandsBy BarryH. WileyLegends is a fascinating

collection of Hawaiian folklore and mythology. Much of early Polynesian history and beliefs were lost in the onslaught of European and American arrivals in Polynesia in the late 18th and in the early decades of the 19th century. As the Polynesians did not have a written language, all the old stories were preserved through verbal tradition, which was largely ignored by the new visitors. Paul Gauguin said in about 1903 that "Tahiti was too Westernized and too civilized". The early preservation of Polynesian stories (many of which were ribald and witty) was censured by missionaries, so that initial collections were converted into acceptable fairy tales. Westervelt in this volume brings out some of the original tales. I am researching Polynesian history as background to volume 3 in my "Adventures in Second Sight" series which has proven to be a delightful experience. Working with the Bishop Museum in Honolulu has also been a great experience. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By CustomerHawaiiana at its best.

This literary treasure provides one of the earliest glimpses into precolonial Hawaiian culture. This book, one of six written by Dr. Westervelt, is a fascinating compilation of Hawaiian legends and historical tales. The origins of the Hawaiian people, the demi-god Maui's search for immortality for mankind, the coming of Captain Cook, the wars of King Kamehameha, as well as other aspects of Hawaii's incredible history fill its pages. Librarians, students, collectors, and anyone who enjoys reading about ancient Hawaii will delight in Hawaiian Historical Legends. Dr. Westervelt is one of the best-known raconteurs of Hawaiian stories. Hawaiian Historical Legends presents a variety of stories both legendary and historical. The author also considers the question of Polynesian origins and the speculative subject of Spanish visitants. Other titles in this series on Hawaii include: Hawaiian Legends of Ghosts and Ghost Gods, and Hawaiian Legends of Old Honolulu Hawaiian Legends of Volcanoes.

From the Back Cover This book, one of six written by Dr. Westervelt, is a fascinating potpourri of Hawaiian legends and historical tales. The origins of the Hawaiian people, the demi-god Maui's search for immortality for mankind, the coming of Captain Cook, the wars of King Kamehameha, as well as other aspects of Hawaii's incredible history fill its pages.