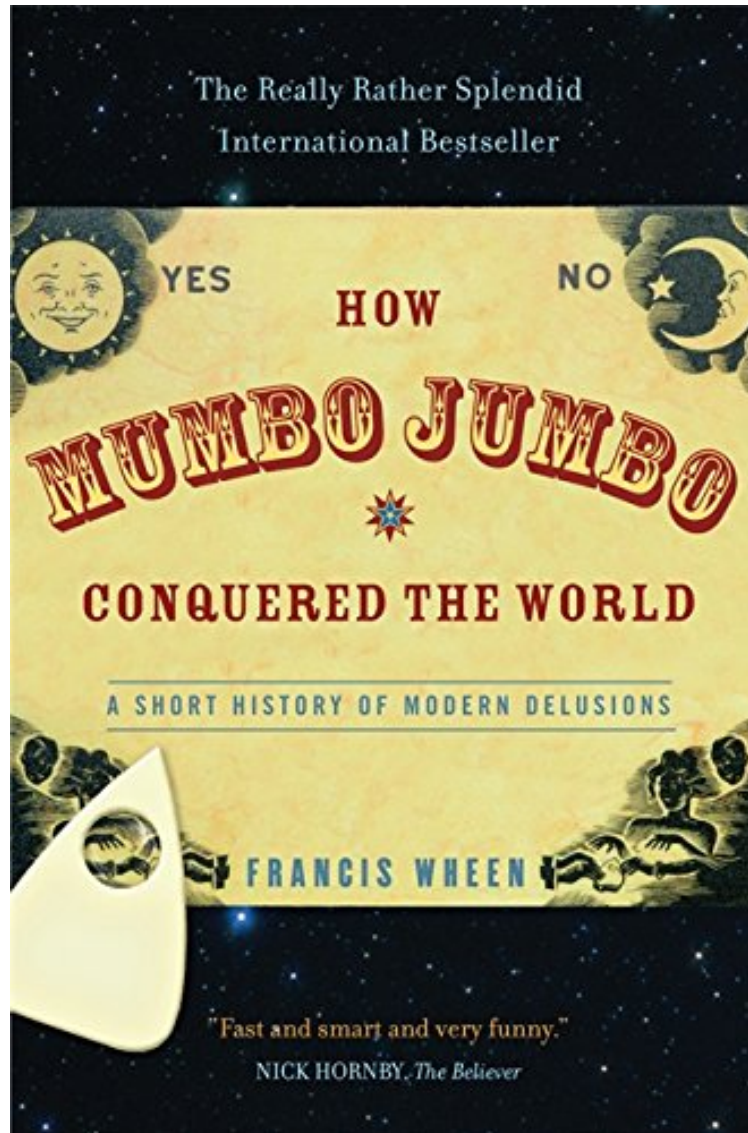


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How Mumbo-Jumbo Conquered the World: A Short History of Modern Delusions

Francis Wheen

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What characterizes our era? Cults, quacks, gurus, irrational panics, moral confusion and an epidemic of mumbo-jumbo, that's what. In *How Mumbo-Jumbo Conquered the World*, Francis Wheen brilliantly laments the extraordinary rise of superstition, relativism and emotional hysteria. From Middle Eastern fundamentalism to the rise of lotteries, astrology to mysticism, poststructuralism to the Third Way, Wheen shows that there has been a pervasive erosion of Enlightenment values, which have been displaced by nonsense. And no country has a more vivid parade of the bogus and bizarre than the one founded to embody Enlightenment values: the USA. In turn comic, indignant, outraged, and just plain baffled by the idiocy of it all, *How Mumbo-Jumbo Conquered the World* is a masterful depiction of the absurdity of our times and a plea that we might just think a little more and believe a little less.