



Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint

By R. Andrew Chesnut

Download now

Read Online ➔

Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut

R. Andrew Chesnut offers a fascinating portrayal of Santa Muerte, a skeleton saint whose cult has attracted millions of devotees over the past decade. Although condemned by mainstream churches, this folk saint's supernatural powers appeal to millions of Latin Americans and immigrants in the U.S. Devotees believe the Bony Lady (as she is affectionately called) to be the fastest and most effective miracle worker, and as such, her statuettes and paraphernalia now outsell those of the Virgin of Guadalupe and Saint Jude, two other giants of Mexican religiosity. In particular, Chesnut shows Santa Muerte has become the patron saint of drug traffickers, playing an important role as protector of peddlers of crystal meth and marijuana; DEA agents and Mexican police often find her altars in the safe houses of drug smugglers. Yet Saint Death plays other important roles: she is a supernatural healer, love doctor, money-maker, lawyer, and angel of death. She has become without doubt one of the most popular and powerful saints on both the Mexican and American religious landscapes.

📄 [Download Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Sai ...pdf](#)

Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint

By R. Andrew Chesnut

Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut

R. Andrew Chesnut offers a fascinating portrayal of Santa Muerte, a skeleton saint whose cult has attracted millions of devotees over the past decade. Although condemned by mainstream churches, this folk saint's supernatural powers appeal to millions of Latin Americans and immigrants in the U.S. Devotees believe the Bony Lady (as she is affectionately called) to be the fastest and most effective miracle worker, and as such, her statuettes and paraphernalia now outsell those of the Virgin of Guadalupe and Saint Jude, two other giants of Mexican religiosity. In particular, Chesnut shows Santa Muerte has become the patron saint of drug traffickers, playing an important role as protector of peddlers of crystal meth and marijuana; DEA agents and Mexican police often find her altars in the safe houses of drug smugglers. Yet Saint Death plays other important roles: she is a supernatural healer, love doctor, money-maker, lawyer, and angel of death. She has become without doubt one of the most popular and powerful saints on both the Mexican and American religious landscapes.

Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #366830 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Oxford University Press, USA
- Published on: 2012-01-03
- Released on: 2012-01-03
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 5.40" h x .70" w x 8.10" l, .55 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 232 pages

 [Download Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Sai ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Review

"*Devoted to Death* is an illuminating account of a lively, vibrant, multihued personification of death in Santa Muerte. Chesnut's text offers a unique and very personal portrait of Mexican culture... His expansive examination is interdisciplinary, involving diverse topics and methodologies. As such, this book has much to offer to scholarship in a variety of disciplines, such as Mexican anthropology, American anthropology, cultural studies, and sociology, among others." --*Journal of Religion and Culture*

"Vividly written and cleverly organized, this wonderful book provides the most comprehensive and balanced account of Mexican and American devotion to this controversial folk saint." --Thomas A. Tweed, author of *America's Church: The National Shrine and Catholic Presence in the Nation's Capital*

"Chesnut provides a much-needed analysis of the meteoric rise in devotion to La Santa Muerte, the saint of death whose appeal has attracted the attention of immigrants, jilted lovers, journalists, drug dealers, clergy, the infirmed, and a host of needy petitioners. This first book-length study of the devotion will be a foundational reference point for future researchers as the Santa Muerte phenomenon continues to evolve." --Timothy Matovina, author of *Latino Catholicism: Transformation in America's Largest Church*

"...intellegent, responsible, and sympathetic (although not uncritical) account of a significant and rising movement." --*Books & Culture*

"Chesnut's book is readable and accessible. Like one of the Santa Muerte-inspired films the author describes--indeed, like the kidnapper and murderer who first brought Saint Death into the public eye-- *Devoted to Death* is engrossing in a pulp fiction kind of way." --*Wilson Quarterly*

"This chatty, anecdotal work provides a basic introduction to the rapidly expanding cult of the Mexican folk saint Santa Muerte...Recommended>"--*CHOICE*

"*Devoted to Death* is fascinating, and a continuous revelation. The Skinny Lady may look sinister, and she's certainly not to be trifled with, but something about her is terribly human. As demigods go, she is the salt of the earth. Devotees feel a special intimacy with her because she is, as one of them told Chesnut, 'an old battle-axe, like us.' She also has appetites. Lighting a candle will get her attention, but she gets thirsty, and

while water is acceptable, she prefers something stronger. She enjoys tobacco, but won't turn down marijuana." --*Inside Higher Ed*

"Andrew Chesnut's comprehensive survey of Mexican folk saint Santa Muerte is a detailed and highly entertaining read. Organized by the colors symbolizing her various powers, the book neatly encapsulates the themes significant to devotees. As a researcher with a keen interest in vernacular religion and folk saints in particular, I found this book strongly appealing and an informative, engaging text...an excellent companion to Graziano's *Cultures of Devotion* and a very relevant read for scholars and students interested in Mexican druglore, faith healing, and vernacular religion." --*Journal of Folklore Research*

"Andrew Chesnut offers a comprehensive view of the cult to Saint Death, also known as the White Sister or the White Girl. ... *Devoted to Death* unpacks the meaning and origin of Saint Death's following. ... Consequently, anthropologists, sociologists of religion, criminologists, and immigration scholars would all benefit from reading *Devoted to Death* to get a full understanding of the breadth of Santa Muerte's cult." --*Contemporary Sociology*

"Chestnut contributes the first book-length study of Santa Muerte, Mexico's skeletal patroness of death... No doubt, this initial study has set the bar high for more research even while providing a book that is accessible to students and readers of all levels." --*Religious Studies Review*

About the Author

R. Andrew Chesnut is Bishop Walter F. Sullivan Chair in Catholic Studies and Professor of Religious Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University. He is the author of *Competitive Spirits: Latin America's New Religious Economy* (OUP, 2003) and *Born Again in Brazil: The Pentecostal Boom and the Pathogens of Poverty* (1997).

Users Review

From reader reviews:

John McDole:

Now a day those who Living in the era everywhere everything reachable by connect to the internet and the resources included can be true or not require people to be aware of each info they get. How people have to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Reading through a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information specifically this *Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint* book because book offers you rich facts and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred per-cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you may already know.

Billy Gallardo:

The actual book Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint will bring that you the new experience of reading a book. The author style to clarify the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book to read, this book very ideal to you. The book Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint is much recommended to you to see. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can more easily to read the book.

Susan Rogers:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity that's look different you can read a book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent the entire day to reading a publication. The book Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint it is rather good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book offers high quality.

Jessie Davis:

You are able to spend your free time to learn this book this book. This Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint is simple to create you can read it in the park your car, in the beach, train and also soon. If you did not get much space to bring the particular printed book, you can buy typically the e-book. It is make you quicker to read it. You can save the particular book in your smart phone. Consequently there are a lot of benefits that you will get when one buys this book.

Download and Read Online Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut #R79M5C1GJOE

Read Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut for online ebook

Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut books to read online.

Online Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut ebook PDF download

Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut Doc

Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut Mobipocket

Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut EPub

R79M5C1GJOE: Devoted to Death: Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint By R. Andrew Chesnut