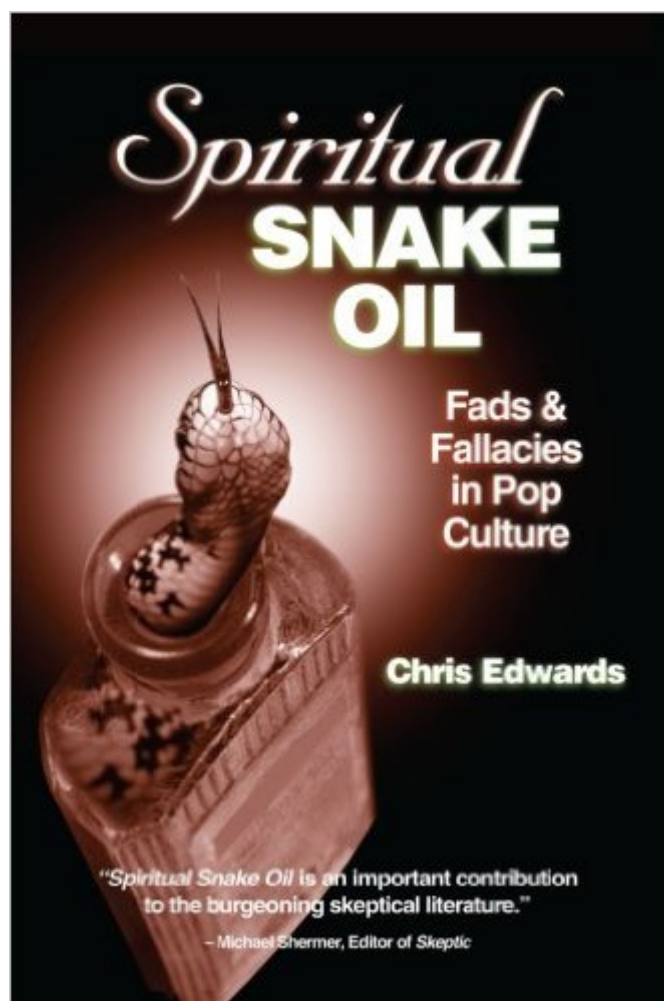


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Spiritual Snake Oil: Fads & Fallacies In Pop Culture



Synopsis

"Spiritual Snake Oil" shows that the same fallacies that plague religious apologetics also infect virtually all "new age" and "spiritual" writing. Author Chris Edwards does this by dissecting the arguments and assertions of the most prominent "new age" icons and "spiritual" writers. They include Robert Pirsig ("Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance"), James Redfield ("The Celestine Prophecy"), Deepak Chopra ("Life After Death"), Dinesh D'Souza ("Life After Death"), Francis Collins's ("The Language of God"), Rhonda Byrne ("The Secret"), and even Michael Crichton (a surprising defender of New Age thinking). As Edwards shows, the same fallacies, the same errors in argument, show up time after time in the writings of these--and virtually all other--"new age" and "spiritual" writers. In addition to explaining these fallacies in the chapters devoted to the individual authors, Edwards devotes a final chapter, "A Compendium of Fallacies," to outlining the tricks and deceptive practices common to illogical arguments.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It is a nice different view of the new religious movement. His reviews are almost comedic in his style of writing. He really doesn't back up his arguments though. For example, he goes on and on about how the Secret is a bunch of nonsense and frequencies don't work like that, but he never shows why. He does do a good job comparing the different ideas to other and showing how they are the same, such as comparing the Secret to praying, which he claims he will do in the book cover. But he more just says how they are the same and never really discredits any writer. If you want a REALLY good book like this read The Hero With a Thousand Faces by Joseph Campbell. That is a very

thorough comparison of global religions and stories, and how they are all interrelated and synonymous. He does an excellent job and does not discredit any of the stories, say they are wrong, or anything. He actually explains how some people need a symbolic system to assist and guide their experience here on this strange Earth.

Good job! Great book! Came in excellent time and condition. Is insightful into our brainwashing to default to the supernatural without evidence when we cannot readily explain aspects of the universe and life.

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