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Journal 93

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*An asterisk means that the book is in print; if you wish to purchase it from our friends at Splintered Light Books, call 1.800.979.3310.

more on

Original Sin

Alan Jacobs's *Original Sin: A Cultural History** (2008) was published by HarperCollins. In researching the book, Jacobs read a lot of Augustine, relying in part on James O'Donnell's "definitive edition plus commentary" of the *Confessions*, available at www9.georgetown.edu/faculty/jod/augustine/. O'Donnell is the author of *Augustine: A New Biography** (Ecco, 2005), a useful supplement to Peter Brown's classic *Augustine of Hippo** (new edition, California, 2000). Also of note is *Augustine through the Ages: An Encyclopedia** (Eerdmans, 1999), edited by Allan D. Fitzgerald, O.S.A.. On early Christian reflection on the consequences of the sin of Adam, see J. N. D. Kelly's *Early Christian Doctrines* (fifth edition, Harper, 1978) and Jaroslav Pelikan's *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine, Vol. 1: The Emergence of Catholic Tradition, (100-600)** (Chicago, 1971). Jacobs also relied on N. P. Williams's *The Ideas of the Fall and of Original Sin: A Historical and Critical Study* (Longmans, 1927); Charles Taylor's *Sources of the Self: The Making of Modern Identity** (Harvard, 1989); Mark Noll's *America's God: From Jonathan Edwards to Abraham Lincoln** (Oxford, 2002); James A. Morone's *Hellfire Nation: The Politics of Sin in American History** (Yale, 2003); Robert Nisbet's *History of the Idea of Progress** (Basic, 1981); and Christopher Lasch's *The True and Only Heaven: Progress and Its Critics** (Norton, 1991).

more on

Science (Fiction) Mythologies

James A. Herrick's *Scientific Mythologies: How Science and Science Fiction Forge New Religious Beliefs* (2008) is published by InterVarsity Press. Earlier books surveying this terrain include Kingsley Amis's *New Maps of Hell: A Survey of Science Fiction* (Gollancz, 1961); Mark R. Hillegas, *The Future as Nightmare: H. G. Wells and the Anti-Utopians* (Oxford, 1967); David Samuelson's *Visions of Tomorrow: Six Journeys from Outer to Inner Space* (Arno, 1975); Casey Fredericks's *The Future of Eternity: Mythologies of Science Fiction and Fantasy* (Indiana, 1987); and Thomas M. Disch's *The Dreams Our Stuff Is Made Of: How Science Fiction Conquered the World** (Free Press, 1998). Philosopher Mary Midgley (interviewed on Volume 51 of the *Journal*) has done a great deal to demythologize modern science. Of particular interest to Herrick's subject are her books *Science as Salvation: A Modern Myth and Its Meaning** (Routledge, 1992)

and *Evolution as a Religion: Strange Hopes and Stranger Fears** (Methuen, 1985). One of the most entertaining studies of the ways in which technology has been perceived as having redemptive possibilities is Erik Davis's *Techgnosis: Myth, Magic, and Mysticism in the Age of Information* (Harmony, 1998). In 1955, C. S. Lewis gave a talk at the Cambridge University English Club entitled "On Science Fiction," in which he examined various sub-genres of science fiction. That talk is reprinted in the anthology *Of Other Worlds: Essays and Stories** (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1966), edited by Walter Hooper. That volume contains two other fascinating documents featuring Lewis's thoughts on science fiction. The first, "A reply to Professor Haldane," is Lewis's defense of criticisms leveled against his book *That Hideous Strength* by a man characterized by James Herrick as "a prophet proclaiming the message that scientific progress would usher in a New Age of human peace, health and social equality." The second is a transcription of an informal conversation about science fiction between Lewis, novelist and critic Kingsley Amis, and science fiction writer Brian Aldiss.

Other Works Mentioned

Robert C. Roberts's *Spiritual Emotions: A Psychology of Christian Virtues** (2007) and J. Daryl Charles's *Retrieving the Natural Law: A Return to Moral First Things* (2008) are both published by Eerdmans. Elizabeth Fox-Genovese's *Marriage: The Dream That Refuses to Die* (2008) is published by ISI Books. Allan Carlson's *Conjugal America* (2007) is from Transaction Publishers.

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