



# Virgins: A Cultural History

By Anke Bernau

Download now

Read Online 

## Virgins: A Cultural History By Anke Bernau

In the Middle Ages it was believed that only a virgin could charm a unicorn out of hiding; but far from being a quaint, anachronistic concept, virginity remains a central value in Western culture. Typing "virgin" into Google results in more than one million hits and includes everything from the Anti-Nicene Fathers to advertisements for free teen virgins, displaying a range of current cultural preoccupations with virginity. This lively, wide-ranging examination of a phenomenon that has touched many aspects of our culture names different archetypes and facets of the concept of virginity. Examples include the Medical Virgin—exploring what exactly virginity is and how to reliably identify one; the Religious Virgin—from the Madonna to the American Christian Right's insistence on sexual abstinence before marriage; the Popular Virgin of Gothic fiction and modern day horror films; the Political Virgin—virginity's intimate connection with money and power; and the Monstrous Virgin, as embodiment of what is ultimately unknowable and of violence, excess, and death.

 [Download Virgins: A Cultural History ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Virgins: A Cultural History ...pdf](#)

# Virgins: A Cultural History

*By Anke Bernau*

## **Virgins: A Cultural History** By Anke Bernau

In the Middle Ages it was believed that only a virgin could charm a unicorn out of hiding; but far from being a quaint, anachronistic concept, virginity remains a central value in Western culture. Typing "virgin" into Google results in more than one million hits and includes everything from the Anti-Nicene Fathers to advertisements for free teen virgins, displaying a range of current cultural preoccupations with virginity. This lively, wide-ranging examination of a phenomenon that has touched many aspects of our culture names different archetypes and facets of the concept of virginity. Examples include the Medical Virgin—exploring what exactly virginity is and how to reliably identify one; the Religious Virgin—from the Madonna to the American Christian Right's insistence on sexual abstinence before marriage; the Popular Virgin of Gothic fiction and modern day horror films; the Political Virgin—virginity's intimate connection with money and power; and the Monstrous Virgin, as embodiment of what is ultimately unknowable and of violence, excess, and death.

## **Virgins: A Cultural History** By Anke Bernau Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #4555367 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Granta UK
- Published on: 2007-11-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.25" h x 6.25" w x 1.00" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 272 pages

 [Download Virgins: A Cultural History ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Virgins: A Cultural History ...pdf](#)

## Editorial Review

### Review

"An engaging history . . . an entertaining, informative treatment of a still puzzling subject." —Lionel Shriver, author, *We Need to Talk About Kevin*

"Fascinating . . . manages to convey a muddled strand of cultural history with admirable calm and perspicacity." —*Metro*

"This well-researched book examines the changing concept of virginity, from the Virgin Mary to modern abstinence education." —*The Daily Telegraph*

"This is a lively and wide-ranging examination of a phenomenon that has touched many aspects of our culture." —*Evening Standard*

"With humor, the author reveals how even in our let-it-all-hang-out western culture, virginity remains a hot topic." —*Sunday Herald*

"Terrifying yet captivating." —*Bust*

### About the Author

Anke Bernau's other works include *Medieval Virginity*.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Shad Broussard:

Do you considered one of people who can't read satisfying if the sentence chained inside the straightway, hold on guys this specific aren't like that. This *Virgins: A Cultural History* book is readable simply by you who hate those straight word style. You will find the information here are arrange for enjoyable studying experience without leaving actually decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer regarding *Virgins: A Cultural History* content conveys the idea easily to understand by a lot of people. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different available as it. So , do you continue to thinking *Virgins: A Cultural History* is not loveable to be your top listing reading book?

**Lily McDermott:**

Reading a book for being new life style in this season; every people loves to read a book. When you read a book you can get a lot of benefit. When you read textbooks, you can improve your knowledge, simply because book has a lot of information upon it. The information that you will get depend on what types of book that you have read. If you would like get information about your examine, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, these kinds of us novel, comics, and also soon. The Virgins: A Cultural History will give you new experience in studying a book.

**Marie Slaughter:**

This Virgins: A Cultural History is new way for you who has attention to look for some information mainly because it relief your hunger details. Getting deeper you in it getting knowledge more you know otherwise you who still having little bit of digest in reading this Virgins: A Cultural History can be the light food in your case because the information inside that book is easy to get by anyone. These books build itself in the form that is reachable by anyone, that's why I mean in the e-book type. People who think that in publication form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this publication is the answer. So you cannot find any in reading a publication especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for you actually. So , don't miss that! Just read this e-book kind for your better life as well as knowledge.

**Lamar Carr:**

Some individuals said that they feel fed up when they reading a guide. They are directly felt that when they get a half areas of the book. You can choose typically the book Virgins: A Cultural History to make your reading is interesting. Your own skill of reading ability is developing when you just like reading. Try to choose basic book to make you enjoy to study it and mingle the impression about book and examining especially. It is to be initially opinion for you to like to open up a book and read it. Beside that the book Virgins: A Cultural History can to be your brand-new friend when you're experience alone and confuse using what must you're doing of the time.

**Download and Read Online Virgins: A Cultural History By Anke Bernau #QOETFAXR61L**

## **Read Virgins: A Cultural History By Anke Bernau for online ebook**

Virgins: A Cultural History By Anke Bernau 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 Virgins: A Cultural History By Anke Bernau books to read online.

### **Online Virgins: A Cultural History By Anke Bernau ebook PDF download**

**Virgins: A Cultural History By Anke Bernau Doc**

**Virgins: A Cultural History By Anke Bernau Mobipocket**

**Virgins: A Cultural History By Anke Bernau EPub**

**QOETFAXR61L: Virgins: A Cultural History By Anke Bernau**