



# THE HISTORY OF THE DEVILS OF LOUDUN

Des Niau  
Un témoin  
Edmund Goldsmid

The Alleged Possession of the Ursuline Nuns, and the Trial  
and Execution of Urbain Grandier, Told by an Eye-Witness.  
Translated From the Original French, and Edited by Edmund  
Goldsmid

# The Devils Of Loudun

**Des Niau**



## **The Devils Of Loudun:**

**The Devils of Loudun** Aldous Huxley, 2009-07-28 Aldous Huxley's acclaimed and gripping account of one of the strangest occurrences in history. In 1643 an entire convent in the small French village of Loudun was apparently possessed by the devil. After a sensational and celebrated trial the convent's charismatic priest Urban Grandier, accused of spiritually and sexually seducing the nuns in his charge, was convicted of being in league with Satan. Then he was burned at the stake for witchcraft. In this classic work by the legendary Aldous Huxley, a remarkable true story of religious and sexual obsession, considered by many to be his nonfiction masterpiece, a compelling historical event is clarified and brought to vivid life.

**The Devils of Loudun** Aldous Huxley, 2021-05-25 **The Devils of Loudun** is a 1952 non-fiction novel by Aldous Huxley. It is a historical narrative of supposed demonic possession, religious fanaticism, sexual repression, and mass hysteria.

**The Devils; Based on a Book [i.e. The Devils of Loudun] by Aldous Huxley** John Robert WHITING, 1966 **The Devils of Loudun** Edmund Goldsmid, 2023-01-31 The following extraordinary account of the Cause Célèbre of Urbain Grandier, the Cur of Loudun, accused of Magic and of having caused the Nuns of the Convent of Saint Ursula to be possessed of devils, is written by an eye witness and not only an eyewitness but an actor in the scenes he describes. It is printed at Poitiers chez J. F. tureau et la veuve M. nier Imprimeurs du Roi et de l'Université 1634. I believe two copies only are known: my own and the one in the National Library Paris. The writer is Monsieur des Niaux, Counsellor at the Chancery, evidently a firm believer in the absurd charges brought against Grandier. Magic appears to have had its origin on the plains of Assyria, and the worship of the stars was the creed of those pastoral tribes who pouring down from the mountains of Kurdistan into the wide level where Babylon afterwards raised its thousand towers, founded the sacerdotal race of the Chasdim or Chaldeans. To these men were soon allotted peculiar privileges and ascribed peculiar attributes until under the name of Magi they acquired a vast and permanent influence. Their temples were astronomical observatories as well as holy places, and the legendary tower of Babel in the Book of Genesis is probably but the mythical equivalent of a vast edifice consecrated to the study of the seven planets or perhaps as the Bab court or palace of Bel to the brilliant star of good fortune alone. Availing themselves of the general adoration of the stars, they appear to have invented a system of astrology, the apotelesmatic science by which they professed to decide upon the nature of coming events and the complexion of individual fortunes. **The History of the**

**Devils of Loudun** Des Niaux, 1887 **The Devils. A Play Based on a Book by Aldous Huxley [i.e. "The Devils of Loudun"]**. John Robert WHITING, 1963 **The History of the Devils of Loudun, Volumes I-III** Des Niaux, 2021-05-19 In **The History of the Devils of Loudun Volumes I-III** Des Niaux meticulously chronicles the infamous possession of a convent in Loudun, France, during the 17th century. The work stands out for its intricate narrative style, employing a blend of historical documentation and dramatic literary techniques that vividly resurrect the era's atmosphere. Niaux not only investigates the psychological and social dynamics of the community but also situates the events within the broader context of witchcraft.

debates and religious fanaticism making it a seminal text in both historical and literary studies Des Niau a scholar with a profound interest in the intersection of history psychology and religion draws from extensive archival research and contemporary sources to inform his narrative His background in religious studies and interest in moral panics of the past undoubtedly shaped his approach to the tumultuous events of Loudun providing readers with insights that illuminate the motivations behind both the ecclesiastical authorities and those accused of witchcraft This compelling work is a must read for anyone interested in the complexities of hysteria power and belief systems in early modern Europe Niau s engaging prose will captivate both scholars and general readers alike offering profound reflections on the nature of faith and fanaticism In this enriched edition we have carefully created added value for your reading experience A succinct Introduction situates the work s timeless appeal and themes The Synopsis outlines the central plot highlighting key developments without spoiling critical twists A detailed Historical Context immerses you in the era s events and influences that shaped the writing An Author Biography reveals milestones in the author s life illuminating the personal insights behind the text A thorough Analysis dissects symbols motifs and character arcs to unearth underlying meanings Reflection questions prompt you to engage personally with the work s messages connecting them to modern life Hand picked Memorable Quotes shine a spotlight on moments of literary brilliance Interactive footnotes clarify unusual references historical allusions and archaic phrases for an effortless more informed read

*The Devils of Loudun* Aldous Leonard Huxley,1975     *The Devils of Loudun* Aldous Huxley,1969     *The History of the Devils of Loudun: The Alleged Possession of the Ursuline Nuns and the Trial and Execution Urbain Grandier* Edmund Goldsmid,1887-01-01     *The Devils* Darren Arnold,2019-06-25 Undoubtedly the most notorious title in director Ken Russell s controversial filmography *The Devils* 1973 caused a real furor on its initial theatrical release only to largely disappear for many years This Devil s Advocate considers the film s historical context as the timing of the first appearance of *The Devils* is of particular importance its authorship and adaptation Russell s auteur reputation aside the screenplay is based on John Whiting s 1961 play of the same name which was in turn based on Aldous Huxley s 1952 book *The Devils of Loudun* and its generic hybridity Darren Arnold goes on to examine the themes prevalent in the film this is the only film of Russell s which the director considered to be political and considers the representation of gender and sexuality gender fluidity and how sex and religion clash to interesting and controversial effect He concludes by revisiting the film s censorship travails and the various versions of *The Devils* that have appeared on both big and small screens and the film s legacy and influence

**History of the Devils of Loudun** Des Niau,1887     *A Private Mythology* Gabrielle Robinson,1988 John Whiting is shown to involve all his heroes in a monumental attack and immediate collapse after which they retreat into exile with recluses Seeking romantic rebellion but unable to leave the protection of their sanctuaries they live incoherently amid their dreams and anxieties

**The History of the Devils of Loudun - The Alleged Possession of the Ursuline Nuns, and the Trial and Execution of Urbain Grandier - Told by an Eye-Witness - Translated from the**

**Original French - Volumes I., II., and III.** Edmund Goldsmid, 2019-06-12 This book contains all three volumes of Edmund Goldsmid's *The History of the Devils of Loudun* which deals with the purported demonic possession sexual repression religious fanaticism and mass hysteria that occurred in the small town of Loudun in 17th century France This volume concentrates on the Roman Catholic priest called Urbain Grandier and the members of a convent containing Ursuline nuns who claim to have been possessed by demons as a result of a deal made between Grandier and Satan examining eye witness accounts and other evidence related to the events *The History of the Devils of Loudun* will appeal to those with an interest in occult subjects and notable historical cases related to purported occult subjects in particular Many vintage books such as this are becoming increasingly scarce and expensive It is with this in mind that we are republishing this volume now in an affordable modern high quality edition complete with the original text and artwork **The History of the Devils of Loudun, Volumes I-III** Des Niau, 2014

**The Devils of Loudun, By Aldous Huxley** Aldous Huxley, 1952 *The History of the Devils of Loudun* Anonymous, 2021-12-03 This story is true story about an extraordinary event that happened in France in the times of Cardinal Richelieu The events of the story spin around the supposed demonic possession religious fanaticism sexual repression and mass hysteria that occurred in 17th century France town of Loudun According to the historical sources the Roman Catholic priest Urbain Grandier and an entire convent of Ursuline nuns allegedly became possessed by demons Grandier was a promiscuous and insolent personality who yet stated that he was not guilty Modern historians suppose that he could possibly be a victim of a political plot by Cardinal Richelieu The trial started as a group of Ursuline nuns accused him of bewitching them into imprudent acts Urbain Grandier stated that the true reason for the trial was his refuse to become a spiritual patron of the Convent which infuriated which After a trial Grandier was found guilty and burned at a stake This book presents a translation of the first hand account of those events and can be considered as a primary source of historical information **The History of the Devils of Loudun** Des Niau, 1887

*Themes in Drama: Volume 12, Drama and Philosophy* James Redmond, 1990-07-05 This collection surveys madness in drama It includes articles on The Duchess of Malfi virginity and hysteria in *The Changeling* the confined spectacle of madness in Beys's *The Illustrious Madmen* The male gaze in *Woyzeck* representing Marie and madness and other drama examples **The History of the Devils of Loudun**, 2017-07-26 Around 1632 seventeen Ursuline Nuns were taken over by demons and went into a sexual and blasphemous state of hysteria for years The work also describes the trial of a womanizing local priest named Father Urbain Grandier who was accused of summoning these demons and in the end burned at the stake

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## **Table of Contents The Devils Of Loudun**

1. Understanding the eBook The Devils Of Loudun
  - The Rise of Digital Reading The Devils Of Loudun
  - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying The Devils Of Loudun
  - Exploring Different Genres
  - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
  - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
  - Popular eBook Platforms
  - Features to Look for in an The Devils Of Loudun
  - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from The Devils Of Loudun
  - Personalized Recommendations
  - The Devils Of Loudun User Reviews and Ratings
  - The Devils Of Loudun and Bestseller Lists
5. Accessing The Devils Of Loudun Free and Paid eBooks

- The Devils Of Loudun Public Domain eBooks
- The Devils Of Loudun eBook Subscription Services
- The Devils Of Loudun Budget-Friendly Options
- 6. Navigating The Devils Of Loudun eBook Formats
  - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
  - The Devils Of Loudun Compatibility with Devices
  - The Devils Of Loudun Enhanced eBook Features
- 7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
  - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of The Devils Of Loudun
  - Highlighting and Note-Taking The Devils Of Loudun
  - Interactive Elements The Devils Of Loudun
- 8. Staying Engaged with The Devils Of Loudun
  - Joining Online Reading Communities
  - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
  - Following Authors and Publishers The Devils Of Loudun
- 9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books The Devils Of Loudun
  - Benefits of a Digital Library
  - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection The Devils Of Loudun
- 10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
  - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
  - Minimizing Distractions
  - Managing Screen Time
- 11. Cultivating a Reading Routine The Devils Of Loudun
  - Setting Reading Goals The Devils Of Loudun
  - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
- 12. Sourcing Reliable Information of The Devils Of Loudun
  - Fact-Checking eBook Content of The Devils Of Loudun
  - Distinguishing Credible Sources
- 13. Promoting Lifelong Learning
  - Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development

- Exploring Educational eBooks

#### 14. Embracing eBook Trends

- Integration of Multimedia Elements
- Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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