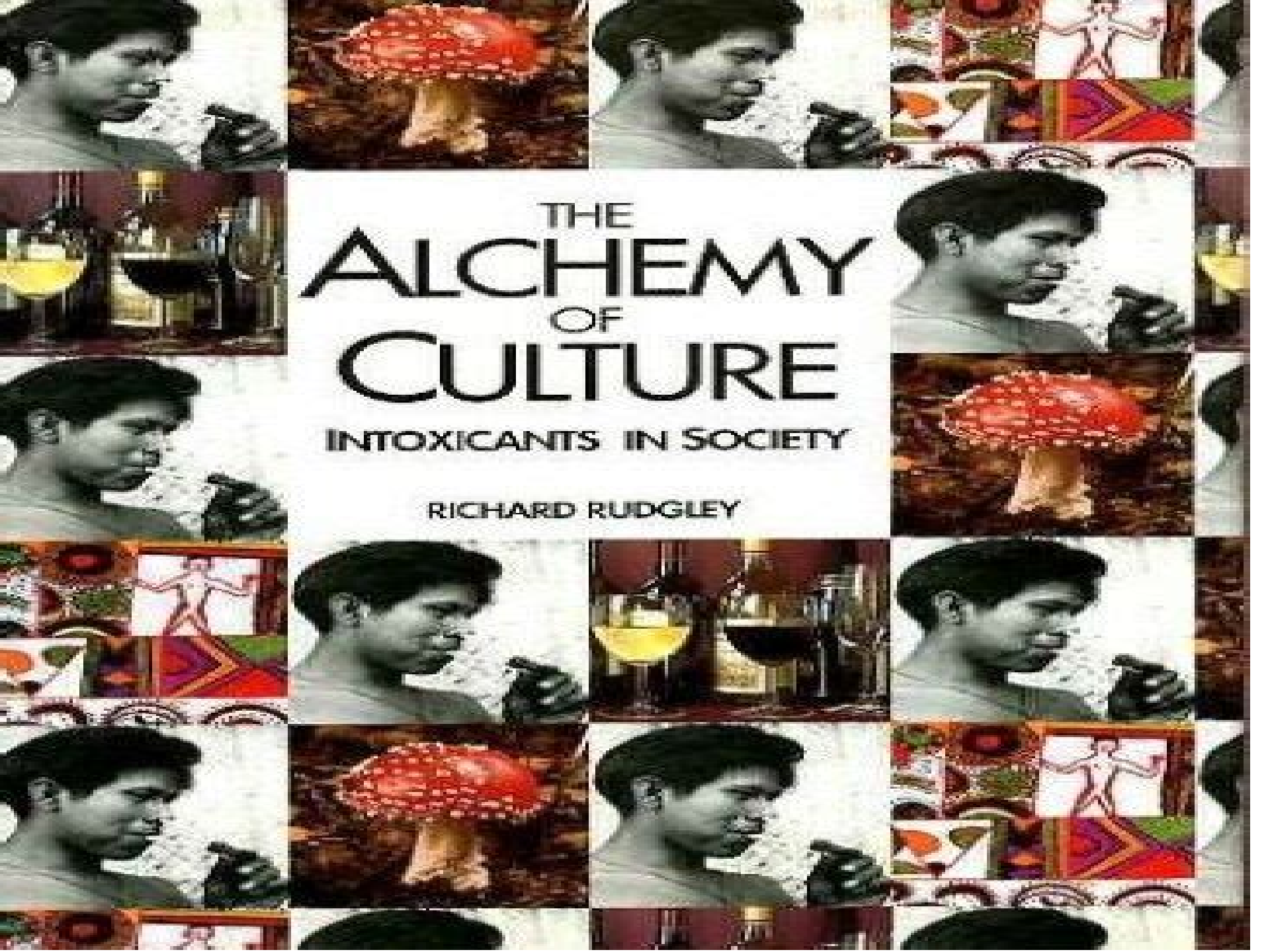




THE ALCHEMY OF CULTURE

INTOXICANTS IN SOCIETY

RICHARD RUDGLEY

The Alchemy Of Culture Intoxicants In Society

Michael Brown



The Alchemy Of Culture Intoxicants In Society:

The Alchemy of Culture Richard Rudgley,1993 **The Witches' Ointment** Thomas Hatsis,2015-08-17 An exploration of the historical origins of the witches ointment and medieval hallucinogenic drug practices based on the earliest sources Details how early modern theologians demonized psychedelic folk magic into witches ointments Shares dozens of psychoactive formulas and recipes gleaned from rare manuscripts from university collections all over the world as well as the practices and magical incantations necessary for their preparation Examines the practices of medieval witches like Matteuccia di Francisco who used hallucinogenic drugs in her love potions and herbal preparations In the medieval period preparations with hallucinogenic herbs were part of the practice of veneficium or poison magic This collection of magical arts used poisons herbs and rituals to bewitch heal prophesy infect and murder In the form of psyche magical ointments poison magic could trigger powerful hallucinations and surrealistic dreams that enabled direct experience of the Divine Smeared on the skin these entheogenic ointments were said to enable witches to commune with various local goddesses bastardized by the Church as trips to the Sabbat clandestine meetings with Satan to learn magic and participate in demonic orgies Examining trial records and the pharmacopoeia of witches alchemists folk healers and heretics of the 15th century Thomas Hatsis details how a range of ideas from folk drugs to ecclesiastical fears over medicine women merged to form the classical witch stereotype and what history has called the witches ointment He shares dozens of psychoactive formulas and recipes gleaned from rare manuscripts from university collections from all over the world as well as the practices and magical incantations necessary for their preparation He explores the connections between witches ointments and spells for shape shifting spirit travel and bewitching magic He examines the practices of some Renaissance magicians who inhaled powerful drugs to communicate with spirits and of Italian folk witches such as Matteuccia di Francisco who used hallucinogenic drugs in her love potions and herbal preparations and Finicella who used drug ointments to imagine herself transformed into a cat Exploring the untold history of the witches ointment and medieval hallucinogen use Hatsis reveals how the Church transformed folk drug practices specifically entheogenic ones into satanic experiences *Shooting Up* /Lukasz Kamie'nski,2017-08-31 From hallucinogenic mushrooms and LSD to coca and cocaine from Homeric warriors and the Assassins to the first Gulf War and today s global insurgents drugs have sustained warriors in the field and have been used as weapons of warfare either as non lethal psychochemical weapons or as a means of subversion Lukasz Kamie'nski explores why and how drugs have been issued to soldiers to increase their battlefield performance boost their courage and alleviate stress and fear as well as for medical purposes He also delves into the history of psychoactive substances that combatants self prescribe a practice which dates as far back as the Vikings *Shooting Up* is a comprehensive and original history of the relationship between fighting men and intoxicants from Antiquity till the present day and looks at how drugs will determine the wars of the future in unforeseen and remarkable ways Poisonous Plants Robert Bevan-Jones,2009-08-01 The botanical

history of Britain and North West Europe has a dark and a light side Plants have been used as weapons to harm people taken deliberately as addictive drugs and also employed as tools in witchcraft and used as magical amulets Yet many of these same plants have been medicinally vital to numerous European communities as the author notes frequently the only difference between a benevolent medicine and a poison is dosage In this book which is richly illustrated with modern colour photographs and illustrations from herbals Robert Bevan Jones brings together a wealth of documentary and archaeological botanical sources to discuss the cultural social and anti social role of the fifty most significant species of poisonous plants and fungi found in Britain either as natives or as introductions An introductory essay puts into context the development of British society's knowledge of toxic plants the cultural botany applied in Britain today has evolved over thousands of years absorbing information from European texts and importing useful plants from Europe such as the mandrake The book's central A to Z section from aconite to yew then informs the reader about the history and uses of 43 species of poisonous plants especially those that have a documented history of medicinal usage Four important fungi species death cap liberty cap fly agaric and ergot also have separate essays As well as the plants histories and appearance their chemical constituents receive coverage these give them powerful and diverse properties which demand our admiration and respect The book aims to add to the knowledge offered by field identification guides and help reduce the risk associated with accidental ingestion Case histories are given in as much detail as possible and the information will hopefully help the reader understand the properties of plants they may encounter either in an archaeological botanical or horticultural context Most of these plants can yet be found growing in woodlands parks botanical gardens roadsides waterways churchyards and abbey sites This is an essential book not only for botanists and historical ecologists but also for anyone interested in the toxic plant traditions of Britain and Europe

Substance Use and Abuse Russil Durrant, Jo Thakker, 2003-04-07 This book takes an integrative approach to the understanding of drug use and its relationship to social cultural factors It is lucidly and powerfully argued and constitutes a significant achievement The authors sensibly argue that in order to fully understand and explain drug use and abuse it is necessary to take into account different levels of analysis reflecting distinct domains of human functioning the biological psychosocial and cultural historical Overall this book represents an exceptional achievement and should be of interest to drug clinicians and researcher as well as social scientists and students Professor Tony Ward University of Melbourne Substance use and abuse are two of the most frequent psychological problems clinicians encounter Mainstream approaches focus on the biological and psychological factors supporting drug abuse But to fully comprehend the issue clinicians need to consider the social historical and cultural factors responsible for drug related problems Substance Use and Abuse Cultural and Historical Perspectives provides an inclusive explanation of the human desire to take drugs Using a multidisciplinary framework authors Russil Durrant and Jo Thakker explore the cultural and historical variables that contribute to drug use Integrating biological psychosocial and cultural historical perspectives this innovative and accessible volume addresses the

fundamental question of why drug use is such a ubiquitous feature of human society provides an inclusive explanation of the human desire to take drugs Using a multidisciplinary framework authors Russil Durrant and Jo Thakker explore the cultural and historical variables that contribute to drug use Integrating biological psychosocial and cultural historical perspectives this innovative and accessible volume addresses the fundamental question of why drug use is such a ubiquitous feature of human society Addressing issues important to prevention treatment and public policy the authors include A comprehensive historical survey of drug use An exploration of the evolutionary basis of drug taking behavior Historically and culturally based explanations of drug use and abuse Inclusive approaches that complement mainstream biopsychosocial perspectives Designed for upper division undergraduate and graduate students in psychology counseling sociology social work and health departments Substance Use and Abuse Cultural and Historical Perspectives will also be of significant interest to drug clinicians researchers and social scientists

Supernatural as Natural Michael Winkelman, John R. Baker, 2015-09-04 This book provides a general introduction to the biological and evolutionary bases of religion and is suitable for introductory level courses in the anthropology and psychology of religion and comparative religion Why did human ancestors everywhere adopt religious beliefs and customs The presence and persistence of many religious features across the globe and time suggests that it is natural for humans to believe in the supernatural In this new text the authors explore both the biological and cultural dimensions of religion and the evolutionary origins of religious features

Death in the Garden Michael Brown, 2018-03-30 Readers who enjoy plants and offbeat tales will find Brown s book a happy mix Publishers Weekly Mankind has always had a morbid fascination with poisonous plants Over the centuries poisonous plants have been used to remove garden pests as well as unwanted rivals and deceitful partners They have also been used for their medicinal qualities as rather dangerous cosmetics and even to help seduce a lover when perceived as an aphrodisiac Some of these and other uses originate in a medieval book that has not yet been translated into English This book delves into the history of these plants covering such topics as How shamans and priests used these plants for their magical attributes as a means to foretell the future or to commune with the gods How a pot of basil helped to conceal a savage murder The truth about the mysterious mandrake A conundrum written by Jane Austen to entertain her family the answer to which is one of the plants in this book These stories and many more will enlighten you on these treacherous and peculiar plants their defensive and deadly traits the facts behind them and the folklore that has grown around them

An Introduction to Criminal Psychology Russil Durrant, 2013-05-07 Crime is a topic that is of considerable interest to policy makers politicians and the public alike We want to know what factors can explain the nature and prevalence of crime in society and use this knowledge to better develop approaches for managing criminal behaviour This book provides a comprehensive overview of approaches to understanding crime and criminal behaviour with a focus on psychological perspectives A wide range of different types of criminal behaviour are considered including juvenile crime violent offending sexual offending collective violence and drug use For

each type of offence a clear overview of key conceptual and methodological issues is provided along with a detailed consideration of the major theoretical approaches that have been developed The book concludes by considering how our theoretical understanding of crime can inform our responses to criminal behaviour in terms of punishment prevention and rehabilitation Key features of the book include an in depth coverage of a broad range of different types of criminal behaviour inclusion of a diverse range of different theoretical perspectives accessibly written with extensive use of case studies boxes and activities an extensive use of up to date references that highlight the current state of knowledge in the field of criminal psychology This book should be of interest to students academics researchers and practitioners with an interest in criminal behaviour and is particularly suitable for undergraduate courses in criminal psychology forensic psychology and psychological criminology

Consuming Habits Jordan Goodman, Andrew Sherratt, Paul E. Lovejoy, 2005-07-26 This pioneering collection of original essays explores the rich analytical category of psycho active substances from challenging historical and anthropological perspectives Psychoactive substances have been central to the formation of civilizations and the growth of the world economy Consuming Habits describes how and why tea and coffee replaced beer on the breakfast tables of 18th century Europe in Islamic emirates at the turn of the century kola nuts formed part of tax payments and were given as gifts by so called big men In 1902 opera singers had their doctors prescribe them cocaine to aid singing the original version of coca cola was described as a brain tonic This pioneering collection of original essays explores the rich analytical category of psychoactive substances from challenging historical and anthropological perspectives

Alcohol-Related Violence Mary McMurren, 2012-10-17 New in the Wiley Series in Forensic Clinical Psychology Alcohol Related Violence Prevention and Treatment presents an authoritative collection of the most recent assessment and treatment strategies for alcohol related aggression and violence Features contributions from leading international academics and practitioners Offers invaluable guidance for practitioners regarding intervention to reduce alcohol related aggression and violence Describes evidence based interventions at a number of levels including populations bar room families couples and individuals

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