



Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia

Valerie Kivelson

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia

Valerie Kivelson

Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia Valerie Kivelson

In the courtrooms of seventeenth-century Russia, the great majority of those accused of witchcraft were male, in sharp contrast to the profile of accused witches across Catholic and Protestant Europe in the same period. While European courts targeted and executed overwhelmingly female suspects, often on charges of compacting with the devil, the tsars' courts vigorously pursued men and some women accused of practicing more down-to-earth magic, using poetic spells and home-grown potions. Instead of Satanism or heresy, the primary concern in witchcraft testimony in Russia involved efforts to use magic to subvert, mitigate, or avenge the harsh conditions of patriarchy, serfdom, and social hierarchy.

Broadly comparative and richly illustrated with color plates, *Desperate Magic* places the trials of witches in the context of early modern Russian law, religion, and society. Piecing together evidence from trial records to illuminate some of the central puzzles of Muscovite history, Kivelson explores the interplay among the testimony of accusers, the leading questions of the interrogators, and the confessions of the accused. Assembled, they create a picture of a shared moral vision of the world that crossed social divides. Because of the routine use of torture in extracting and shaping confessions, Kivelson addresses methodological and ideological questions about the Muscovite courts' equation of pain and truth, questions with continuing resonance in the world today. Within a moral economy that paired unquestioned hierarchical inequities with expectations of reciprocity, magic and suspicions of magic emerged where those expectations were most egregiously violated.

Witchcraft in Russia surfaces as one of the ways that oppression was contested by ordinary people scrambling to survive in a fiercely inequitable world. Masters and slaves, husbands and wives, and officers and soldiers alike believed there should be limits to exploitation and saw magic deployed at the junctures where hierarchical order veered into violent excess.

 [Download Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft i ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia Valerie Kivelson

From reader reviews:

Loretta Faria:

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have much more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent all their spare time to take a go walking, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or read a book allowed Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You realize beside you can spend your time with your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have other opinion?

Steve Teegarden:

Many people spending their time period by playing outside having friends, fun activity along with family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to spend your whole day by reading through a book. Ugh, do you think reading a book can actually hard because you have to take the book everywhere? It fine you can have the e-book, having everywhere you want in your Touch screen phone. Like Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia which is getting the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's view.

James Williams:

Within this era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability in doing something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple way to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time not much but quite enough to have a look at some books. One of many books in the top record in your reading list is actually Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Hills can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking up and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

John Schreiber:

As a university student exactly feel bored to help reading. If their teacher asked them to go to the library in order to make summary for some reserve, they are complained. Just tiny students that has reading's internal or real their hobby. They just do what the educator want, like asked to the library. They go to presently there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that examining is not important, boring in addition to can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is to be complicated. Book is very important for yourself. As we know that on this period, many ways to get whatever we would like. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia can make you sense more interested to read.

**Download and Read Online Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy
of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia Valerie Kivelson
#O2TP1B9VEZG**

Read Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia by Valerie Kivelson for online ebook

Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia by Valerie Kivelson 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 Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia by Valerie Kivelson books to read online.

Online Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia by Valerie Kivelson ebook PDF download

Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia by Valerie Kivelson Doc

Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia by Valerie Kivelson Mobipocket

Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia by Valerie Kivelson EPub