

'This engaging, one-of-a-kind, book deserves very wide readership.'

- Elizabeth Loftus, University of California, US

Language Myths, Mysteries and Magic



Karen Stollznow

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About the Author:

Karen Stollznow is a linguist with a background in history and anthropology. She earned her PhD in Linguistics from the University of New England, Australia and was previously a Researcher at the University of California, Berkeley, where she worked with a team to examine and preserve endangered writing systems. Stollznow is a columnist, podcaster and the author of *Haunting America* (2013), and *God Bless America: Strange and Unusual Religious Beliefs and Practices in the United States* (2013).

About this book:

For a large section of society, language has power beyond gossiping at work, or ordering your husband to taking out the trash. For these people, language can be used to talk to God, aliens, monsters, and the dead. Speech and handwriting can be used to predict the future or cure disease. *Language Myths, Mysteries and Magic* is a fascinating exploration of this different side of language. Topics covered include curses and charms, divination, prayer, xenoglossia (the spontaneous acquisition of a foreign language), speaking in tongues, the use of electronic devices for communicating with spirits, hidden messaging, talking animals, pet psychics and psychic pets, alien and monster languages (including Bigfoot), body language and hypnosis. Using examples – such as Kay Russell of Gloucestershire who woke up after a nap with a French accent, or 'Rosemary', a twentieth century English woman who suddenly began speaking Ancient Egyptian, reading this book will ensure you never think of language in the same way again.

Key Selling Points:

ACCESSIBLE: The book is written in an accessible, engaging style which will appeal to a general audience.

WIDE RANGE: The author covers a wide range of topics, from speaking in tongues to psychic predictions.

INTERDISCIPLINARY: The book has interdisciplinary appeal across Language and Linguistics, Psychology, Anthropology and Skepticism.

ACTIVE AUTHOR: Karen Stollznow is very active on social media and is a frequent blogger and columnist for various Skeptic magazines and will be engaged in promoting the book through her own channels as well as ours.