

### An Introduction to Parapsychology, 5th ed.

By Harvey J. Irwin, Caroline A. Watt



**An Introduction to Parapsychology, 5th ed.** By Harvey J. Irwin, Caroline A. Watt

This is a thoroughly updated and revised edition of our highly acclaimed university textbook on the science of parapsychology. The objective of this book is to provide an introductory survey of parapsychologists' efforts to explore the authenticity and bases of anomalous, apparently paranormal phenomena. It outlines the origins of parapsychological research and critically reviews investigations of extrasensory perception, psychokinesis, poltergeist phenomena, near-death and out-of-body experiences, and the evaluation of parapsychology as a scientific enterprise.

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Irwin (psychology, Univ. of New England in Australia) wrote this book as a textbook, and it shows. Each chapter ends with a list of terms and study questions, and though coverage is similar to many other surveys in the field, the extremely academic style makes it much less readable. Further, the bibliography consists largely of articles in periodicals, many dating from before 1980 and probably unavailable except in universities with a parapsychology department of long years' standing. Surprisingly, many notables are not listed in the Index of Names, including James, Hyslop, Ducasse, Piper, Bro, Garrett, and Cayce. All in all, not of value to public libraries in this country.

- Jeanne Bagby, formerly with Tucson P.L. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

#### Review

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"Fills the gap because it is up to date, formally written, and wide in scope...a particularly useful resource for students and teachers alike...as a textbook, Irwin's book is the best of its kind." --Journal of the American Society for Psychical Research

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#### About the Author

Harvey J. Irwin, an internationally recognized parapsychologist, is a retired associate professor in psychology at the University of New England, Australia. Former President of the Parapsychological Association, Caroline A. Watt is a senior lecturer in psychology at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

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