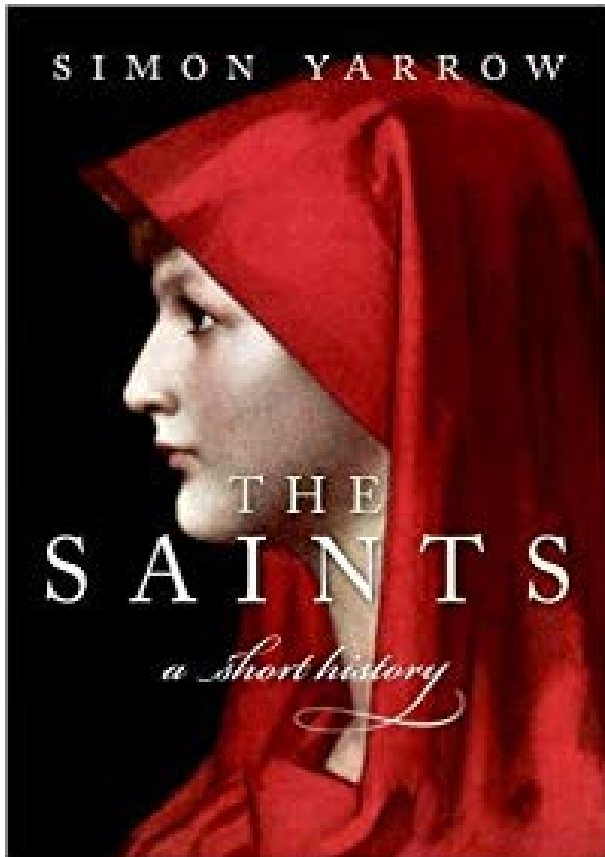


The Saints: A Short History



Pages:	160
Genre:	Religion
Author:	Simon Yarrow
ISBN13:	9780198784388
Goodreads Rating:	3.33
Published:	December 1st 2016 by Oxford University Press, USA
ISBN10:	0198784384

[The Saints: A Short History.pdf](#)

[The Saints: A Short History.epub](#)

The saints form a huge part of our world's history, on both a religious and secular level. Their shrines have attracted millions of pilgrims throughout the centuries, and their relics continue to be venerated today. In North America, even atheists and non-Christians know to bury a statue of St. Joseph in their yards for a quick sale of their property. On February 14th, the love-struck and lonely-hearted of the world declare their crushes with a card or gifts to the object of their affections, signing in the name of St. Valentine. But how did people become saints? What role does sainthood continue to play in our institutional beliefs and traditions? And how does their significance in the Christian ideology translate into other cultures and belief systems? *The Saints: A Short History* explores the treatment of saints in literature and art and the way they have been used in politics, analyzing them as examples of idealized male and female heroism.

Simon Yarrow considers the similarities between Christian Saints and holy figures in other religious cultures, including Islam, Buddhism and Hinduism, and asks whether and how saints continue to be a powerful presence in the modern world. In nine succinct chapters, Simon Yarrow introduces the origins of sainthood and sanctity and examines the part the saints have played in our society and culture, from the ancient world to the modern day.