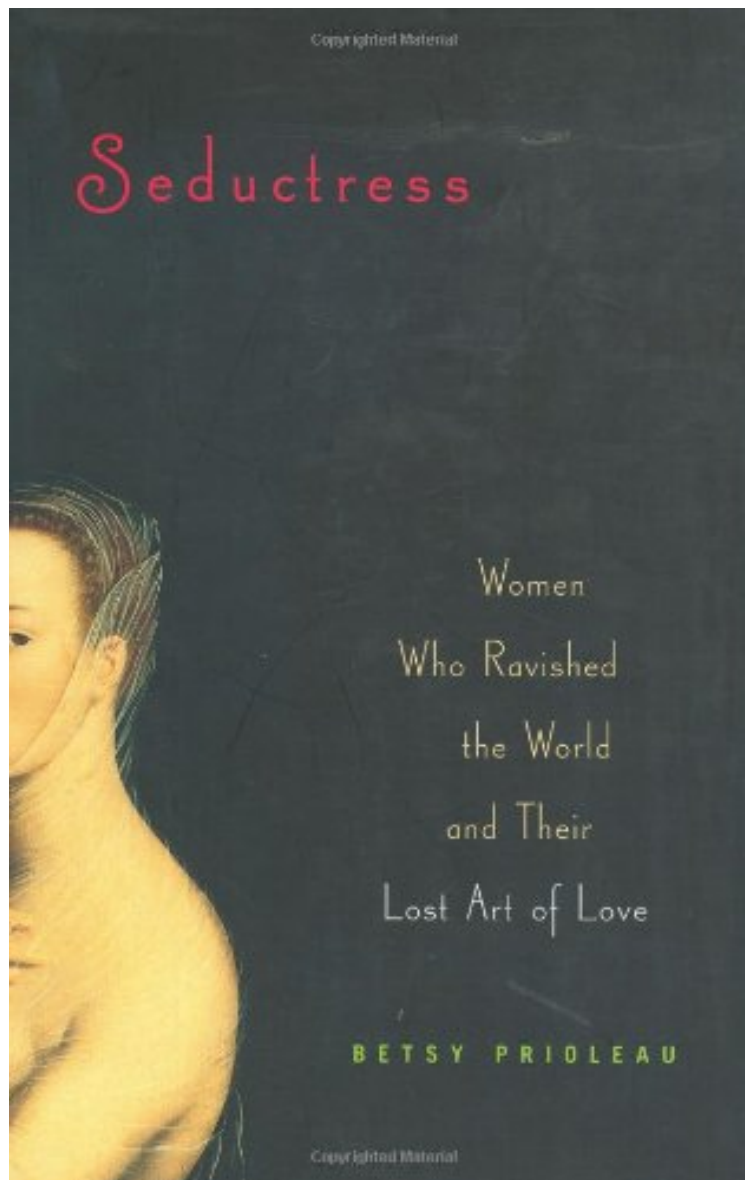


(Free) Seductress: Women Who Ravished the World and Their Lost Art of Love

## Seductress: Women Who Ravished the World and Their Lost Art of Love

*Betsy Prioleau*

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CuriousForCompassion Beautiful stories of women goddesses and women that need to be a part of the human and societal psyche. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. READ THIS BOOK By Nannette LaRee Hernandez You need to read this book if you want to see how to truly seduce a man. It is a lie and a myth that Cleopatra was a beauty or that Mata Hari was a sexy siren---what made women like this irresistible to men, was HOW THEY USED THEIR BRAINS. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Brigitte Nioche Very informative but not an easy read

How did the seductresses of western history love-addle men and keep them in their pockets for life? The surprising answers explode all the myths. Instead of dim blondes or shark-hearted vamps, the top fascinators were nonbeauties, older women, and swanky artists, intellectuals, politicians, and adventurers. Each chapter in Prioleau's bold, inspiring book recounts the sexy stories of these love maestras--some familiar like Cleopatra, Lola Montez, and Wallis Simpson; others less so, like the infamous Violet Gordon Woodhouse, who lived in a menage with four men. With their alpha personhood and their joint mastery of love and work, these seductresses practiced an ancient, long-forgotten erotic art that is 99 percent mental sorcery--a cocktail of wit, eloquence, and joie de vivre. Prioleau's thrilling, thorough, and engaging analysis of these women supplies all the voltage necessary to upend every regressive how-to primer and shows the women of today--mired in an epic crisis of confidence--how to recoup their sexual birthright and achieve combine romantic and personal success.

From Publishers Weekly Prioleau's captivating debut is a fervid self-help tract well-disguised as a history. "Seductresses are in fact the liberated women incarnate," asserts the author in her opening chapter. "They're the stealth heroines of history. The first feminists." It's a persuasive argument, which Prioleau pounds home with massive fists full of quotations, attributions and texts from anthropology, religion, psychology, history, art, literature, music and anything else she can get her hyperintellectual hands on. Modern women have lost their goddess-centered groove, the Manhattan College professor asserts, and as a consequence the entire race is going to hell in a male-dominated, bimbo-focused handbasket. If only women would search their collective unconscious for their archetypal Goddess roots, they'd realize modern feminism has rendered them joyless, and the reality TV/Barbie look-alike trends are hokey. Rather, women of any age (there's a chapter on "silver foxes") or looks (another chapter on "homely sirens") are multiorgasmic, brilliant, joyous power mavens who possess everything to bring a man to his willing knees and keep both genders happy and sated. Telling wonderfully peripatetic tales of self-possessed sirens and seductresses throughout the eons, Prioleau makes a strong case for women to take back their ancestral birthright of sexy wholeness (though the problems of non-middle-class women, like poverty, among others, never enter her worldview). Whether one buys her argument or not, it's wildly engaging reading and faultless scholarship. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. Prioleau is almost incapable of writing a dreary sentence... Delightful philosophy and wickedly wonderful advice. (USA Today) Prioleau has gathered together history's sexiest vixens and given them a delicious voice. (Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel) About the Author Betsy Prioleau was raised in a Southern belle culture in Richmond, Virginia, before going on to earn a Ph.D. from Duke University. She has been a scholar-in-residence at NYU and a professor at Manhattan College.