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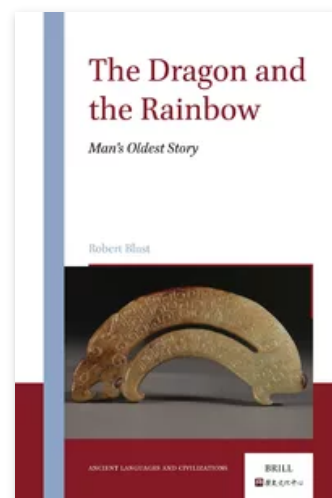
## The Dragon and the Rainbow

Man's Oldest Story

Author: Robert Blust

Modernization and conversion to world religions are threatening the survival of traditional belief systems, leaving behind only mysterious traces of their existence. This book, based upon extensive research conducted over a period of nearly four decades, brings scientific rigor to one of the questions that have always attracted human curiosity: that of the origin of the dragon.

The author demonstrates that both dragons and rainbows are cultural universals, that many of the traits that are attributed to dragons in widely separated parts of the planet are also attributed to rainbows, and that the number and antiquity of such shared traits cannot be attributed to chance or common inheritance, but rather to common cognitive pathways by which human psychology has responded to the natural environment in a wide array of cultures around the world.



Pages: xxviii, 339 pp.

Language: English

Publisher: Brill

Series:

[Ancient Languages and Civilizations](#), Volume: 5

E-Book (PDF)

Publication: 21 Aug 2023

ISBN: 978-90-04-67830-9

Hardback

Publication: 24 Aug 2023

ISBN: 978-90-04-67829-3

USD \$99.00

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## Biographical Note

**Robert Blust** (1940-2022) was a Professor of Linguistics at University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. He was, and continues to be, the preeminent scholar of Austronesian comparative linguistics. An enormously prolific scholar, Blust had nearly 300 publications. In addition to being a world-famous linguist, he was also an avid writer of poetry.

## Readership

Blust's treatment of the ethnology of the rainbow and the demonstration of its relationship to the dragon idea has a global reach and will appeal to a broad audience. Moreover, it is written in prose that makes it accessible to the general reader. It will surely be of great interest to folklorists, mythologists and cultural anthropologists open to addressing culture universals, and likely to generate considerable interest to cognitive scientists, evolutionary psychologists, evolutionary biologists, or anyone interested in the evolution of human cognition.

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