



A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America)

By T.J. Tomlin



Download



Read Online

A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin

A Divinity for All Persuasions uncovers the religious significance of early America's most ubiquitous popular genre. Other than a Bible and perhaps a few schoolbooks and sermons, almanacs were the only printed items most Americans owned before 1820. Purchased annually, the almanac was a calendar and astrologically-based medical handbook surrounded by poetry, essays, anecdotes, and a variety of practical information.

Employing a wealth of archival material, T.J. Tomlin analyzes the pan-Protestant sensibility distributed through the almanac's pages between 1730 and 1820. By disseminating a collection of Protestant concepts regarding God's existence, divine revelation, the human condition, and the afterlife, almanacs played an unparalleled role in early American religious life. Influenced by readers' opinions and printers' pragmatism, the religious content of everyday print supports an innovative interpretation of early American cultural and religious history. In sharp contrast to a historiography centered on intra-Protestant competition, Tomlin shows that most early Americans relied on a handful of Protestant "essentials" rather than denominational specifics to define and organize their religious lives.



[Download A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early ...pdf](#)



[Read Online A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Ear ...pdf](#)

A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America)

By T.J. Tomlin

A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin

A Divinity for All Persuasions uncovers the religious significance of early America's most ubiquitous popular genre. Other than a Bible and perhaps a few schoolbooks and sermons, almanacs were the only printed items most Americans owned before 1820. Purchased annually, the almanac was a calendar and astrologically-based medical handbook surrounded by poetry, essays, anecdotes, and a variety of practical information.

Employing a wealth of archival material, T.J. Tomlin analyzes the pan-Protestant sensibility distributed through the almanac's pages between 1730 and 1820. By disseminating a collection of Protestant concepts regarding God's existence, divine revelation, the human condition, and the afterlife, almanacs played an unparalleled role in early American religious life. Influenced by readers' opinions and printers' pragmatism, the religious content of everyday print supports an innovative interpretation of early American cultural and religious history. In sharp contrast to a historiography centered on intra-Protestant competition, Tomlin shows that most early Americans relied on a handful of Protestant "essentials" rather than denominational specifics to define and organize their religious lives.

A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin **Bibliography**

- Rank: #4023692 in eBooks
- Published on: 2014-09-01
- Released on: 2014-09-01
- Format: Kindle eBook

 [Download A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Ear ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin

Editorial Review

Review

"A significant contribution to early American religious and book history, *A Divinity for All Persuasions* is historiographically ambitious, intensively researched, and well written. It deserves to be read as the authoritative book on the subject of early American almanacs."--*Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*

"The remarkable breadth of Tomlin's reading is the book's greatest strength...*A Divinity for All Persuasions* is impressive in its careful archival research and persuasive in its argument...Tomlin takes this often-overlooked piece of the print sphere seriously as an object of study, and in so doing reveals the complex forces at work in this humble piece of the early American archive. The book will appeal to scholars interested in a richly textured understanding of early American print culture, especially those who find debates over theological nuance too elitist, and who are searching instead for some measure of the intellectual currents circulating in the tavern as opposed to the pulpit."--*Early American Literature*

"*A Divinity for All Persuasions* provides a fresh interpretation of almanacs Tomlin's close reading of almanacs reveals an important and often overlooked means of conveying and reinforcing biblical teachings among a wide readership. In a fresh and persuasive interpretation of almanacs Tomlin rejects the oft repeated assessment that almanacs were filled with superstitions, the occult, and magic that reflected a non-Christian element in colonial popular religion Tomlin has made an important contribution to our understanding of both almanacs and popular religion."--*Reviews in American History*

"[Tomlin's] advocacy for almanacs as data for analyzing popular thought in early America is an accomplishment."--*Journal of American History*

"A survey of almanacs from the colonial era to the early nineteenth century... [W]onderfully presented."--*Religion in American History*

"Tomlin offers a fresh, most welcome reading of almanacs as a unique window onto early America's pan-Protestant religious sensibility. Rather than consigning almanacs to 'secular' or 'occult' popular print undeserving of serious scholarly attention, Tomlin offers a nuanced reading of 2,000 almanacs, many of which have been underutilized by scholars despite their preservation in major archives. Tomlin's findings will fascinate and inform students of early American religion and print culture." --Candy Gunther Brown, author of *The Word in the World: Evangelical Writing, Publishing, and Reading in America, 1789-1880*

"T. J. Tomlin will persuade you in his new book, *A Divinity for All Persuasions*, that almanacs mattered."--*Journal of Religion*

"T. J. Tomlin has mastered a genre that sprawls across early America in ways that almost defy analysis. Not in this book, however, which reveals a world of common knowledge about religion or Christianity that may have been more familiar to many Americans than what was being said in sermons and substantial books." --David D. Hall, Harvard Divinity School

"With its long-needed examination of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century almanacs, T.J. Tomlin's *A Divinity for All Persuasions* opens remarkable new perspectives on the religious culture of early America. Tomlin's compelling study of thousands of almanacs - arguably the most pervasive texts in America, aside from the Bible - illuminates the enduring power of the new nation's shared Protestant convictions." --Thomas S. Kidd, Professor of History, Baylor University

"Valuable for their data on the early American environment, economy, politics, society, and family, these quirky-even quaint-colonial texts seldom provide the sustained religious content found in the introspective diaries and journals of prominent figures such as Francis Asbury or Sarah Osborn, the subjects of two outstanding recent biographies. And the seemingly vapid 'filler' content-a wide range of borrowed or penned maxims, poems, essays, and humorous anecdotes-that surrounded the annual calendar pages has rarely been considered on its own and almost never examined for its religious significance. This is the uncharted terrain into which T. J. Tomlin ventures in his concise, beautifully written, painstakingly researched, and carefully argued monograph, *A Divinity for All Persuasions*." --*William and Mary Quarterly*

About the Author

T.J. Tomlin is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Northern Colorado.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Michael Gibson:

This *A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America)* are reliable for you who want to be a successful person, why. The explanation of this *A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America)* can be one of the great books you must have will be giving you more than just simple examining food but feed an individual with information that probably will shock your before knowledge. This book is definitely handy, you can bring it all over the place and whenever your conditions both in e-book and printed ones. Beside that this *A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America)* forcing you to have an enormous of experience like rich vocabulary, giving you test of critical thinking that we understand it useful in your day pastime. So , let's have it and revel in reading.

William Phillips:

The book A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) will bring you to the new experience of reading some sort of book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book you just read, this book very ideal to you. The book A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can more easily to read the book.

Tracy Painter:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray you actually, why because this A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) reserve written by well-known writer we are excited for well how to make book which might be understand by anyone who also read the book. Written within good manner for you, still dripping wet every ideas and composing skill only for eliminate your own hunger then you still question A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) as good book not just by the cover but also by the content. This is one e-book that can break don't judge book by its handle, so do you still needing one more sixth sense to pick that!? Oh come on your reading through sixth sense already alerted you so why you have to listening to a different sixth sense.

Mattie Martin:

Reading a e-book make you to get more knowledge from it. You can take knowledge and information from your book. Book is written or printed or created from each source in which filled update of news. Within this modern era like right now, many ways to get information are available for a person. From media social like newspaper, magazines, science book, encyclopedia, reference book, novel and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Ready to spend your spare time to spread out your book? Or just seeking the A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) when you needed it?

**Download and Read Online A Divinity for All Persuasions:
Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America)
By T.J. Tomlin #Q3LS1UIK095**

Read A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin for online ebook

A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin books to read online.

Online A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin ebook PDF download

A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin Doc

A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin Mobipocket

A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life (Religion in America) By T.J. Tomlin EPub