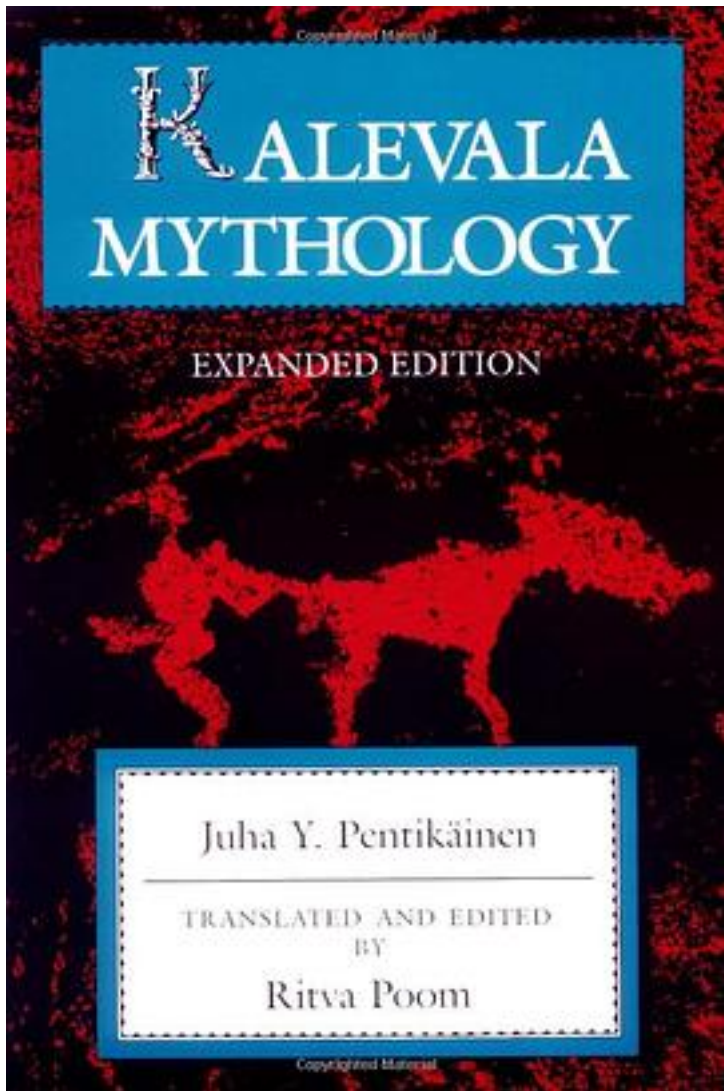


Kalevala Mythology (Folklore Studies in Translation)



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出版者:Indiana University Press

出版时间:1999

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780253213525

'Penttinen's exceptional interdisciplinary study will richly reward those interested in the dynamics of artistic creation and cultural construction, ethnic emergence and political nationalism, and shamanistic belief systems' - Robert Jarvenpa, "American Anthropologist". 'A splendid contribution to the literature on folk epics and is highly relevant in the study of comparative literature and folkloristics' - "The Scandinavian-American Bulletin". "'Kalevala Mythology" is fluently translated by Ritva Poom and is expertly and imaginatively illustrated. Folklorists and mythologists are indebted to Penttinen for an informative and stimulating book' - Martin Puhvel, "Ethnohistory". "The Kalevala", created during the 1830s and 1840s, is based on folklore collected and compiled by Elias Lönnrot (1802-1884). It was the "Kalevala" that initiated the process leading to the foundation of Finnish identity during the nineteenth century and was one of the factors in the formation of Finland as a nation. "The Kalevala" also sheds light on the general process involved in the formation of other epics, such as the "Nibelungenlied", the "Edda", the "Vedic" books, and Homer's works. This is Penttinen's contribution to the study of international epics relevant to the fields of classics, comparative literature, social history, and, of course, anthropology, and folkloristics.

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