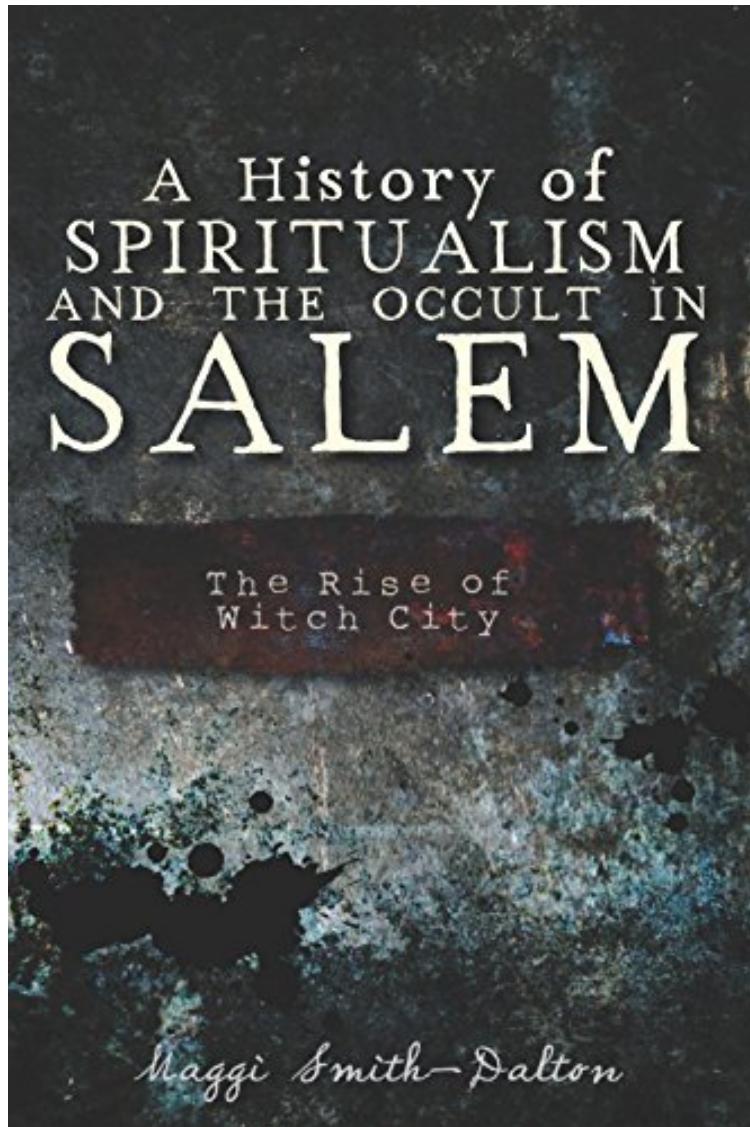


[Download] A History of Spiritualism and the Occult in Salem: The Rise of Witch City

A History of Spiritualism and the Occult in Salem: The Rise of Witch City

Maggi Smith-Dalton
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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Short History. By bookmoviefan There are two Salems that have settled in the collective unconscious: The witch-hanging religious zealots of the 17th century, and the town where witches live freely today and tourists go there for that reason. In the 19th century, Salem found itself once again in the

supernatural spotlight. Most of the book covers the people who pioneered the then-popular spiritualistic activities such as seances, table tipping, and automatic writing. But what is it about this geographical area that seems to engender the weird and strange and unusual? That's a book I'd like to read!

Salem, Massachusetts, is the quintessential New England town, with its cobbled streets and strong ties to the sea. With the notoriety of the Salem witch trials, the city's reputation has been irrevocably linked to the occult. However, few know the history behind the religion of Spiritualism and the social movement that took root in this romanticized land. At the turn of the century, seers, mediums and magnetic healers all hoped to connect to the spiritual world. The popularity of Spiritualism and renewed interest in the occult blossomed out of an attempt to find an intellectual and emotional balance between science and religion. Learn of early converts, the role of the venerable Essex Institute and the psychic legacy of "Moll" Pitcher. Historian Maggi Smith-Dalton delves into Salem's exotic history, unraveling the beginnings of Spiritualism and the rise of the Witch City.

About the Author
Maggi Smith-Dalton is a prize-winning short story writer, and she has written hundreds of feature articles and columns for magazines and newspapers. In 2010 she began writing a weekly history column for the *Boston Globe*.