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The Return of the Cane: A Natural History of the Walking Stick

By van den Broek, Gerard J.

International Books. 1 Cloth(s), 2007. hard. Book Condition: New. Not merely a study of walking sticks as antiques and collectibles, this beautifully illustrated little book explores the cane as a tool, a weapon, and a mark of power, and describes myths and symbols associated with sticks and canes in millennia of human culture. Batons, clubs, dueling sticks, scepters, staffs, and magic wands are depicted and discussed, revealing an ancient association of sticks with authority, piety, strength, wisdom, and the supernatural. The book includes a chapter devoted to famous canes in history, literature, and entertainment, from the abacus of the Knights Templar to the bamboo of Charlie Chaplin, from a poacher's stick with hidden fishing barbs to French canes with erotic carvings on their ivory handles. 120.



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