

With the great interest there is today in the subconscious, dreams are now more than ever being analysed. There are many types of dreams and these are all very well explained in this most interesting volume. The explanations of dreams offered are of course not the final word.

In the end the dreamer will know best what the dream can mean. But, with the help of this very nicely illustrated tome we could enlarge our understanding of the meaning of dreams. "For a woman to dream of receiving a necklace, omens for her a loving husband and a beautiful home. To lose a necklace she will feel the heavy hand of bereavement. To dream of travelling on the wrong train denotes that you have chosen the wrong path or direction in your life. Carefully evaluate your situation to find the correct road".

All the dream explanations are as simple as these two examples, so this book is a good primer. One can easily see that a tremendous amount of effort was invested in the production of this work and would do most admirably as a coffee table book for one's guests to leaf through and derive great benefit from.

R.H.



THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS, and the FIRST CHRISTIANS
Essays and Translations by Robert Eisenman, Co-author of the international bestseller, "The Dead Sea Scrolls Uncovered" (sales to date 300,000 copies worldwide). Published by Element Books, hardback, 449 pages, £19.99.

This is a book for extremely serious students who enjoy an intellectual challenge, and will feel at home in erudite scholastic works. It is not for a quick read nor a source of sensational revelations; yet it is of inestimable worth and can easily be placed into the category of stunning and stupendous. *The Times* says "... sheds sensational new light ..."

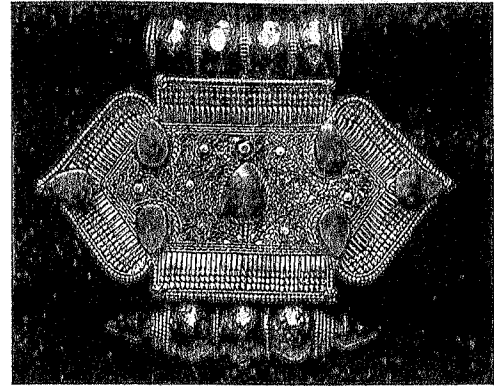
One of the benefits of this volume is to bury the lie that the early Christians lived simple undemanding lives and that there were no strong minded intellectuals among them. On the contrary, the whole of the gospels reveals a huge depth of thought. The past is far more complicated than many can give credit to, and what a fine thing that is. We need the scholars and we need intellectual appraisal, for without the intellect we sink into a morass. Robert Eisenman's contribution is phenomenal. A paper is appended, given at the Society of Biblical Literature in 1994, entitled "The Final Proof that James and the Righteous Teacher are the Same". This volume is most definitely not for two dimensional fundamentalists or televangelists, who prefer shallow 'history'. Robert Eisenman is the professor of Middle East religions and the Chair of the Religious Studies Department at California State University, London Beach. He was the leading figure in the worldwide campaign to gain access to the Scrolls.

S.P.



GOLD JEWELRY FROM TIBET AND NEPAL
By Jane Casey Singer. Published by Thames and Hudson, large hardback volume, 145 pages, £19.95.

There are 110 magnificent illustrations, 100 in colour. The jewelry shown to us is truly magnificent and of great craftsmanship. It exudes spirituality and civilised refinement. Until recently Himalayan jewelry had not been systematically studied, but this book "offers an overview of the subject, exploring how jewelry was defined and appreciated in the



Amulet box, gold, Turquoise, glass

Himalayan region, its material and manufacture and its social and symbolic functions". A rare treasure chest of great splendour.

R.H.



THE HEALTHY HOUSE, Creating a safe, healthy and environmentally friendly home

By Sydney and Joan Baggs. Published by Thames and Hudson, large softback, 256 pages, £19.95.

More and more people want to live in a healthy home, from the choice of a salubrious location — which includes an appreciation of sound, sight and smell, to noise factors. The authors describe the ideal form for the healthy house. Feng Shui is, of course, also top of the list for a happy lifestyle. An excellent section on design principles will help you to your own safe and healthy home. Gardens aren't forgotten either and we are regaled to many and varied ideas. All in all a most helpful book for those wanting to live in a healthy home. One doesn't have to move away and find a new plot of land; one can readjust some of the features of one's present-day home. To live in a perfect 'Queen Anne' residence, or a Georgian townhouse doesn't mean that one is automatically happy in them. What future mankind is searching for, and will get, is a residence wherein the soul and spirit of the inhabitants are released for health and happiness. This fine book is full of serious hints to achieve this.

R.H.



CATHEDRALS OF THE SPIRIT, The Message of Sacred Places

By T.C. McLuhan. Published by Thorsons/HarpersCollins. Hardback, 306 pages, £14.99.

The profusely illustrated book (black and white) helps us to get close to nature in our meditative moments, and this may give us the opportunity to explore our environments and see the beauty of the world. The book is supplemented with excellent quotes, such as, "If nature is your teacher, your soul will awaken" (Goethe's *Faust*). From the ancient Buddhist philosopher we learn, "Here, my brothers, are the roots of trees, here are empty places; meditate".

People need to find sacred places in nature for private contemplation and meditation. If nothing else we will awaken to the importance of nature's magnificence, in trees, stones and landscape in general. We are part of that nature. The quote by John Muir (1818-1914), naturalist and conservationist is