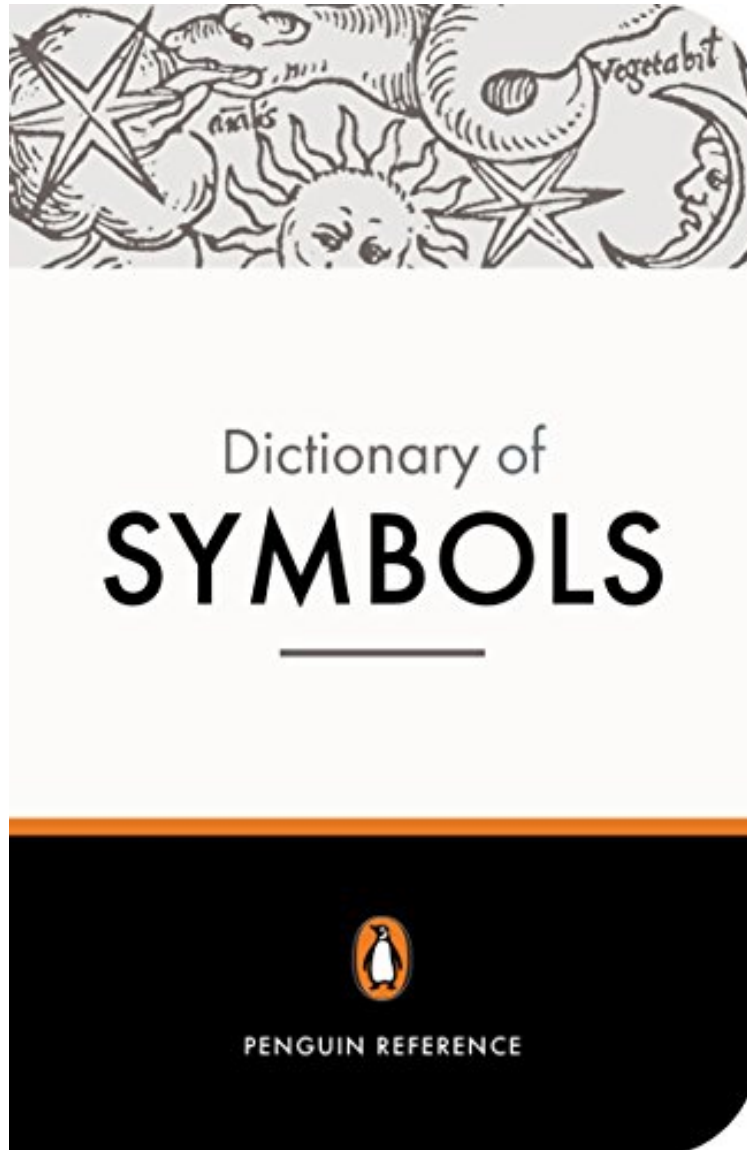


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## The Penguin Dictionary of Symbols (Dictionary, Penguin)

*Jean Chevalier, Alain Gheerbrant*  
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#41696 in Books Jean Chevalier 1997-03-01 1997-03-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.80 x 2.01 x 5.101, 1.78 #File Name: 01405125431184 pages The Dictionary of Symbols | File size: 43.Mb

**Jean Chevalier, Alain Gheerbrant : The Penguin Dictionary of Symbols (Dictionary, Penguin)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Penguin Dictionary of Symbols (Dictionary, Penguin):

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Newer dictionaries with pictures are great, but this is the one I always return to. By Quadradox I purchased my first copy 10 years ago and have been working with my dream symbols for nearly 20 years. I've been enticed to purchase newer ones since then with photos and graphics ( I now have nearly a

dozen symbol dictionaries) -- thus I am clearly drawn to these things. However, I find there is always a trade off. Publishing costs and space taken up for these visuals means less text and less substance. So while I have an initial pleasure in perusing the ones with pictures I often find these don't really have anything to do with my dream images -- they are indeed usually intriguing works of art but not particularly helpful for serious symbol analysis. Thus the most consistently helpful symbol book, to which I always return when I seriously want to know a range of possibilities for my dream images or concepts is the Penguin Dictionary of Symbols by Chevalier, Gheerbrant and Buchanan-Brown. The authors have done a monumental work bringing so much substance to it, managed to remain relevant for decades even though it was first published in France in 1969 with the second edition in 1982, and by now reading it is like coming home. A another benefit of being all text (seriously the text is not that hard to read, the print is of excellent quality with crisp deliniations between entries, references, etc.) is that the act of researching my dream images does not itself start interfering with the memory of my own visual image, as pictures might. To each his own preference ... but for persons more experienced in working with dreams, I think the substance here will be recognized as highly valuable.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great resource  
By Jane L. Mickelson  
This was the second time I've given the Penguin Dictionary of Symbols as a gift to a friend. My copy is very well used and remains on a shelf reachable from my desk. I recommend this book very highly; a perfect resource for authors, scholars, artists, and anyone delving into the deeper meaning of things.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is one of my all time favorite books. This is an excellent, scholarly well researched book written decades ago and still relevant today. I previously had purchased a paperback version and wore it out after about 9 years, so I bought another and again wore it out after about 9 years. I did find an almost new hardback which I expect will last longer. You can look up just about any symbol and the information will cover what it symbolized for different cultures, religions, and even psychology. It's like learning a new language.

This remarkable and wide-ranging book is an inventory of symbols and the symbolic imagination. The editors and their fifteen contributors are drawn from a variety of scholarly backgrounds including anthropology, ethnology, psychotherapy and art history. This diversity of approach is responsible for the book's unique character, a reflection of the multiplicity of symbols and signs and the phenomenal range of possible interpretations they offer. This book draws together folklore, literary and artistic sources, and focuses on the symbolic dimension of every colour, number, sound, gesture, expression or character trait that has benefitted from symbolic interpretation. The conscious and unconscious minds are explored, desire and dreams are treated alongside the known and the chronicled. Extraordinary in its range and eclecticism, this dictionary was originally published in French as the *Dictionnaire des Symboles*, and it is regarded as the standard work on the subject.

Language Notes  
Text: English Original Language: French  
About the Author  
Jean Chevalier (1906-1993) was a French writer, philosopher, and theologian. Until 1964, he was director of the Bureau of Relations for Member States at UNESCO, a post he left to research and write *Dictionnaire des symboles* with famed explorer Alain Gheerbrant. A compendium of more than 1,600 articles about the symbolism of myths, dreams, colors, habits, etc., found in folklore and mythology, this encyclopedia of cultural anthropology is published as *The Penguin Dictionary of Symbols* in English.

Alain Gheerbrant (1920-2013) was a French writer, editor, and explorer. He was the founding editor of *Kiteur*, which published works by Antonin Artaud, Georges Bataille, and Aim Csaire. In 1948, he left France with his team to explore a dense part of the , including Sierra Parima, and wrote of his travels in *L'Expdition Ornoque-e* (1952). In 1982, in collaboration with author Jean Chevalier, he published *Dictionnaire des symboles* (*The Penguin Dictionary of Symbols* in English), an encyclopedia of cultural anthropology about the symbolism of myths and folklore. He released his memoir called *La Transversale* in 1995.

John Buchanan-Brown is a long-established and gifted translator of French books. He is best known for his translations of *The Penguin Dictionary of Symbols* by Alain Gheerbrant and Jean Chevalier and *The Secret of the Missing Boat* by Paul Berna.