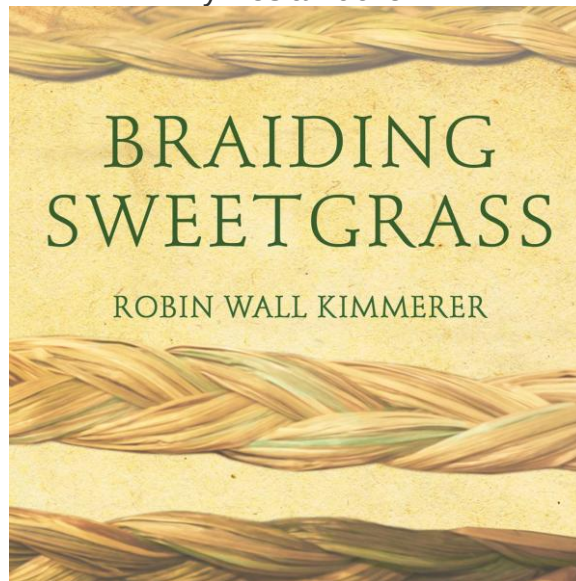


An Annotated Bibliography
By Kesia Tucker



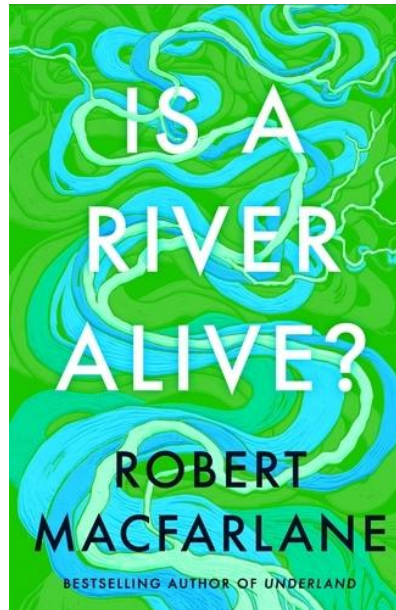
Kimmerer, R.W. (2013). *Braiding Sweetgrass. Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants*. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Milkweed Editions.

KEY BOOK

Summary - This resource is about eco-feminism intertwined with science and indigenous wisdom, the author argues about our place in the world and our relationship to it, by looking at the effect we have on the natural world in both positive and negative connotations.

Evaluation - I find the authors arguments very convincing, as she is very inquisitive, nostalgic, and honest about where she has learnt new lessons and where she has gathered knowledge. Arguments mainly focus on our effect on the world seeking both the collaborations we have from harvesting methods, spreading seeds, being mindful of invasive species, to being mindful of our human ignorance and greed.

Connection - This research helped me to understand that the culture in which you are raised can have a big impact on how you interact, see and understand the world in its natural form. It's useful to me to read about another women's point of view that has deep ties to nature from another part of the world and the difficulties she's encountered and how I relate, as well as her take on using natural recourses and weaving with sweetgrass, willow and ash bark. This resource fits in with other resources I've used as it's a different perspective to what a lot of human beings see and analyse. The writer shows a different side to the same coin. It raises questions in me about how I would educate my children, what I'd want to teach them, and how I'd want to encourage their relationships with nature. Lastly it prompts consideration about how collaboration and knowledge can help find partnerships in strange places, and when you take away demand and stress of money and profits and simplify things, be grateful for all its parts, nothing goes to waste.



Macfarlane, R. (2025). *Is a River Alive?* Random House.

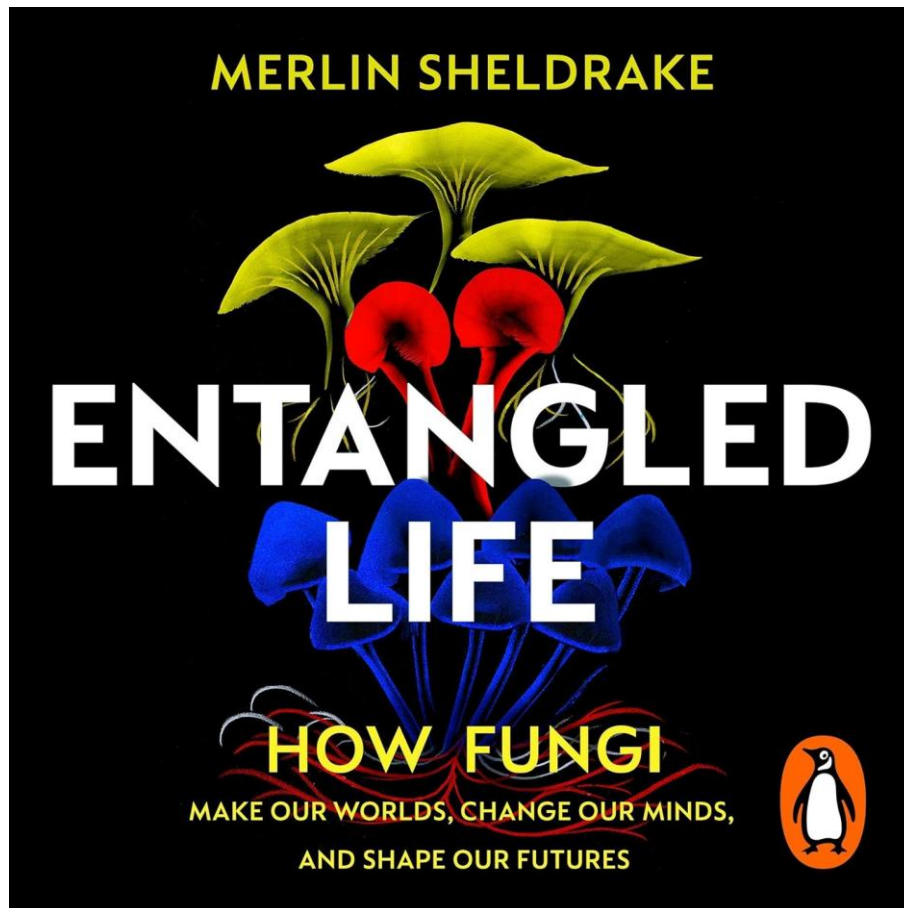
RESEARCH BOOK

To summarise - this book is to elaborate on the title, it is about giving our waters names, veins, muscles, a pulse and bring discussion to how our rivers are a living organism and can be better treated. Giving it living characteristics to tackle how we view our planet focusing on its waters as an being instead of an object. Macfarlane uses life adventures with people from different paths that have found something special and personal about their interactions with nature, showing different view points, fuelling investigative workings, creativity and sharing knowledge.

Evaluation - I found arguments to be very convincing and well investigated. Great strength in language and synonyms and puns. In other reviews, some have not enjoyed the writing style, but I feel this book has a better flow than his previous books such as *Wild Places* (2020) or *Underlay* (2020). Strengths lay in building knowledge, ecological fact and merging creative writing and an awareness of community and joining forces with people that share these concerns. Weaknesses in argument would be things like depth of coverage of environmental issues and whether this book provides a clear way of animating rivers to successfully create awareness, discussions and action.

Connection - This resource helps me because it explores the mix between creative writing, adventure, self-awareness, interaction and activism. whilst shedding light on situations closer to home like issues on the River Wye that are important for our future and where we can potentially make more of an impact. It raises questions about how we should view the natural world as an entity.

"A river is alive because it contains life, gives life and dies." – quote by Macfarlane @ talk in Hay on Wye, Literary festival.

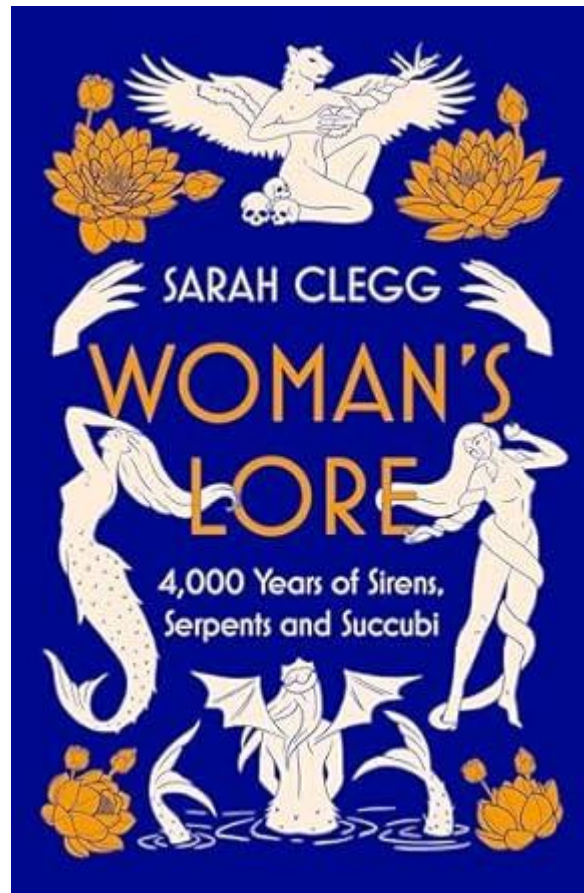


Sheldrake, M. (2020). *Entangled Life: How Fungi Make Our Worlds, Change Our Minds and Shape Our Futures*. S.L.: The Bodley Head Ltd.

RESEARCH BOOK

Summary - This resource focuses on the unseen small but mighty, ecological world of fungi. I have both read and listened to this book and find the audiobook to be on another level (read by author adding emphasis and passion where you might have missed this just reading). Sheldrake uses his experiments and exploration to learn everything he can about this amazing organism and bringing great knowledge about something that little was known about. I really enjoy the fact that fungi connects the world and its place in the cycle of life of all things. Sheldrake uses things like the fermentation of apples to make cider using yeast, or effects of LSD, or his intensive studies in the rainforests of Panama to support and fuel his arguments.

evaluation and connection - I don't find any weaknesses in this book it has filled me with knowledge and helped too really open my eyes to human experience and connection of and to our world. This resource helps me connect to knowledge and fact that isn't out of my reach and I find it hard to understand. Sheldrake is a very intellectual man, but he makes his research accessible and enchanting to his readers. It raises questions such as, will fungi evolve to outlive us, it was here before us and shall be after, but I must wonder what that world would look like.



Clegg, S. (2023). *Woman's Lore*. Bloomsbury Publishing.

KEY BOOK

Summery - Clegg has a PhD in the ancient history of Mesopotamia, she has learnt to read Arabic, Greek, Sumerian, Akkadian and Latin and has written a few similar books. She has so much passion in discovering things about lore, I had the pleasure of listening to her talk and read part of her work at the Hay Literary festival. This resource is about women in folklore and represented in a feministic way, figures like Lilith, Lamiae, Sirens, Medusa, sorcerers and female monsters. Stories rewritten about monsters become symbols in the present as misunderstood or used as representation of being different. Clegg explains history of the lores supporting newer talks and notions about how these tales have been used to elevate gender roles and cultural identity, body horror, male gaze and objectification of women in art and humanities.

Evaluation - The authors arguments I find compelling, an interesting play on the old ways to the new. Researching rears that have passed through centuries and how womanhood has been defined and intertwined with the complexity of monsters.

Connection - This resource helps me greatly in finding strength in parts of myself I had not appreciated enough to consider, where the monster in me is hiding. There is freedom in acknowledging our demons.



Sutcliffe, J. (2021). *Magic*. MIT Press.

ANTHOLOGY BOOK

Summary - Magic writings of contemporary art by Whitechapel is a great way of reading lots of short pieces of amazing writing in your chosen subject area in this case magic. I like how you can read a little and continue if the subject matter is intriguing to you and useful to your research. Lots of elements of magic are covered and are discussed in this book and a number of supporting arguments to each of those notions making it a good source for finding a range of sources within contemporary art and thoughts people have felt towards the subject, be it through music, dance, video games, physiology, physics, sorcery etc.

Evaluation and connection - I found some individual sources more convincing than others and more strengths in arguments relating to music, philosophies and Lthell Colquhoun but I believe that to be personal preference. I find understanding in this recourse by being able to see what i connect with and to see a lot of different perspectives in one place, it has helped me to understand further that magical unearthly element i search for in art and life. It raises questions such as where does my magic, creation and drive come from and what compels me to a create and how i can further express that through my writing.

Other books considered -

Re/sisters

Arts of living on a damaged planet – editors Anna Tsing, Heather Swanson, Elaine Gang, Nils Bubandt

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