

THE UNEXPLAINED FILES

BOOK TWELVE

ANCIENT GODS, GIANTS AND FORGOTTEN LEGENDS

THE MYTHS, TEXTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVIDENCE BEHIND HUMANITY'S OLDEST STORIES



ALDEN M. CORVALE

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**ANCIENT GODS,
GIANTS AND
FORGOTTEN LEGENDS**

*The Myths, Texts and Archaeological Evidence Behind
Humanity's Oldest Stories*

ALDEN M. CORVALE

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PUBLISHING NOTE



This is a work of general-interest nonfiction about mythology, ancient texts, archaeology and the history of extraordinary claims. Sacred traditions are discussed respectfully as traditions, while questions of literal historical or biological evidence are evaluated separately. The book does not claim that religious belief can be resolved by archaeology, nor that absence of archaeological confirmation disproves the cultural or spiritual meaning of a tradition.

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PREFACE



Human beings have always told stories about beings larger than life. Some descended from the heavens. Some ruled before ordinary kings. Some were giants who fought the gods, built impossible walls, survived ancient floods or taught humanity the first arts of civilization. Their names change from culture to culture, but the pattern is strikingly persistent.

The persistence of a story, however, is not the same thing as proof that the story happened literally. Myth is a different kind of evidence. It can preserve memories of real places, political systems, disasters, migrations and social values while transforming them into narratives about gods and heroes. It can also create worlds that never existed outside ritual, poetry and imagination. The challenge is learning which kind of claim we are dealing with.

This book follows ancient texts back toward their sources. Mesopotamian gods are examined through cuneiform literature, not internet summaries. The Nephilim and later giant traditions are separated from modern retellings. Greek Titans and Giants are read as mythic beings within Greek cosmology rather than mistaken for a lost biological race. Indigenous traditions from Mesoamerica and Polynesia are approached as living or historically rooted cultural narratives, not as evidence to be detached from the peoples who preserved them.

Every chapter ends with an Evidence Check. The purpose is not to explain away wonder. It is to protect it from bad evidence. The past is strange enough without inventing facts for it.