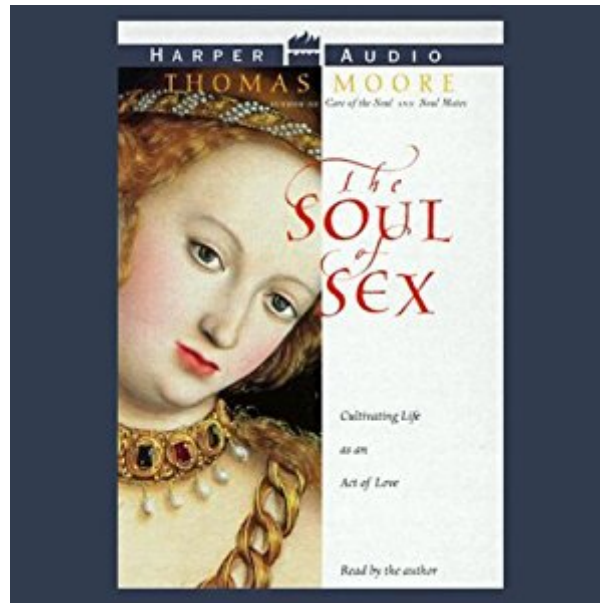


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# The Soul Of Sex: Cultivating Life As An Act Of Love



## Synopsis

In our age of science and psychology, it's tempting to think of human sexuality in terms of biology and interpersonal relationships. But in "The Soul of Sex", Thomas Moore regards sex as an experience of the soul and emphasizes the themes of fantasy, desire, meaning and morality. Turning to religion, mythology, literature, rites, stories and visual imagery he explores the theme of sex as one of the most profound mysteries of life. Blending rather than opposing spirituality and sexuality, he aims to offer a fresh, livable way of becoming more deeply sexual and loving in all areas of life. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In the introduction to his book, *The Soul of Sex: Cultivating Life as an Act of Love*, Thomas Moore writes about Sigmund Freud's principal that: "we display outrageously and obsessively that which we do not fully possess or have deeply at our disposal. If we are displaying sex with unseemly exaggeration and preoccupation, then we have not found the heart of sex and made it a fully integrated part of individual and social life." Freud's statement appealed to Moore because he can see both the irony and reality of this state of nature. That given, Moore himself can not resist the pun "...we need more sex, not less, but we need sex with soul. If we are to believe and follow in Moore's teachings we must look to Eros and find the sexuality in all things. Moore gives us great license in life through, his philosophy to live life in pursuit of the fulfillment of pleasuring our soul. The Soul of Sex will be an extremely useful tool for anyone to use in ministry. What kind of a book do you give Christians to read that is not offensive and yet will stimulate their imaginations to think

creatively about such an intimate topic? Moore's book may not be for all as the subject of sex is not always for all. However, I would suggest using this book as leverage into the mindset of the audience. It has so many great archetypal patterns and examples that can be translated into lively discussion and self-examination. Can we be sexually creative and free and be moral? Can people be sexually active and good Christians? Moore believes we can and that is point. How did we as a culture become so hung up sexually? Where in the bible does it say that we must live with the burden of "puritan morality?" The book will be a resource to reassure those that are questioning their sexuality.

Ironically I found this book to be soul destroying in some of it's attempts to put the soul back into sex. First it has a chapter describing the soul of the phallus and vagina where it describes the mysteries of the vaginal canal and womb as the entrance of pleasure for the penis, which to me was a pretty soulless and western patriarchal male description of the spirit behind a woman's sex organs. Sort of annoying in a book with the purpose of putting back the soul of sex and severely alienating too!! I think this is some of why we've lost our spirituality in the West, we see anything that is still, silent or dark as something made to be filled by the Freudian "Penis-child" Moore mentions in his book. If it's quiet we fill it up with noise, if it's dark we light it, if it's still we pour activity into it. If it's empty it must need filling. A well, a cave are not empty spaces that we need to fill, nor is the darkness of night. They are full all on their own, they are the ultimate reminders of the mystery that is the divine as David Steindler-Rast mentions in his book of hours. Perhaps in light of this it would be more beneficial and soulful to look at the so called empty space of the vagina and womb in this light. Not as something to be filled, but as something that are complete on their own. Something we can learn to appreciate in the same way we can darkness, stillness, and silence. They aren't a place for you to visit or tuck into anymore than the phallus is a location or place you can visit.

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