An Annotated Bibliography of Men's Movement Literature

Compiled for C.E.N.T.E.R. and UUMeN by Daniel Ó Connell

This was the book many were waiting for after Bly's PBS television special with Bill Moyers. Both the PBS special and this 260-page book are reputed to have launched dozens of new UU men's groups. Bly examines the Grimm's fairy tale of Iron Hans to explore some of his thinking and the philosophy of the men's movement. In the book, he tells part of the tale and then provides commentary. He pays particular attention to initiation and mentoring, and points to what constitutes the true masculine. Bly's way of explicating a myth or fairy tale has been successfully adapted for use in many men's group workshops. A classic.

The quintessential book of poetry for the men's movement. Each editor introduces one of the sixteen sections: Bly is a poet, Hillman a Jungian psychologist, and Meade a men's movement leader. The book is about 500 pages with an index of authors and another of first lines: from Rumi to Thoreau to Stevens to Kinnell to, well, the list just goes on and on. There are some women poets represented here also. I use this book for Father's Day and men's issues sermons and services, and for men's group work. Highly recommended.

A first-of-its-kind exploration of how sons prepare for, and cope with, the deaths of their fathers. Based on a landmark national survey of more than 300 men, and in-depth interviews with 70 others. Written for the lay and professional audience by a UU journalist.

An instant hit and a bombshell on the media scene, you can turn to almost any of the 400+ pages in this book and find statistics and new insights into how patriarchy damages men. It's probably the book most quoted by other authors. If you read this book, you may never think the same way about masculinity and patriarchy again. A must for the church library.

A very structured and organized approach to starting and running a men's support group. It is a good introductory book if you have no idea where to begin, and good for its broad set of considerations on keeping a local group going.

Highly recommended. Covers all areas of the men’s movement: mythopoetic, men’s rights, dad’s rights, gender studies, starting and nurturing men’s groups. A great theorist with thought-provoking examples. Excellent breadth.


Michael Meade’s book, now in paperback, is a wonderful, multifaceted look at how one becomes a man by way of several perspectives. He examines eight fairy tales through the lens of initiation and the tempering of men. He reflects on eventful happenings in the 12 years of men’s weekends he has co-led. Excellent.


A foundational text. Moore is a seminary professor at Chicago Theological Seminary and expert in Adlerian and Jungian psychology. I studied with Moore and found a lot in this book and the four sequels (one for each archetype). Particularly useful for thinking about the mature and immature masculine, male psychology, and spiritual development.


I find Keen’s 268 page book a bit simplistic. He tends to talk in broad sweeps about men and sprinkles his discussion with some developmental psychology, opinion poll results, and slightly cliched platitudes. I think Moore and Kipnis do a better job at this kind of thing, but many men have liked this book.


This book has clear essays and questions showing the way—for individuals and groups—toward mature masculinity marked by flexibility, firmness, pain and depth.


A book on how to assist women and men in forging enlivening bonds, what Buddhism calls “right relations” with the other gender. Full of exercises relevant for individual readers as well as inter-gender