

Peasants; Pilgrims; and Sacred Promises: Ritual and the Supernatural in Orthodox Karelian Folk Religion.

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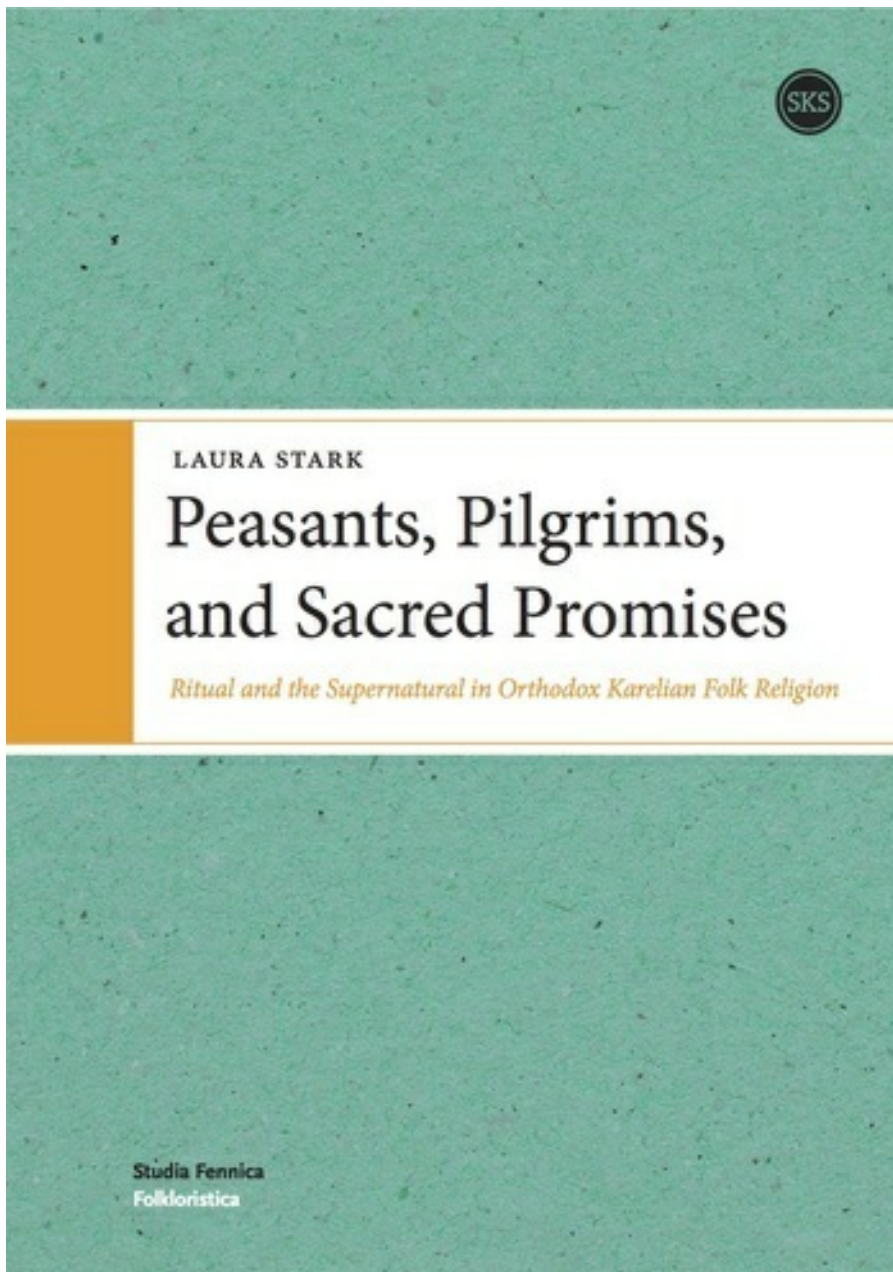
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Abstract Lying on the border between eastern and western Christendom, Orthodox Karelia preserved its unique religion recorded by Finnish and Karelian folklore collectors. This colorful array of rituals and beliefs involving nature's unique fusion of official Church ritual and doctrine and pre-Christian ethnic folk belief. This book undertakes a life: beliefs in supernatural forces, folk models of illness, body concepts, divination, holy icons, the role of the images of forest, the cult of the dead, and the popular image of monasteries and holy hermits. It will appeal to ritual studies, medical anthropology, and the folk traditions and symbolism of the Balto-Finnic peoples.

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