

Neoandertals

"Defleshing The Cadaver Before Burial"

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Two mysteries of creation -- life and death
Their dead were buried, fearing their resurrection

The placement of heavy stone slabs upon their graves
seen as impeding their dead from returning
Neanderthal corpses, tightly flexed, tied with thongs
Interring their dead, performing burial rituals

The defleshing of the body -- a symbolic act --
preventing its spirit from haunting them
Removing flesh to silence the destructive will of nature
removing flesh to see death making its way into the
carcass
removing flesh...
Flesh, doomful like a rapid ghastly river
Cheek muscles from children were filleted out,
tendons were sliced and skulls were cracked to remove
brains
Flaying will silence the vile enemy in the form of the
Neanderthal ghost

Allaying the dead spirits, who possess destructive
powers to the continent

(For thousands of years or more, the shell will see its
ghostly owner nevermore)

(Series of rituals, praising the individual)

Buried together, entire kin groups remained united
after death
Believed in an afterlife, a vision beyond death in their
pre-abstract minds

Artifacts and fauna
guaranteed health in the spirit world...

Defleshing The Cadaver Before Burial, to protect the
living from the undead

Death itself, regarded as a kind of sleep
Corpses arranged in sleeplike positions

Death had become something more than a mere
brutish fact of nature

Leave the rotten meat witnessing the rebirth of an
epoch

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