The Malleus Maleficarum (1486) declared that the four essential points of witchcraft were renunciation of the Catholic faith, devotion of body and soul to evil, offering up unbaptized children to the Devil, and engaging in orgies that included intercourse with the Devil; in addition, witches were accused of shifting their shapes, flying through the air, abusing Christian sacraments, and

Malleus Maleficarum (1486) translated by Montague Summers [1928] This is the best known (i.e., the most infamous) of the witch-hunt manuals. Written in Latin, the Malleus was first submitted to the University of Cologne on May 9th, 1487. The title is translated as “The Hammer of Witches”. Written by James Sprenger and Henry Kramer (of which little is known), the Malleus remained in use for

With the publication of the Malleus maleficarum [The witch's hammer] in the 1480s, demonological theories reached a peak in which witchcraft constituted an independent "antireligion." The witch lost her powerful position vis-a-vis the deities: her ability to force the deities to comply with her wishes was replaced by a total subordination to the devil. In short, the witch became Satan's

Malleus maleficarum, detailed legal and theological document (c. 1486) regarded as the standard handbook on witchcraft, including its detection and its extirpation, until well into the 18th century. Its appearance did much to spur on and sustain some two centuries of witch-hunting hysteria in Europe. The Malleus was the work of two Dominicans: Johann Sprenger, dean of the University of Cologne

In the Malleus Maleficarum (1486, “The Hammer of Witches”), the famous witch-hunter’s manual, Dominicans Heinrich Krämer and Jacob Sprenger associated the practice of sorcery with a group of “witches” who allegedly practiced Satanism.

The Witch of Endor is a woman who, according to the Hebrew Bible, was consulted by Saul to summon the spirit of prophet Samuel in order to receive advice against the Philistines in battle, after prior attempts to consult God through sacred lots and prophets had failed (First Book of Samuel; 1 Samuel 28:3-25). The Witch of Endor is absent from the version of that event recounted in the

One of the most famous symbols of the Inquisition’s witch-craze was the publication of the Malleus Maleficarum (Witches’ Hammer) by Jakob Sprenger and Heinrich Kramer. These two Dominican monks wrote a lurid account of what witches were “really” like and what they “really” did -- an account which would rival modern science fiction in its creativity, not to mention its fictitiousness. It’s …