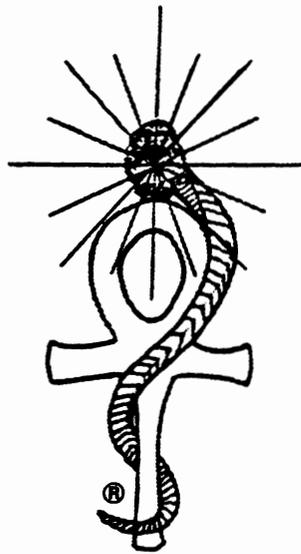


THE BEST OF

THE WHITE LIGHT

IN THIS ISSUE:



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The Middle Years (Vol. 5-9)

ILLUSTRATED

by:

Nelson & Anne White

"THE BEST OF 'THE WHITE LIGHT'"
(The Middle Years, Volumes 5 - 9)

Written, selected and edited By:
NELSON & ANNE WHITE

First Edition

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This book that you hold in your hands, is the second anthology of articles and editorials and so forth from the magazine "*The White Light*". The previous book covered the early years, volumes one through four, and included material from the first year of publication, which is no longer available as back issues.

This present book (The Middle Years: volumes five through nine) is likewise a collection of the more important articles and reviews, although nearly all of the issues represented (as well as others) are still available as back issues, however the price of this anthology is considerably less than the costs of such back issues would be.

Since such a large amount of incorrect information and down-right propaganda is being circulated about the Occult and Magick, and since so much of this material is in the form of books, (alleged to be written by Occultists), both *The White Light* during those years, and this anthology contain a large number of reviews of such books, both good and bad.

It is sometimes more instructive to review a bad book than a good one, and hence negative reviews and critiques do make up a rather large part of this anthology.

As with the preceding anthology, this book does not contain the larger, serialized articles -- some of which have already been released as book in themselves (The Arithmancy article, for example) nor does it contain the large amount of material in the Humor and Satire category. Articles by "outside" authors and students are not represented here either, although at some point in the future we do intend to publish a collection of Student's papers and research reports which have not otherwise been anthologised.

We have tried to select Magickally important articles for this book, and in so doing we have not included much of the material from the newest departments in *The White Light*, the Legal Forum and Current Events. These departments tend to become dated and stale rather quickly, as the legal ramifications of Occultism and Magick are changing very rapidly these days.

For those readers who have not encountered our books and publications before, we have included an information statement about our organization; The Temple of Truth (Abr: T.O.T.), and a sheet labeled "About the Authors" in the back of the book. Also in the back of the book is a rather lengthy list of the other books written, edited or published by us.

This book, like all of the others that we have written or edited, exist solely for the advancement of the Art of Magick and the individual assistance of the independent student of Magick, and to free the student from the greedy grasp of the all too common exploitative organization, Guru, "Master" or "Leader". We have also attempted to assist the student in escaping the equally greedy grasp of the "Establishment" through our "Magick & The Law" series of books.

Whether combating public (official) bigots or private ones, we have tried our best to help Occultists and students of all schools and systems, not just our own particular brand.

As of this writing (Summer 1983), *The White Light* is one of the oldest Magickal periodicals (if not the oldest) presently in existence in the U.S.A. We hope that you will be sufficiently pleased by what you read here, that you will subscribe to *The White Light* and help us continue our fight for Truth, Openness and Progress.

The White Light is presently in its 10th. year of continuous publication, and subscriptions are \$5.00 per year inside the USA, and \$8 per year overseas (airmail).

To those of you who might be tempted to write to us and/or inquire about joining The Temple of Truth, we have to inform you that there is a 3 year waiting list for the T.:O.:T.:, and that letters or questions received WILL NOT BE ANSWERED unless a Stamped, Self-Addressed Envelope (large, #10 size) or 3 International Reply Coupons (for foreign postage) is included with your letter every time. We simply do not have either the time or the money to waste answering un-necessary questions. Likewise, please PRINT or TYPE all correspondence, and do so in ENGLISH. We can't help you if we can't read your writing. Furthermore, our replies can't reach you, if you don't include your complete address and Zip or Post Code.

Due to the extremely large volume of mail that we receive, we can not guarantee to answer each and every letter, even if return postage is included. We will try, but it may take some time before we get around to yours. We are interested in hearing from interested readers and students, both of Ceremonial Magick and other paths. YES, we do seek articles for inclusion in *The White Light*, however NO PAYMENT is offered, and all submissions become the property of the T.:O.:T.:. Our editorial standards are very high, and articles

should be space and a half or double spaced on 8½ x 11 inch paper, typewritten only, 2 to 3 pages in length and should concern Magick or some closely allied field. Poetry and Satire are also solicited. Submissions not including sufficient return postage will not be returned.

Rt. Rev. Dr. Nelson H. White
Rt. Rev. Dr. Anne White
Pasadena, CA, June 1983

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THE LAW IS FOR ALL

By. Alister Crowley,

Ed. By: Israel Regardie

Reviewed By: Rt. Rev. Nelson H. White, D.D.

The good Doctor is in *fine* form and his remarks are both informative, illuminating and humorous. The Stele of Revealing, reproduced in the front of the book, is helpful (color would have been better), but the very much reduced paste-up of Crowley's original handwritten version (from the *Equinox*) is so small as to be useless. The full sized reproductions would be much more useful, if one is a through-going Crowleyite, if not, don't bother.

I feel that the good Doctor is slightly off on several of his comments concerning today's "sub-culture" or "counter-culture" (if you prefer). Dr. Regardie gives me the impression that perhaps he thinks that the "younger generation" is rebelling because of (or as the result of) reading Crowley. Nonsense! Student radicals are not new. Surviving texts from pre-Christian Greece describe *their youth* much as we describe ours: anti-establishment, dirty, loud, immoral, uncouth, etc. etc....

In most Western cultures, the "younger generation" rebels in one form or another, and have for centuries. Crowley himself is a classical case of such rebellion.

Living here in Southern California, with a more or less open door, we see a good many more "radicals" than the good Doctor does, perhaps even sicker ones at that. For the most part, they have *already* rebelled before discovering or being introduced to Crowley, Magick, Witchcraft (what *they* call "Witchcraft" usually something closer to satanism), and so forth.

It is far easier to sit and criticize (or even destroy) the establishment, whatever it may be, than to *create a new one*, especially a new one that *works!*

I quite agree with Dr. Regardie, that the Magickal "drug" varies with the culture, and that in its proper cultural context, such a "drug" may be and frequently is useful.

Crowley, of course, was writing (in 1904) before the modern Organic/Chemical Revolution occurred, hence I am quite sure that he did not intend for the chosen few to utilize synthetic drugs, but rather natural (vegetable) substances. I am also quite sure that he did not mean for his followers to become addicted to anything, drug or otherwise -- and there is considerable evidence of this in *The Book of The Law* itself.

Perhaps at this point I should state that although we value the contributions to modern Magick that Crowley made, we are not "Crowleyites" nor "Thelemites". We do not accept *Liber Al Vel Legis* as holy writ or dogma, to be followed blindly as many (but thankfully not all) Thelemites do. Maybe this detachment is advantageous, maybe not. We shall see in time.

Louis T. Culling was a Thelemite (of the old school, one might say) and it was my privilege and honor to know and work with this gentleman for several years during *my* Magickal training. No doubt my outlook on Thelema and Crowley are affected by Russell and Culling. If this is good, time will tell here too.

There is no doubt in my mind that the Johnny-come-lately Thelemites of the subculture have no perception whatsoever of what Crowley and Dr. Regardie are talking about, and that they parrot it as an excuse for (and cover for) their predetermined decision to revolt, take drugs, and so forth.

As Dr. Regardie has notes, the anti-backlash has already begun, Marinatha, and other hyper-Christian fundamentalist cults are springing up all over, with the same general type of people in them as were formerly in the subculture. Remember the "Witchmobile" affair?

Dr. Regardie's prediction of a catastrophe to come in a few years is interesting, as it parallels my own findings (but from a different source).

The social revolution of the Age of Aquarius may come about as the result of a large scale natural disaster -- a giant meteor strike, huge earthquake, nuclear war, or population explosion.

In this regard, my hearty congratulations to Dr. Regardie for having the guts in naming the source of today's domestic violence as the "blacks". I agree that black violence and crime as well as the more than geometric growth of cults of all types are the precursors of some sort of basic change. The situation in Beirut* is the classical "de-civilization from within" syndrome and might well serve as a model of what the world condition is to be.

Of course, there must be some *destruction* in order for there to be *construction*, but whether or not this change for the sake of change (only) will be an *improvement* is highly unlikely. Historically, in this century at least, it has not proven to be the case.

The Book of The Law accurately reflects a political postulate that has been suppressed here in the USA for two centuries -- that all men are *not* created equal (in this incarnation). Crowley's commentary in this regard is so good I wish it could be required reading for every Congressman and Senator. This, of course, is an elitist point of view. There is no doubt that Crowley was an elitist. In this respect, the title "The Law is For All" is perhaps misleading. For all of the followers, of course, but certainly not the "all" of humanity. Crowley had little or no use for the common man and says so in several places. His little joke in "Magick in Theory and Practice" notwithstanding.

After the revolution of the Age of Aquarius, "The Law is For All" dictum could apply, if for no other reason than a goodly portion of the human population will not have survived. It is interesting to note that of all the humans that have *ever* lived on this planet, *half are alive today*, and the population is expected to double in the next twenty years or so. I suspect that this is the reason for the defective (if that is the correct term) souls that are incarnating these days. There aren't enough "good" ones to go around, and this is going to get much worse before it gets any better. If such a disaster should occur, "Do What Thou Wilt" would become the *Law of Survival* as well.

In the course of this review, I have deliberately not covered those features of *The Law is For All* that have been reviewed and re-reviewed by others. It is an important work, and vastly more readable commentary

* This was originally written in early 1978.

than previously available.

Particularly if one already possess *The Book Of The Law* and the Commentaries, the classification of "old Comment" and "New Comment" is interesting and informative as it shows Crowley's shifting attitude toward *The Book Of The Law* over the years.

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The gristly exposé of "The People's Temple" which I am sure you have all heard about by this time, which has dominated all of the media lately, has once again caused most if not all of the self-same media to group all "Cults" together. What the media has overlooked is that (1) this "Cult" was supposedly "Christian" and (2) Christian massacres are not new.

Sensationalist statements that "This is the greatest massacre and suicide in history...." are just plain wrong. Mass killings and suicides are unfortunately quite prevalent in the history of the world, Christian and non-Christian alike .

The real tragedy of the "Jonestown Incident" is that the personality type that produces a Hitler, a Rev. Jones, a Father Devine, and so on are quite well represented in the present-day Occult Community. Worse yet, there are still hordes of the personality types that permit and allow leaders of these types to exist and come to power. The "True Believer", the loyal unthinking followers of such a Hitler, a Rev. Jones, etc. are far more dangerous than just the leader alone would ever be.

Such people will condone or ignore any crime or unethical act on the part of their "leader", simply because he or she is "The Leader". Such people do not and will not apply what little stunted remainder of ethical sense or rational thought that may remain viable within them after some period of time in such a "Leader"'s organization to the actions, statements or pronouncements of their "leader". They actively resist any attempts on anyone's part to apply such rational thought or criticism toward their "leader". What is really amazing about the "cult personality" is that they will (usually) continue to be "faithful" even after being victimized by their "leader" repeatedly, or after being expelled from the Cult.

The exact same mechanism that produced the Jonestown massacre can be seen at work today, *right here in Pasadena*, although at present (thankfully) on a smaller scale.

It is *exactly* this "Guru-Chela" or "Leader-Follower" relationship that we eschew, here at the T.O.T.. We do not accept followers, period. About the closest that we will permit ourselves to become "leaders" is to act as an advisor or counselor.

We sincerely hope that this editorial reaches the "followers" of the organization referred to above, and that it will cause them to take a good, hard look at both themselves and their "leader", and we hope that it will shock them into some semblance of rational thought concerning *where* their "leader" is taking them.



"THE TRIUMPH OF LIGHT"

By: Melita Denning and Osborne Phillips

Reviewed by: Rt. Rev. Nelson H. White, G.M. T.:O.:T.:

In this fourth of the series, Denning & Phillips have at least pulled up their socks to some extent, and avoided the gross and laughable errors contained in the previous three volumes. (See review in TWL* Vol.4 #3, Spring 1978). They have not however, improved the information to garbage ratio noticeably, and still sound like a satire of Crowley, not that we're against Satire, but it should be so labeled, and not disguised as a serious work on Magick.

As we have already pointed out, the O.S.V. system could be worked, much as Bardon, if treated as a synthetic system. The fifth volume is going to have to be a real blockbuster if the series is to live up to its advertising, which so far it hasn't even come close. I place considerable blame on Llewellyn Publications for buying and promoting this series, when books of genuine worth go begging.

It is precisely this situation that caused us to write and release our own books on Magick.†

Denning and Phillips are quite wide of the mark in many areas and even seek to justify a "Napoleon Complex" although they don't call it that. How they can presume to speak on the Psyche and the Microcosm while at the same time turning their backs on Jung, is beyond me. Virtually all of my remarks about the first three books in this series would also apply to this volume, so I won't bother to re-state them.

By the time one has spent the \$50.00 or so, and worse yet, spent the time required to plow through this series, the student might be dissuaded from any further pursuit of the Art of Magick. To this extent, these books do a *great dis-service* to the Art which they claim to be promoting. So much so, that I have a small suspicion that these books might be black propaganda by hyper-fundamental Christians, attempting to sabotage one's study of the Art. The test will come with the fifth in the series. If it is like the others, it will mean that the entire series is a complete wash-out. We shall see. ★

(The review of the 5th. of the series is reprinted starting on page 15).

[See *The Best of The White Light -- The Early Years* (Vol. 1 - 4) for review of the first 3 books of this series]

* Reprinted in "The Best of *The White Light*, The Early Years, Vol. 1 - 4)" 1981, The Technology Group.

† "Secret Magick Revealed", "The Wizard's Apprentice" & "Working High Magick", etc.

CORRECTING THE OLD MASTERS

There is a mechanism present in Ceremonial Magick that we have commented upon before: That the older a reference or source or "authority" is, the less it is subjected to rational thought and examination, and the more it is accepted "on faith". This mechanism is present in a good many other areas as well.

An example of the results of this mechanism follows, having to do with Magickal Cyphers. The illustration given in Figure 1, shows a plate from Barrett's "*The Magus*", in which are given several Magickal Alphabets, the first of which Barrett attributes to Honorius.* The mechanism of which we speak is fully developed in this illustration, as several of the alphabets contain errors, and these errors have been copied and accepted without question by Barrett as well as almost everyone since. If you will examine the first of these alphabets, you will note that it is missing the "J", "U" and "W". You should also note the "extra" symbols following the "Z".

As a result of our work with the "*Lemegeton*" and other ancient documents, it became aparent to us that the "extra" symbols were in fact two of the missing letters.

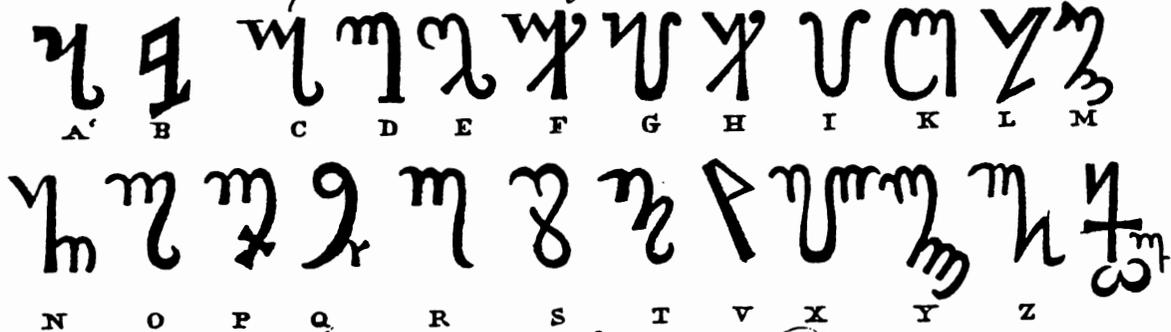
At some point in time prior to Barrett, some scribe mis-arranged the alphabet, and subsequently some other scribe distorted the "W" into a lower case Omega, whereupon some other scribe mis-copied the whole thing. That symbol that looks rather like a "W" is a "W" and is out of it's correct place. We have placed it in its correct place in the second illustration (Figure 2). The other odd figure we have taken to be "J" and included it in its correct place in Figure 2. The reason that we picked "J" instead of "U", is that the "U" is frequently missing in old alphabets, the "V" being used instead. This shows up in early printed books as well.

The third alphabet that Barrett gives us is also in error, mostly just mis-arranged, although there are two symbols given for Samech. As to which of them is correct, we have no idea. The correct arrangement is given in the third illustration, Figure 3.

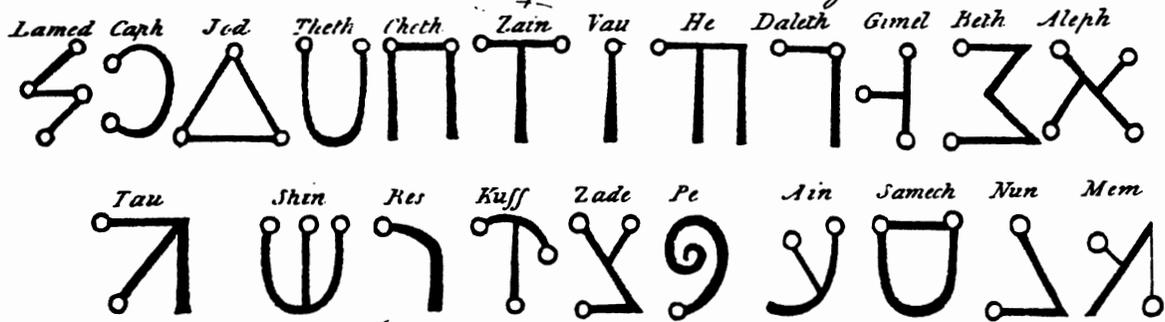
* Possibly in the alleged "Grimorie of Honourius", as nothing like this appears in the version of "The Sworn Book of Honourius the Magician" that we have in our collection.

Figure 1:

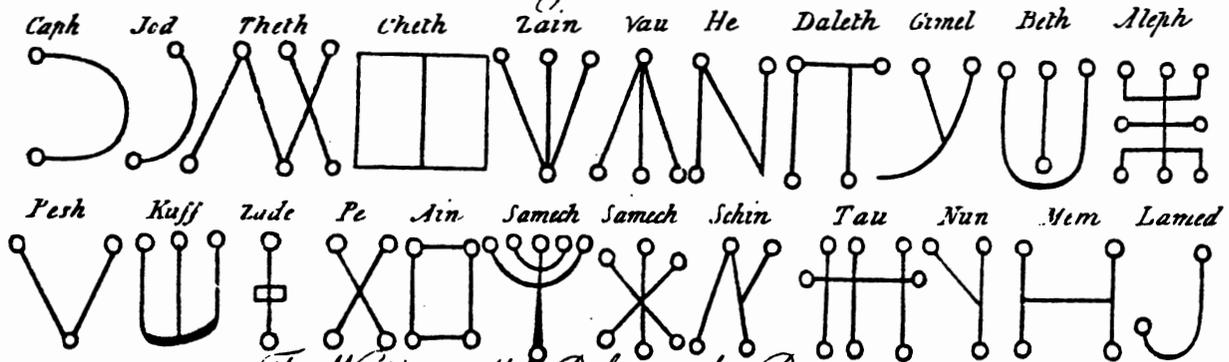
The Mysterious Characters of Letters deliver'd by Honorious call'd the Theban Alphabet.



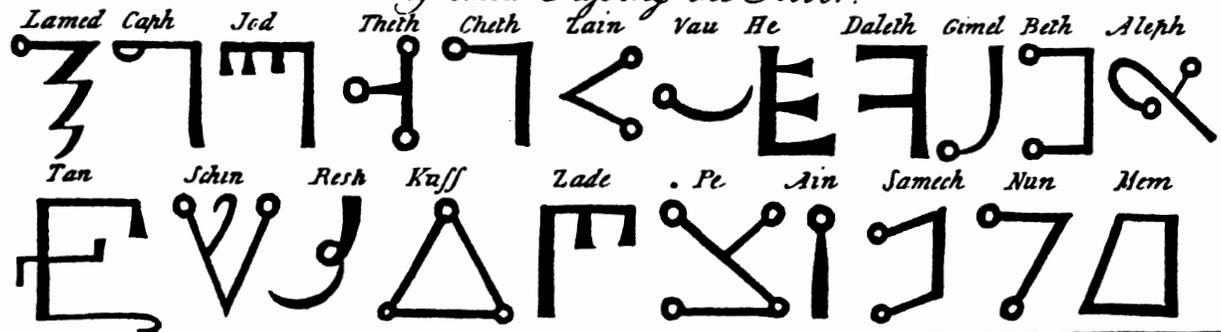
The Characters of Celestial Writing.



The Writing call'd Mulachim.



The Writing call'd Papsing the River.



Howell Del.

Pub by Lockington & Allen.

R Griggs's Sculp.

Illustration from Barrett's "The Magus" (1801), from the collection of the Authors.

Figure 2:
Corrected "Theban" Alphabet.

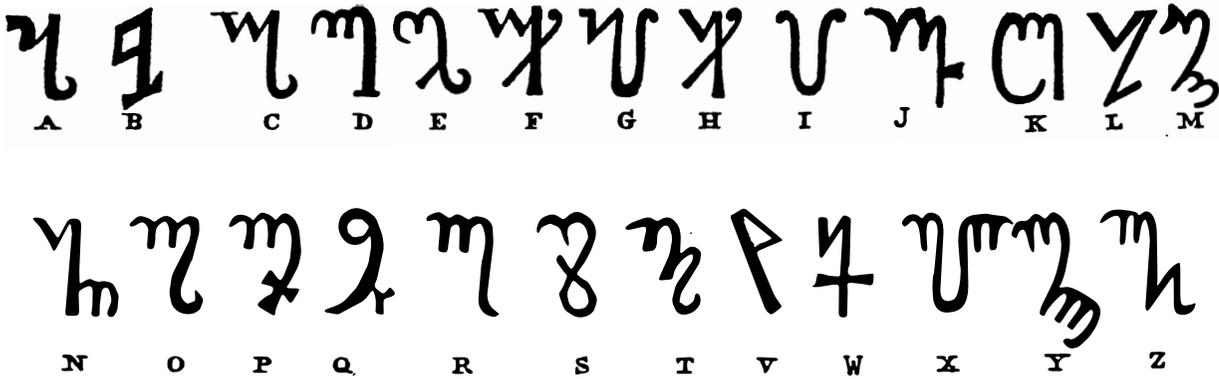
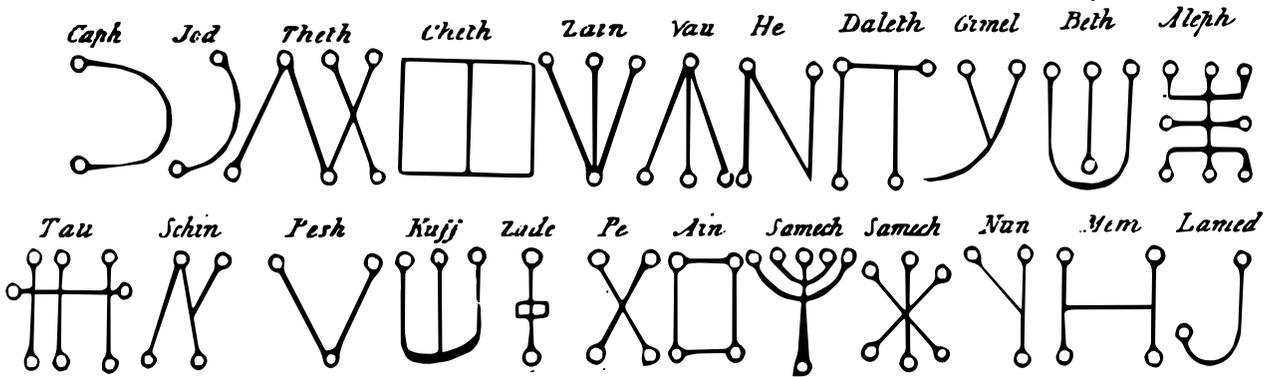


Figure 3:
Corrected "Malachin" Writing.



In keeping with our objectives of eleminating "Secrecy" and untruth, the above information is presented for your use.

In a few months, we here at the T.:O.:T.: will observe our 9th. anniversary as well as the 8th. for this magazine.

We feel that the basic concept behind the T.:O.:T.: has proven to be successful. That concept is the "Independant Study", unstructured approach to the practice of Ceremonial Magick works, and works well for that segment of the Occult student population that we wish to attract. This segment, the able, self-reliant, independant student, whether or not he or she has any Occult experience or prior study, is usually actively discriminated against by nearly all other Occult organizations, Lodges and the like. It is precisely this segment of students that we seek, those who would and do find it difficult to "Submit to the will of the 'Grand Master'", and who are classed as "rebels" or "mal-contents" by such authoritarian, self-inflated, egoistic "Masters", that make our best students and members (or non-members, if you prefer).

We encourage individual expression, individual progress, individual identity and individual experimentation, all of which are repressed to a greater or lesser degree by most other Lodges, Orders and Occult Churches.

We welcome "rejects" from other orders, as well as those who have quit or resigned from these autocratic, repressive outfits. All these persons are welcome, because they pose no threat to us and our system. If such students excell and even surpass us in their individual courses of study, fine. More power to them!

If the student or a group of students wish to form their own organization, Lodge or Church, we are quite willing to assist them in doing so. To date we have actively helped several such groups come into existance, and will continue to do so.

It is indeed unfortunate that some repressive "Orders" view our openness, honesty and freedom from petty jealousy, as a threat to their "secrets", and have vowed to destroy us at any cost. Too Bad! They shall not succeed!!

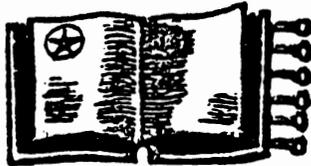
Furthermore, what have these self-proclaimed "Masters" accomplished? What have they done to advance and enrich The Art? What have they published? Virtually nothing!

We, on the other hand have written and published 8 books in the last 8 years, with more to come.*

* Originally written in 1980, as of the time of this re-print (1983) we have written and published over 20 books on Magick and related areas.

A man (or an organization) is known by the enemies he keeps, and we are proud to say that those that have declared themselves to be our enemies, deserve our enmity, many times over. So Be It!

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Anyone who has read our books (or previous copies of this magazine) knows by now that there are many things about the usual structured "Secret Lodge" that we don't like and have done our best not to emulate. Perhaps the thing that we abhor the most is the group of recruiting tricks and gimicks, coupled with a repressive "Initiation", all of which are designed to enslave the recruit to the "Will of The "Grand Master'", (or "Coven Leader" or "High Priest" or whatever).

One such trick is the "Test of Fire", also known as the "Burning Match Trick." This trick is used in several ways. As a recruiting gimick, it is used to impress the gullible with the alleged "mind over matter" control supposedly displayed by the higher ranking members of the organization doing the recruiting or propogandising. This same trick is sometimes also used as a "test" to ascertain if the member or recruit has sufficient "faith" in the organization and/or the "Grand Master", etc.

"Faith" is *not* what is involved here. What is involved here is a "law" of physics called *Bernouli's Principle*, which is the explanation of how an airfoil produces "lift". *This trick can be somewhat hazardous and harmful, and is not recommended*, however this explanation is presented so that you will know how it is done and be able to de-bunk it, should you see this trick performed.

The person displaying this gimick, takes his or her left hand and turns it on edge, with the thumb up. At a point about half way between the wrist and the knuckles, the cross-section of the hand closely resembles an air-foil, with the "fat" portion of the hand (below the little finger) being the "leading edge" of the airfoil. Any air stream encountering this shaped surface, will form a "boundry layer" along or across the front and back of the hand. This stream of air, must of course be moving straight up (in relation to the dege of the hand, which is pointed down). If the source of this air stream happens to be a burning match (paper match), the highly heated combustion products will not actually touch the hand, but flow around it, as though it were an air-foil (provided, of course, that this trick is performed correctly -- which is the hazard).

The crux of this trick, is not to let any particular portion of the heel of the hand get overheated. This "trick within a trick" is accomplished by keeping the match moving along the heel of the hand rapidly at first, and not making the usual beginner's mistake

of holding the match still, until an "overheated" signal reaches the brain (by which time its too late, and you've burned the heck out of your hand).

The actual performance goes something like this: With appropriate verbal flourishes, the performer holds the match-book in the left hand and strikes a match with the right hand. Dropping the match-book, the person then flattens out his left hand in the aforementioned thumb up position, while he brings the burning match up under the edge of the left hand, while moving the match back and forth along a 3 inch portion of the heel of the left hand between the wrist and the base of the little finger. The burning match is not brought into close proximity of the left hand until the flare from striking it has subsided, and the motion along the edge of the left hand is at first rather brisk, slowing gradually, as the heat messages reach the brain, and based upon this person's previous experience in doing this trick. The closer the match is to the heel of the hand, the cooler the flame will seem. This is because the hottest part of the flame is perhaps $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch above the match head (or more). So long as the person does not actually touch the hand with the match head, the closer the better. Close but fast is the watch word for the beginner.

Part of the effectiveness of this trick (as far as the spectators are concerned) is the fact that the brighter part of the flame (also the hotter part) will appear to envelope the hand, and indeed the hair on the back of the hand is singed off. If given the proper verbal embellishments, this trick is quite impressive.

Sometimes, persons in the audience will attempt to do this trick, based upon (faulty) observations. The usual mistake is to hold the hand flat and parallel to the floor, which results in a scorched palm. The other common mistake (already mentioned) is to hold the match in one place before starting to move it back and forth. By keeping the match in constant motion the heating effect is spread out over a wider area, so that even if the person is holding the match too low (too far away from the heel of the hand), it still will not scorch the hand (or at least not as badly as it might otherwise do). Holding the match too low is another common error. Remember this is being done with a common paper match, not a wooden match.

We have given you this information, not so much for you to try it for yourself, but rather, to break the phoney "secrecy"

and equally phoney "mistique" of the "Test of Fire" as it is regarded in some "Secret Lodges". As a test of course, the "Master" (or whatever) simply gives verbal instructions, somewhat similar to what we have presented here, and if the student or recruit is able to do it right, without burning himself on the first attempt, then he is deemed to have "passed".

As far as being a recruiting gimick is concerned, it is more effective psychologically for the student to do it, rather than the "Master", thus showing (according to them) that it is a learned thing, and an advantage to joining so-and-so's lodge, etc.

Another recruiting gimick, that is usually done by the "Master" (but not at the same class or open meeting as the match trick) is the "stopping the heart" trick.

In this trick, a person or potential recruit (not a lodge member) is asked to take the pulse (at the wrist) of the "Master". While the spectators are concentrating upon the wrist, the "master" subtilty presses a "pressure point", usually in the arm pit, with the fingers of the other hand. Presto! The pulse stops. Misdirection and the proper verbal harangue are required to bring this off. The alleged ability to stop one's heart is of course credited to the "master's" high adepthood and exalted rank and accomplishments in Yoga or whatnot.

Several persons with good academic credentials and with what would otherwise be described as gimlet-eyed powers of observation, have been taken in by these tricks (as well as others), and their subsequent statements and publications clearly show that they were duped, and have fallen for the balderdash, hook, line and sinker, much as Dr. Crooks was duped by the Gypsies and fortune-tellers in England, and in so doing ruined his standing in Physics.

Anyone with any medical training should be able to spot this as a trick, although they might not spot how it was done. The give-away is that the alleged "Master" does this while standing up or sitting (rather than lying down). In actual fact, of course, if the "master" had stopped his heart, he would have collapsed in a heap on the floor within a very few seconds, not standing around or sitting and smoking while the demonstration was going on.

A Lodge (or any other organization) with any genuine teachings to offer doesn't have to resort to this (or any other) kind of flim-flam and carnival side-show theatrics, or sneak about putting up spookey and/or sexy advertisements or posters in order to recruit new members.

The foregoing are but a small example of one of the many reasons why we do not recommend that a student join any organization whatever, until he or she is well along in his or her studies, and is thus able to spot the various gags and tricks which might be pulled. For additional information and comments on this subject, see our books "*The Wizard's Apprentice*" and "*Working High Magick*".

(See also, "Pseudo Levitation" article, re-printed in this book, starting on page 26).

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Well, at long last the highly promoted Book 5 of The Magical Philosophy series "Mysteria Magica" is now out. Unfortunately, Denning & Phillips are still up to their old tricks.

Although there is some interesting material in this volume, as a whole the book doesn't hang together at all. By far the largest portion of this volume reads like it is notes and additions to the foregoing 4 volumes, disjointed is hardly the word. Chaotic is closer to the mark. There is nothing even approaching a unified curriculum in the entire 5 volumes, much less this one.

If anything, Denning & Phillips have gone even farther out of their way than usual to be mysterious and confusing. They also seem to have bamboozled Carl Weschcke in the process, which is too bad.

As we said in our previous reviews of this series, the OSV system could be worked provided one was an already experienced Magician and provided that you received considerable instruction and/or information in person, covering the material that is not included in the books. Going by the books alone, you're sunk. There is just too much that isn't there. As to exactly what is missing from these books, I would guess that perhaps as much as half the material that should be there is not. Still this might be a slight improvement over the Golden Dawn, however with the Golden Dawn, the missing material (some of it anyway) is available from other sources, which does not hold true for the OSV system (at the present). Furthermore, the Golden Dawn is layed out in some semblence of a logical system. This underlying system is totally missing from these books.

As a source of hyper-masonic balderdash, this series can provide tons of the stuff, the vast majority of which in my opinion is totally useless, and forms a classical example of a run-away application of "Conway's Law". (David Conway, in his "Magick: an Occult Primer" noted a widely used Occult principle of making everything as difficult as possible; hence: "Conway's Law"). If memory serves me correctly, there is not one single complete full ritual in the entire 5 books (although I might be mistaken about that--I'm not going to bother to read them all again to find out; once was more than enough). What examples there are, also violate "White's Law"* in that there is so much "window dressing" and baloney involved, that the student can't concentrate on the desired result, and hence, the rituals are duds. Oh, it may be fun, and colorful and impressive, and even conducive to self-delusion, but real world effective? Not a chance. Since results is (or should be) the touch-stone for all Magical and alledged Magical rituals and procedures, persons using that portion of the OSV system thus far published, are guaranteed failure. Remember that random chance will produce "results" even if you do nothing whatever, in a small portion of the cases. Magick is supposed to "bend probability" or give you an edge over the random chance factor. Since record keeping and a strictly scientific aproach to experimentation are totally ignored in the OSV system, any claims of "results" are once again highly subjective or even downright untrue.

Some of the discussion of "images" contained in volume 5, for example, are nothing but an unscientific attempt to "pre-program" the student and/or receiver as to what "results" are expected in certain evocation procedures. By first telling the student what to see and then having the student report "Yup, that's what I saw", the whole system is thus riddled with fraud and intentional misrepresentation. Self-delusion comes easier to some people than others, and the unfortunate thing

* White's Law is defined in "Working High Magick" by Nelson & Anne White (1981) Pasadena: The Technology Group. Page 38.

about this whole mess is that a goodly number of people may be taken in by this hoax.

If your sole interest in Magick is to stage grandiose rituals and fool people, then this series of books is right up your alley. Whole sections from these books could be lifted right out and staged with appropriate pomp and circumstance, and would undoubtedly look and sound terrific, but as far as being Magick??? I don't think so. They certainly would have nothing what so ever to do with the search for truth and enlightenment and self-improvement of the student, but they might make a lot of money for you. Speaking of the money aspect; By the time that an inquiring student has spent \$60 or more, for this set of books, he may have had to pass over other, better and more deserving books to scrape up the money, all of which works against the student, especially now when things are tight and money is scarce.

Then there is the advertising and promotion, which totally distorts the real value of these books. I also suspect that a good many potentially valuable students are completely turned-off by these books, as the student is unable to find and extract what is alleged to be there. Hence, the student, unable to make heads or tails of the mass of baloney that is there, simply assumes that either he is too dumb or that Magick is too tough for him, neither of which may be true at all, and all of which turns the student away from Magick.

It is this "Dis-Information" aspect of these books that troubles me the most. They are a ready made propaganda bonanza for the anti-Occult faction, and a ticking time bomb, which sooner or later is going to blow up. Time will tell.

Personally, I'm selling off my set, as I have better use for the shelf space. On a 1 to 10 scale, the series rates a 2, although volume 5 might rate a 3 or so. See our reviews of the other books in this series: TWL, Vol. 4, #3 (Spring 1978), Vol. 5, #3 (Spring 1979). See also OYEZ, spring 1980 issue for a review of Denning & Phillip's book on Astral Projection.



 "MATTER, LIFE, EVOLUTION"

By: John G. Elliott MS

Reviewed by: Frater Zarathustra

Oh Boy! Here is a book that makes Denning & Phillips look good. The author of this work attempts to link modern astro-physics, electro-magnetic spectrum theory and religious philosophy all together, and gets rolled up in his own string.

I get the feeling that this book is either; (a) a publication of a freshman term paper, (b) heavily and unskillfully edited from a longer work, (c) clumsily translated from another obscure language, (d) outright crazy. (Pick one).

Although much of what the author says about physics is correct, he links it to philosophy in totally un-rational ways, or simply states that thus-and-so exists, without any hint of logic, argument, proof, or anything. Some of his assertions concerning plasmic wave forms are quite incorrect, however this may be the result of large typos or bad editing. There is almost no discussion, just assertions and flat statements, period. For a person with a M.S., he writes like a high school drop-out, but again this could be due to bad editing or possibly translation problems. The author is supposed to have been educated in the USA but it isn't stated if his native tongue is English. The book looks like it isn't. Portions of this small book sound like Bardon, in his more mystical moods.

Some of the questions raised by the author are good and need to be explored, but that is not what he did. This whole thing needs to be re-written and perhaps expanded by a factor of 4 or so. The author simply tries to cover too much ground in too few words, and in so doing rips big holes in his logical fabric.

"B" for ideas, "F" for execution.

By: Mation Weinstein, forward by Colin Wilson

First, let's tackle the forward by Wilson: In the forward Wilson, like a lot of Occult authors and "popularizers" falls into the "Scholastic" or "Research" trap, and ignores what should be the overriding factor in Occult practices of any sort: Experimentation (does it work?). From Wilson's comments, it appears that he never read Conway's "Magic: An Occult Primer", when he says that he (Wilson) never read a better introductory book than "Positive Magick". Since the author both quotes heavily from and relied heavily upon Wilson as a source, there may be a bit of the "Scratch my back and I'll scratch yours" syndrome working here.

Now for the book itself: As a general whole, this book isn't that bad. Parts of this work are indeed very good, especially in the areas concerning the history and background of Magic, as opposed to the separate treatment of the history and background of Witchcraft (Wicca).

I realize that the author was writing what might have been called "Magic for dummies", and in so doing had to over simplify and exaggerate many items for the sake of understandability, simplicity and to some extent believability. I recognise and acknowledge this and do not hold it against her nor do I cite them as errors or mistakes --- although there are plenty of both in this work.

Some of these errors are without a doubt typos, such as "Telegraphic" instead of "Telepathic" on page 6 (lines 6 & 7) . Her statement on page 8 (line 11) that Magic isn't work, is a basic mistake, which she partly corrects later when referring to the practice that is required. Her comment that life and Magic are not necessarily a zero-sum game, are good, but when she says that Magic is not measurable (page 14, line 8) she is wrong again. In trying to show off her scholarship she throws in some Hebrew (page 26) but doesn't provide the reader or student a Hebrew alphabet or even tell the reader that Hebrew is read right to left. She also incorrectly labels Astral Travel dangerous, which it isn't.

Although she mentions both pendulums and Ouija boards as methods of contacting the "unseen world", she totally ignores (and may have been ignorant of) the very large portion of Magick that involves exactly this area: Contact Operations, both Evocational and Invocational.

If nothing else, this book is valuable for the discussion of Satanism that she gives, starting on page 41. In fact the whole Chapter III (ten foot pole dept.) is good with a few startling errors. While correctly complaining about the popular misconceptions that wrongly mix "Witchcraft" with "Satanism", she herself on the other hand incorrectly mixes "Evocational" Magick with "Black Magick" (Negative Magic). There is in fact no relationship whatsoever between the two. Negative Magic can and is attempted with "Angels" just as with "Demons". Here again she has fallen for the same dark ages baloney that she is complaining about. For example, apparently she got her hands on the DeLaurence edition of "The Goetia" and from that, wrongly interpolated that the Lesser Key (of Solomon) was wholly "Demonic", which it isn't by a long shot. In actual fact, 3 of the 5 books in the Lemegeton of Solomon deal exclusively with "Angels", as she or anyone could have found out, if by no other method than by reading our transcription of the Lesser Key. The Goetia is only one book from the Lemegeton, not the Lemegeton entire. This same poor research shows up in her recommended reading list and Bibliography (more on this later).

Just like hundreds of other authors, when examining the Occult, she apparently (a) believes everything she reads or (b) is unable to tell the difference between fiction (legend) and fact (scientific reporting).

Here and there, she pops up with some very good advice, starting on page 54, "Practices to Avoid". This almost sounds like I wrote it. Her de-bunking of the strictly commercial frauds is excellent as is her discussion of the "power" of objects (page 57) as being put there by the user. She also does a wonderful job on the exploitative organization and "Guru" (pages 59-62), including her table of "Beware Of" items.

Then, after all this good work, the trouble sets in. Starting with Chapter IV, she, like a lot of others, tries to mix Wicca (Witchcraft) and Hermetics (Magick, Alchemy, Astrology, Numerology, Tarot, etc...)

Earth, Air, Fire and Water (the Magickal Elements) are strictly Hermetic in origin and have nothing whatsoever to do with Wicca. The same goes for the Magickal "Weapons" or tools: Particle, Dagger, Wand & Cup. Furthermore, it was not the Witches (Page 78) that were the only literate people around during the dark ages, it was the Churchmen (and Magicians), not the peasants.

The illustration on page 78 is strictly Cabalistic, showing Mars, Mercury, Jupiter, Saturn and the Sun (in the middle) and not the Earth, Air, Fire and Water that she mentions in the text, in addition, the illustration shows a Pentagram superimposed on a Cross, definitely not a Wiccan symbol. Furthermore, the original source of these "Man the Microcosm" pentagrams is Leonardo Da Vinci, and not some obscure Pagan.

On page 80 she attempts to put the Wiccan brand on the Tarot once again, and on page 81 she makes what I believe to be the most outrageous statement in the entire book, to wit: attributing the "Broomstick" image of the medieval Witch to a "Flying Machine", allegedly remnants from Atlantis. HOGWASH! Atlantean artifacts in functioning condition as recent as dark ages Europe would leave traces, physical traces, easily discovered, to say nothing of the highly industrialized technology and civilization required to produce, maintain and fuel these "Flying Machines".

On page 82 she repeats Margret Murry's error that the pre-Christian European religious infra-structure was a monolithic and uniform worship of "The Horned God"*.

Her chapter on Karma starts off very well, but about half way through, it also wanders off course. The most important fact about Karma, she completely overlooks; and that is that Karma is not understandable or controllable by humans, and works on a much longer time frame than a single individual human lifetime (incarnation).

Now we come to "Part Two" which is supposed to be the practical application of Magic. It isn't.

Once again, (page 129) she attempts to give Wicca credit for Astrology (it isn't, it's Hermetic), her comments on page 155 concerning Scrying (a Hermetic term) clearly shows that she has never used a Crystal ball correctly herself,

* The Pagan religions of Europe consisted of hundreds if not thousands of isolated cults and groups, virtually all out of touch with each other and almost wholly illiterate, with a wide range of beliefs and practices, and with over a dozen different languages involved.

(although she may have fooled herself into thinking that she has) in that she recommends plastic balls, which any practicing Magician or Scryer knows are vastly inferior to genuine Crystal, and frequently just as expensive (and some times more so).

The author is also inconsistent on the need for objectivity in divination. On page 152 she correctly states that objectivity is essential, but on page 176 she states that it is correct to read for yourself or have a good friend do it (Tarot readings). Reading for yourself is good practice, but not reliable, as it is not objective in the least. For example, I read for several other readers, and when I want my cards read, I go to someone else. Objectivity is essential, and good friends know too much about you and your problems to be objective. I'm at my best when reading for total strangers. Of course, this explanation may be too simple for some. The rest of her chapter on Tarot (pages 176-196) is quite good, as is her discussion of the I Ching (which also is not a Wiccan system).

The author, like the vast majority of American Witches, has grasped anything (and almost everything) that seems to work, and labeled it "Witchcraft", the vast majority of which is from totally different systems, like Magic and Tarot and Astrology, etc, etc, etc. The author does not mention Rune Casting which would be a valid Wicca method of divination. She completely mis-uses the word Magic in several aspects, in that Magic is "Willed Manifestation" or "Bending Probability" (our terms). I don't believe that the author uses the word "manifestation" even once in the entire book (of course this may be in the interests of simplicity, and so is excusable). The author's comments clearly show that she is scared to death of "Willed Manifestation", hysterically labeling it Demonic, Negative or Black Magic, none of which are accurate.

The recommended reading list given by the author stinks. She lists and refers to works of fiction as though they were fact, and has included some of the most hysterical pieces of garbage ever written. Her bibliography is almost as bad, clearly showing that she consulted all the wrong sources. Out of a hundred or so books listed, only 12 or so are any good. This of course is exactly the problem with the "scholastic" or "research" approach to anything, versus the Scientific approach of experimentation and record keeping. *

The author does present several self-help schemes and procedures which may be "Occult" they definitely are not Magic of any sort. In fact there isn't one single genuine Magical procedure in the entire book. She even left out the Pentagram ritual which 99% of the practicing Witches use (stolen from the Golden Dawn, of course).

Even so, all of the foregoing notwithstanding, the book as a whole is useable and readable, considerably more so than Denning & Phillips, and rates a "C" overall.

Data: Phoenix Publishing Co, P.O. Box 10, Custer WA 98240

ISBN: 0-919345-00-X (this company's first book). LC# not given.

* See our discussion of the pit-falls of reliance upon "authority" in our books "The Wizard's Apprentice" and "Working High Magick".

STUDENT'S FIRST SOLO
OPERATION

Editorial, by Fra. Zarathustra

An important event has just occurred in the history of Magick and of the T.O.T.. While it is possible that this event has happened before, this is the first time that it has been reported. The event is as follows:

An independent student has achieved a partial contact, while attempting a solo contact operation. This solo contact operation was this student's very first attempt at ANY Magickal operation.

Why is this so important? Because solo contacts are perhaps the second hardest Magickal operation there is, and this student achieved what he did, going completely and only by written instructions (principally our books). This student has never seen or heard a Magickal operation done before, by anyone. The student went solely by written instructions, nothing else. No one was there coaching him or guiding his hand. He did it all by himself. Furthermore, he built all his own equipment and tools, likewise from written instructions alone.

The student did all this without any of the usual Magickal Lodge initiation and indoctrination. He didn't even tell us, until after he was done.

But, there is more: The student accurately reported information and effects that he could only have gathered by actually doing the operation. No fudge factor here. The effects he reported (some of which are contained in his report (See T.W.L. Vol. 9, #2) have up to now not been published, not even in our own books (at least not all of the effects and symptoms) partly for exactly this situation. There is no way that this (or any other) student could have obtained this information unless he actually performed the experiment. He was not "pre-programed", he was not told what to expect. He selected the entity himself, without help, researched it set up the operation and did it.

The final crowning touch: He did this from scratch in three months. Not a year or two, or two and a half, but three months!

This independent re-production of effects previously observed by someone else, without having witnesses anything of the sort before, is independent evidence that our attempts to bring the Scientific

Method to Magick is correct, and further proves that the instructions and directions contained in our books is at least the minimum needed to accomplish the end result. Of course no book or training program is complete, but this independent verification shows that our choice of what information to present was correct.

We sincerely hope that this report will encourage other independent students to press onward in their studies.

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"POINT FOUR" or,
MAGICK AS A CREATIVE ACT.

The Magickal Evocation is a miniature of Creation itself. The Magician temporarily assumes the role of God (the ultimate Creator), in keeping with Man's spark of the Divinity that is within him (a miniature God, is Man, if he will learn to use it).

Why is "the Fourth Point" so important? The answer can be explained as follows: What is the simplest geometric figure known? Answer: A Point. Move a point through one dimension and you create a Line. Move a line through a second dimension, and you create a Plane. Move a Plane through a third dimension, and you create a Solid. What is the simplest two dimensional (plainar -- linear) figure? A Triangle. What is the simplest solid figure? A Tetrahedron. (a triangle with a fourth point over it, connected by lines, forming a solid with triangles for sides and base). Pyramids are not as "simple" as tetrahedrons, as a pyramid has 5 planes---4 triangular sides and a square base. A tetrehedron has four planes, all triangles.

The Magus is attempting to create something in or over the Triangle of the Art (the 4th. point) that did not exist there before (and rapidly ceases to exist after he is done -- usually). Some Magicians and philosophers say that Man, the Magician is trying to manipulate Astral Matter, much as God manipulated Pre-Astral Matter. This figures, Man is not God (or at least not completely God). Man does have a portion (usually quite small) of "God" within him, and so to attempt to "create" within the miniature universe of the Magickal operation is quite understandable and even laudable.

All Magicians eventually desire to create something that is photographable, because this means that they have accessed to a higher level of "reality" and created something that reflects light rays, instead of creating an illusion (or manifestation) in the mind of a receiver -- or himself, if operating solo. (See discussion of levels of "reality" in "Working High Magick" page 17).

Of course there are highly inflated stories about so-and-so who is supposed to have created something that fell/rolled/hopped off of the Triangle and hit the floor and bounced and/or made a noise as it hit. I feel that all these stories are just that: stories.

Creating a material object, even for a few moments, would take a tremendous amount of energy, concentration, and so on, far beyond that of the highly trained and experienced Magickal student. Considering that these stories, just referred to, are usually about somebody who knows little or nothing of Magick, and who stumbled on to some "mysterious book" (etc.) I am sure you can see what this is; just another version of the "Faustian" school of Magick. Shades of "The Sorcerer's Apprentice", and with the same mind set: To discourage persons from investigating the Occult and/or Magick, "because you can't control what you have created and it will destroy you...." etc, etc, RUBBISH! Of course you can both control and create something. That something may not be a physical object (or not entirely a physical object), but that doesn't mean that it can't be useful.

Information (data) has little if any mass, and so does not require huge amounts of energy to either manifest or to create a link between this level of existence and some other level or plane (or polarity). This information is most easily gained through a Contact Operation. Rather or not the information gained is useful, is another thing entirely, and for this reason experiments are usually done to determine the ratio or timing of reported (predicted) events to those events that actually do occur, in our universe (here and now). So you see, getting the information is only half the battle. Next it has to be verified, sorted; and tested in order to be useful.

Creating (or appearing to create) a physical object may be the most spectacular Magickal Operation, but not necessarily the best, highest or most useful. Of what use is an area of "lumpy" air over the Triangle? Not a whole lot.

The highest and most beneficial (but not the most spectacular) use of Magick is to effect changes within yourself. K. & C. of H. G. A. and so on. This can and does (occasionally) occur even when the student has been unable to achieve a "conventional" contact with an "entity", although experience with contacts does help the student along the road to K. & C. of H. G. A. quite a bit.

In the Contact Operation, the Magus first creates the requisite conditions for the Receiver. This is when the Receiver's face disappears from the Magick Mirror, and is sometimes replaced with a misty or foggy surface. Older methods had the Receiver or the Magus using smoke instead of a mirror. We recommend a slight amount of smoke (from an incense burner) between the Receiver and the Mirror (see discussion in "Secret Magick Revealed").

From this primordial mist, the Magus then attempts to create something that was not there before; a vision, a contact, a "whatever".

Abramelin, on the other hand recommends that the Receiver look at a polished silver plate or tray, and that the spirits will write upon it with fog or mist (like the condensation of one's breath upon a cold mirror or windowpane). Like the condensed breath, the writing quickly disappears. Thus far in my personal experience both as an operator and as a receiver, I have not seen (or been present when others saw) anything in writing. I have seen faces, actions, "things", but no writing.

This is not to suggest that some other Magickal student could not see writing, or even an entity telling you what the writing means (ala Dee & Kelly). Although I personally would distrust any sprite that wrote backwards, and particularly if it was conjured in an obsidian mirror. That sounds just a little too "demonic" to me, for it to have been as "Angelic" as was reported.

A good many Receivers hear voices rather than see things with their eyes. This likewise usually occurs after the Receiver's face has disappeared from the Magick Mirror. Some Receivers even shut their eyes to improve the contact. This usually means that the lighting level in the Temple is too high, or that there are some other visual distractions. Perhaps there are things or people in the Receiver's line of sight. Take appropriate steps to reduce the visual clutter.

Another thing that the solo student might try, is to make a Bardonian mirror, either concave or convex and try something with this (while sitting down). Bardonian mirrors can also be used to assist in getting started in Astral Projection.

In any event, all willed manifestations are "Creation" of one sort or another. There are so many variables, one could spend a lifetime just experimentating with the Goetia entities alone.

Have fun and good luck.

THE INQUISITION RETURNS

A later-day Inquisition has again raised its vile head. This modern Inquisition has all the Hallmarks exhibited by the previous Spanish Inquisition, including the violence. At the fore-front of this is (of course) the I.R.S. and its 14 point Criteria for what constitutes a "Church". (See Legal Forum, page 7 & 8 in this issue for the complete 14 point criteria).

The I.R.S. Inquisition is almost *identical* to the Spanish Inquisition in that *the principal test in both cases is "Orthodoxy"*. At least 3 of the I.R.S.'s 14 point Criteria rest on Orthodoxy questions, even if not stated as such. You doubt us? Read the criteria in question, as reprinted of pages 7 & 8 of this issue of TWL* Read the whole article, PLEASE! This is not an isolated case.

Ministers are being arrested for "Contempt of Court", BEFORE the alleged "Contempt" was committed! The alleged contempt was the operation of a Church-school, which was not functioning at the time that the Minister was arrested. (See story, page 5).

I wonder how much of the hoop-la would have been generated if the persons and Churches being persecuted had been non-Christian, or perhaps (shudder!) Occult?? The Media are again applying a double standard. What is newsworthy persecution of a Christian Minister and/or Church (and worthy of highly indignant editorial comment), is not newsworthy (or at least not in the same manner) if and when it happens to some-one that the Media thinks is not a "Christian" (What do they know about "Gnostics" -- why nothing whatever, of course).

A defense attorney in a murder case, here in the Los Angeles area, is attempting to justify a brutal murder, by claiming that the person murdered was a "Bruha" (Mexican Witch). Hogwash! They killed him because they thought that he had lots of gold and jewels that they could steal. The T.V. had a field day, showing this alleged Witch's altar and supplies. Terrible, he burned candles to the Saints and had a crucifix on his wall and a deck of Tarot cards in his house. How horrible and of course this makes it perfectly alright to beat him to death with a hunk of pipe. Rubbish!

* The Page citations, of course, refer to pages in *The White Light*, Volume 9, Number 4, from which this editorial was reprinted.

PSEUDO LEVITATION

In line with the "Recruiting Gimicks" article that we presented in TWL, Vol. 8, #4 (Summer, 1982) we now present one of the cute little frauds that some Lodges use to keep their people convinced that "The Lodge" (or Coven or whatever) is a grand and wonderful and powerful organization, deserving of unquestioned loyalty, obedience and (monitary) support, and so forth.

This particular fraudulent trick is the so-called "Levitation Operation", which is done as follows:

One of the smaller and lighter of the "Flower Children" that are carefully kept hanging around the Lodge, is told to lie down (perhaps on a small mattress) in the center of the Circle, and as many other members as can be squashed in together, sit on the floor around him or her. Each of the persons sitting around the "subject" is instructed to put two or three fingers of the right hand (unless that person is left-handed) under the nearest protion of the "subject" that can be easily reached, and upon the command, lift the "subject" into the air.

What looks impossible -- lifting a person with only two or three fingers -- is in fact quite easy if there are 8 or 10 persons doing the lifting and (here is the trick) you place the *strongest* of the "lifters" *opposite each other at the hips and shoulders of the "subject"*.

This trick is easier to bring off if the "subject" holds his or her body rigidly stiff. This can be assisted with a little hypnosis or simple suggestion.

What makes this appear to be a Magickal feat or "miracle" is the stage dressing and hokum that is liberally applied (of course).

By using the "hypnotic voice", and a suitably suggestable subject, the person can be easily stiffened, which greatly assists the "levitation" process. By having a cute, nearly naked girl as the "subject" and several (or even, most) of the "lifters" strong males, this trick can be brought off with no aparent strain or fatigue on the part of the "lifters".

It is not the lifting that is the difficult part of this trick, but rather the placement of the persons doing the lifting. Strong persons must be opposite another strong person, in order for the lift to be balanced, the strongest two persons should be at the hips of the sunject, and the second strongest pair at the shoulders. The others involved can be placed more or less anywhere, as they will be only lifting legs, feet, arms, head, etc.

After a little practice, and after some confidence has been built up both in the lifters and the subject, the lifters are told to retract

the third finger, and a few seconds later, the second finger, so that in the end, the subject is suspended about 3 feet off of the floor with only one finger of each of the lifting persons. Note: this is done *only* after the subject has already been *lifted into position*. The first 12 inches of the lift is the hardest.

Used with suitable pseudo Magickal chant and mumbo-jumbo, this trick can impress a good many people. Some Lodges reserve this stunt, until it can be pulled when there are visitors, spectators or observers present. All of the participants are suitably robed and the lights are dim.

No doubt the hypnotic induction also helps the lifters as well, but their suggestibility is not an important factor.

None of the spectators will ever think to question or analyse what is going on. A 120 lb. person, being supported by 10 people equals 12 pounds per person. Almost anyone can lift 12 pounds with three fingers of the dominate hand, and nearly as many can support 12 pounds, once lifted, with one finger, for what seems like quite a while (20 to 30 seconds, or so). In actual fact, of course, the weight being supported is not equal. The stronger persons placed at the hips and shoulders are perhaps supporting 20 pounds each (or more), leaving the others holding only 5 or 6 pounds each.

Easily suggestible subjects will swear that they never felt the fingers under them, or if felt, that they (the subject) ..."floated off of the fingers..." supporting them. This of course is the alleged purpose of the "Magick" being used; to levitate the subject, and the lifters are just there "... as a safety precaution...".

This simple little trick can be puffed up into a 30 to 45 minute "ritual" with the addition of suitable pre-levitation prayers, chants and so forth.

Initially, several experiments will have to be tried, to find out who the best subjects and the best lifters are. People can be shuffled around until one or more crews have been put together.

The heavier Lodge members may simply be too heavy to be subjects, but there is considerable satisfaction from having been a part of a Magickal "Miracle", even if only as a lifter. Interestingly enough, many, if not most of the persons taking part in this operation are not aware of the trick involved. Most actually think that there is a Magickal effect involved, and as such are being fooled, just as the outside spectators are being fooled. The more suggestible lifters will likewise not feel any strain and/or think that the subject actually was levitated, and not just hauled off of the floor by 10 people.

Psychologically speaking, it is more effective (for impressing outsiders, etc.) if the Lodge Master (or Coven Leader, or whatever) does not take part in this operation, but only stands around on the fringe of the operation, perhaps giving advice. Of course this is only done after a team has been assembled and some member of that team has been trained on how to do the operation. This presents the "observers" with an alleged "all student" operation, all to the credit of the Lodge, coven or whatnot, and of course to the rare and powerful training programme of the Lodge Master, etc, etc.

This little charade can be turned into a recruiting gimmick by having the cutest of the subjects show up at an open class or other meeting to "discuss" the "Levitation Operation". By having a person there who can say "Yes, I was levitated off of the floor about 3 feet for about a minute or so..." adds to the credibility of the claims being made by the Lodge, Coven or whatever. The more substantial the claims seem to be, the more likely recruits are to wish to join (and pay the whopping Initiation fee), and so on.

Such operations do not take much preparation or research, and so are useful to have in reserve, if for some reason, some other previously scheduled operation goes awry or can't be done as expected. Many Magickal Lodges actually do Magick very rarely. Most of the time is taken up with "training" or "lessons" or "practice", or just plain work (up-keep, maintenance, manufacture or materials or props, etc), rather than actual Magickal operations. Reasons (excuses) are always ready; a bad astrological influence, wrong phase of the moon, whatever. If the Lodge doesn't have a resident Priestess or receiver, then an operation may have to be scrubbed if a suitable Priestess or receiver doesn't show up.

Initiations, of course, take priority over everything, and an "all hands" call goes out when one of these things is staged. (See the initiations and discussions given in "Secret Magick Revealed" and other of our books.)

It is also quite true that not all Magickal Lodges practice such chicanery, but many Lodges (and other alleged Magickal organizations of all types) do. Therefore, in the event that you hear wild stories about super-duper Levitation being done somewhere, or if you happen to see this being done, you will know what is behind it.

ASTRO - PHYSICS
AND
META - PHYSICS

Meta-Physics (Lat: Beyond Physics), and modern Astro-Physics have more in common than you might at first think. Virtually all of what is today considered "Science" was at one time "Occult Science" or even "Philosophy". Although some of what is today regarded as meta-physics is undoubtedly rubbish, other parts are now being "discovered" or theorised by modern physicists and scientists.

Take for example the currently popular "Big Bang" theory of the origin of the Universe. Echoes of this have existed in Meta-physics and Occult Philosophy, specifically the Hebrew Kaballah for several thousand years. A further refinement of the "Big Bang" is the "Closed Universe" theory, which predated that the most recent Big Bang (12 Billion years ago) may not have been the first or the last of such explosions. There is some evidence to support this theory, as all of the heavier elements are only created in stellar explosions, and those above Iron, in the periodic chart, are only created (made from lighter elements) in super-nova explosions.

Recent advances in radio astronomy have detected the thermal echo of the latest Big Bang, still expanding through our universe, although cooled to about 3°K . The Closed Universe theory holds that if there is sufficient mass in the universe, the resultant gravity will eventually cause the presently receding (expanding) galaxies (currently showing a "red shift" due to their outward velocity) to eventually stop and later start to collapse back upon a common center (show a "blue shift" in other words), thus causing another Big Bang, and creating another new universe with expanding galaxies all over again.

If and when the change from red-shift to neutral or to blue-shift occurs, the life expectancy of the universe is about half over.

All this going on about multiple explosions and universes be re-created for ever sound strangely like "Forever was, is now, and ever shall be: World without end..."

On the other hand, the "Open Universe" theory holds that there is not enough matter and gravity to cause the universe to re-collapse and that the Big Bang happened only once, and that the universe will continue to expand forever. This theory sounds like the basic Creation mythos.

Neither of these theories, although interesting and informative is of prime concern to mankind, as our Sun will become a red-giant long before any of this has occurred, and in so doing will destroy all of the inner planets, including the Earth. This event is still several billion years in the future, and by this time Man will either have evolved into something else, and/or left the neighborhood and thus not be bothered by the Sun's evolution into a red giant or Nova explosion. All of the foregoing assumes that man doesn't blow himself up in the next few decades or centuries. This is unfortunately not at all certain.

What has all this to do with Metaphysics? Just this: The various competing theories in Science (Astro-physics for example) are for the most part philosophical ideas, as Astrophysics is still largely a speculative "Science" and not an experimental one. In spite of the alleged "self-correcting" aspects of "Science", competing and contradictory theories and ideas exist side-by-side in Science, as they did (and still do) in Occultism and Metaphysics. The simple existence of competing ideas does not either validate or invalidate any given idea or theory.

There are still "Scientists" who have a great deal of trouble accepting "relativity", and relativity is almost 100 years old now. The supposed self-correcting mechanism, so widely touted by authors such as Dr. Carl Sagan, function on a much slower time scale than many would care to admit. Such slowness (resistance to new ideas) used to be one of the largest criticisms of the Occult, as voiced by scientists such as Dr. Sagan*.

One of the largest differences that Dr. Sagan overlooked in his critique of the Occult, is that present day "Science" gets government funding, while present day Occultism (in the USA) does not receive such largess. Of course such scientists are doing everything in their power to differentiate themselves from anything that they view as "unscientific" -- it might endanger their grants and funding. As far as the alleged integrity of "Science" is concerned, recent newspaper stories have revealed that several prominent scientists here in the Los Angeles area, have been falsifying their results just to get and

* Incidentally, I greatly enjoyed Dr. Sagan's book "Broca's Brain" and recommend it highly.

keep their government grants, and that they have been doing so for several years. So much for the alleged integrity of Science.

Thus it appears that any really new, fundamental ideas or insights or understanding has a very good chance of coming from "unconventional" or even (shudder) "Occult" sources. Of course whether or not such a really new idea would get a hearing, much less an unbiased evaluation by "Science" is another thing entirely. Remember, that Einstein considered himself a philosopher first, and a scientist or mathematician second. Einstein's "insights" are heavily rooted in his Jewish background; the Kaballah in otherwords.

In earlier days, neither the physical tools for experimentation nor the mathematical tools or models to express the theories existed (to say nothing of the computers to run them on). Hence all of the ideas concerning the universe were labeled "philosophy". As new tools and new mathematical models are invented, other ideas of Occult origin, once so despised by "science" will undoubtedly be "discovered" and labeled "Science" by somebody.

The "Occult" of today is the "Science" of tomorrow.

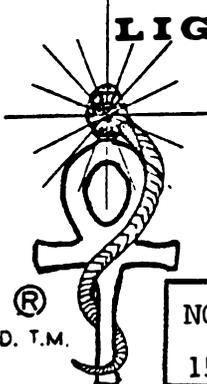
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THE TEMPLE OF TRUTH

The TEMPLE OF TRUTH is unique in several respects when compared to other Magickal and quasi-magickal organizations presently operating in the United States.

First, and most important, the T.:O.:T.: has no rank structure. This means that there is no competition for recognition, no Ego-involvement, no snubbing of "inferior" grades by those in "superior" positions, and all the ramifications arising therefrom.

This intentional lack of structure is extended to the training programme of the Lodge, in that the student is not forced or required to study any given subject at any particular time. Un-like the A.'.A.'. of the Crowleyian period, the student isn't forced to study what the instructor is interested in, but rather the student studies what the student is interested in, and the instructor merely assists the student in discovering for himself those Magickal Truths and revelations pertaining to that particular student.

For the same reason, the T.:O.:T.: issues no pretentious, self-gratifying certificates. Since each student is following his own path and course of study, there is no way a grade structure could be ranked, as each student's path is somewhat different from all of the others.

Of course, the instructors attempt to present information in such a manner that the student achieves a well rounded education in the Occult, however this is in an advisory capacity. There is no coercion involved.

This advisory service is available free of charge to non-member students as well, providing they manage to arrive at the Magick Circle location during our business hours. (We do expect such non-members to purchase at least some of their books and supplies from us, and to be reasonably serious in their studies).

As there presently is about a 2 year waiting list for membership in the T.:O.:T.:, this non-member advisory service is about the only course of instruction available to the public and would-be members. We advise all serious students, whether or not interested in joining the T.:O.:T.:, to proceed with their studies, with or without our assistance, as unlike nearly all other organizations, previous training and ability will not bar you from membership in the T.:O.:T.:.

Perhaps the second largest difference between the T.:O.:T.: and other organizations, is that we encourage students who have achieved a certain basic understanding of Magick, to practice Magick in their own Temples and in their own lives.

Third, we use Magick daily to help others, both members and non-members. Again, unlike most other organizations, we actually use Magick, every day to benefit others, not just ourselves. In this respect, the T.:O.:T.: is highly unique, in that we do more Magick in a week than most others do in a year.

Fourth, we do not require our students and/or members to refrain from joining or participating in Magickal activities of other organizations. The student is FREE to do as he or she wishes with their own private lives. We do not spy upon or attempt to control our students or members in any manner whatever.

This Libertarian concept applies to our representations of ourselves as well. We are not trying to fool anybody, or impress the gullible with our

mystical masterhood or spookey "powers". We put up no false fronts, we stage no extravaganzas, we place no mysterious advertisements and write no pompous articles for other publications. We do not perform like trained seals, for any alleged broadcaster, film-maker or author who happens by.

We are here, with an open door, six days a week. The truly motivated student or seeker will find us with little difficulty. We likewise do not hide behind a cloak of "secrecy" or exclusiveness to camouflage our activities, because we have nothing to hide. True, our membership is "secret" in that we don't publish or reveal our member's names, addresses or photographs (without permission).

In like manner, we conduct no mail-order lessons, nor do we sell tapes purporting to solve all your problems.* One of the very few requirements that we do have, is that all students or potential members must come to us in person. Another is that all persons writing in for information and so forth must include a stamped self-addresses envelope (or 3 International Reply Coupons) if they wish a reply.

Furthermore, we do not keep our "Magickal Goodies" to ourselves in a miserly fashion. We regularly publish in depth reports and papers written by both staff and students, as well as entire books from our archives. We do this principally for the advancement of the Art, as well as for the assistance of students who are unable to attend for one reason or another (as well as to assist all students generally, regardless of school or discipline).

We likewise abjure all claims to "Secret Masters" and variations thereof, in keeping with our commitment to openness and Truth. We are not "Empire Building", we are not particularly interested in large numbers of recruits, and we make no attempt to claim that ours is the only way to enlightenment. We also accept no book as dogma and consequently are not Thelemic, although we do recognise and acknowledge the great contributions to Magick made by Alister Crowley.

Furthermore, we take no part in the political quarrels that some Occult groups engage in with great regularity. Likewise, we will tolerate not the slightest mis-statement concerning ourselves, our organization and our practices. We respond with TRUTH, about ourselves, and if sufficiently provoked, Truth about whomever has attacked us. This is only fair and just.

We mimic no-one, we defraud no-one, we entice no-one. We adhere to very high standards of Truth, Honesty and Justice, and expect (even demand) to be treated in a like manner, and therefore we are active in Occultists Rights work. We are a Responsible, Legal, open and above-board Genuine Magickal organization. If this interests you, we welcome you, your comments and your support, moral or material.

* What tapes we do sell, are either commercial products, or tapes of our general lectures, which are "public information" tapes, and replace no portion of our requirements or training.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Nelson White was born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1938. He graduated from James. B. Castle High School in Kaneohe, Oahu, Hawaii in 1956. He served in the U.S. Navy as a Hospital Corpsman in San Diego, California. He graduated from San Bernardino Valley College in 1961 with an Associate of Arts in Electronics.

While at S.B.V.C. he was active in the San Bernardino Sheriff's Motorcycle Possie as a Reserve Deputy Sheriff, and also spent several years with the Civil Air Patrol as Communications Officer of Squadron 31, based at Norton Air Force Base, just outside of San Bernardino.

After working several years in the Electronics and Defense fields, he returned to college and graduated from The University of Redlands in 1968 with a B.A. in Government and Public Administration. He attended Graduate School both at The University of Redlands and also at U.C.L.A. where he received several Teaching Credentials. Mr. White has taught in a number of Junior and Senior High Schools in Southern California.

First Ordained in 1968, he has since then been Ordained by several other Churches. He received his first Honorary Doctorate in 1969 and has also received several others since then.

Together with his wife, Anne White (also an Ordained Minister), the Whites presently operate a Hermetic Magickal Order (The Temple of Truth); a Gnostic/Cabalistic Church (The Light of Truth Church); an Occult Shop in Pasadena, California (The Magick Circle); in addition to publishing their quarterly Magickal journal "The White Light".

The Whites have also been instrumental in the formation of several other Churches and Magickal Lodges. Unlike most writers and Magickal Scholars, the Whites have maintained a public practice of Magick for many years.

The whites have written over two dozen other books on Magick and related subjects, and are guest lecturers at several Southern California schools and Universities.

Dr. White is also a private pilot, an amateur radio operator, a 4-wheel drive enthusiast, and was the Southern California area representative for the Aquarian Anti-Defamation League for the entire time that the League was active, and was a member of MENSA for several years.

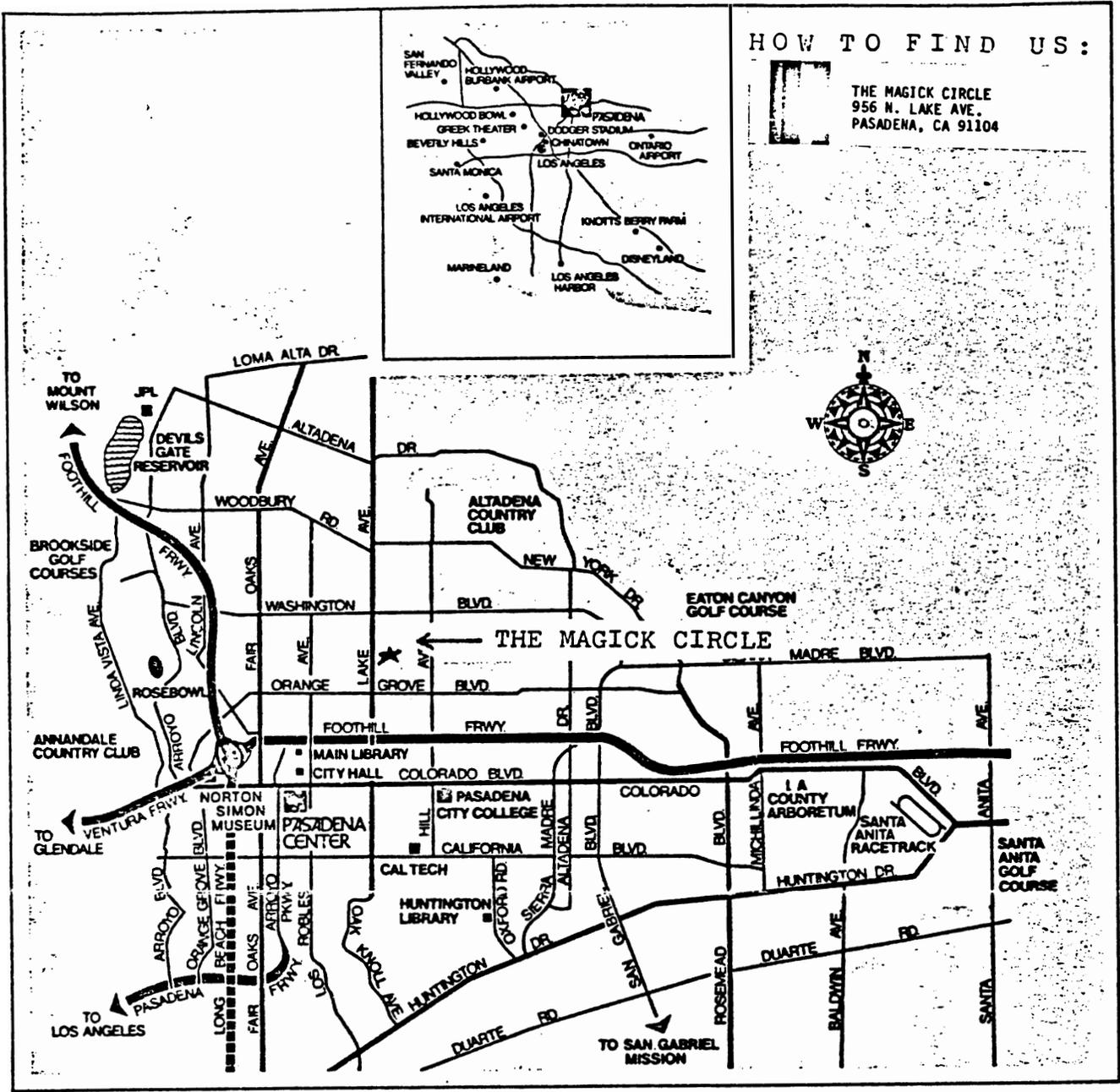
The Whites have received numerous Community Service awards, and are presently listed in: Who's Who of the West, The Directory of Distinguished Americans, Community Leaders in America, Two Thousand Notable Americans, Personalities of the West and Mid-West, The Book of Honor, and several other National and International Directories.

For several years, Dr. White has been one of the Commerical Representatives of the Principality of Castellania.

Dr. White has been awarded the Grand Cross and Rosette of the Order of St. Andrew of Scotland, and is a Knight of the Free Templar Order.

Due to his experience in Law-Enforcement as well as their expertise in the Occult, the Whites are occasionally called upon to assist and advise various Law-Enforcement organizations.

	The Authors wish to state, that due to	
	their heavy commitments to other activities,	
	they <u>do not</u> give advice over the telephone,	
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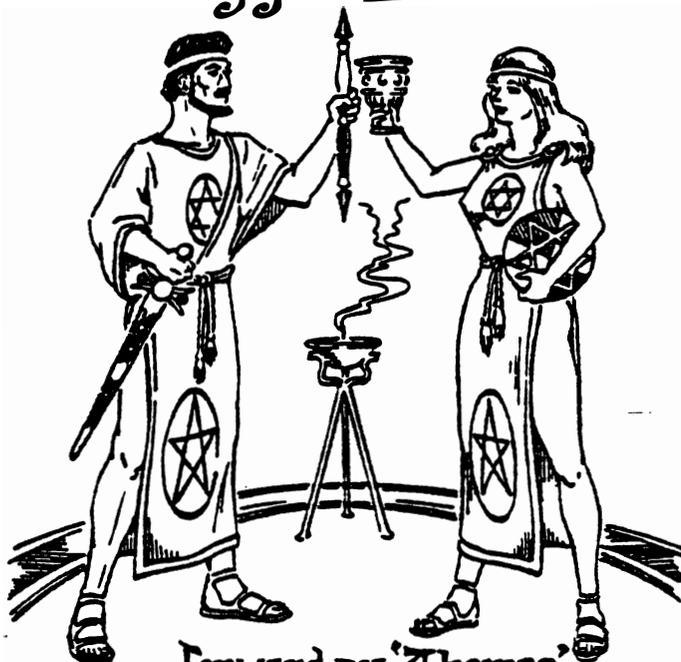
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