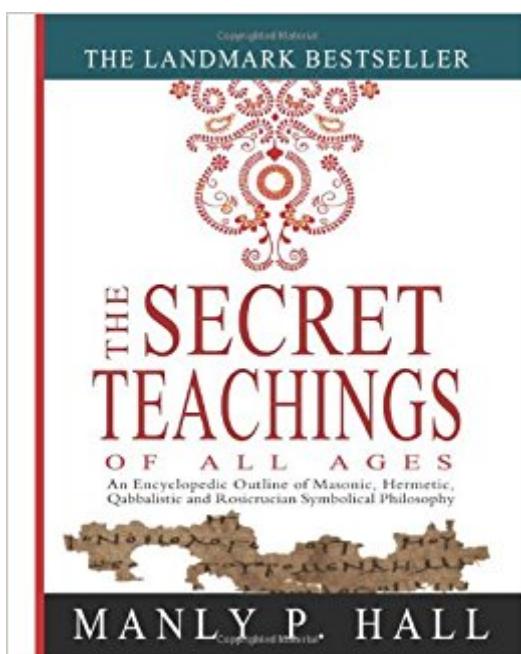


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The Secret Teachings Of All Ages: An Encyclopedic Outline Of Masonic, Hermetic, Qabbalistic And Rosicrucian Symbolical Philosophy



Synopsis

A dense encyclopedia and a solid starting point from which to dive into subjects such as the Qabbala, Alchemy, Tarot, Ceremonial Magic, Neo-Platonic Philosophy, Mystery Religions, and the theory of Rosicrucianism and Freemasonry.

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Customer Reviews

Into this volume has been compressed the quintessence of a colossal learning. It is a living human document, pulsating with the mental and spiritual vibrations of a profound thinker who takes knowledge for his province and reduces whole libraries to a single tome. -- George Barron, Curator of the De Young Museum of San Francisco, in his tribute to this remarkable work. Simply put, this is the most beautiful and complete occult book ever published. It represents a lifetime of research into the mythology, symbolism, and magical practices of countless cultures. From the secrets of Isis to the teachings of mystic Christianity, nearly every occult dogma imaginable is represented here. The book is full of giant illustrations, some of which fold out into a magnificent two-page splendor. This is the definitive guide to secret societies, famous figures, and more a must for every personal library. -- Llewellyn New Times --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

The Philosophical Research Society is a nonprofit organization founded in 1934 for the purpose of assisting thoughtful persons to live more graciously and constructively in a confused and troubled world. The Society is entirely free from educational, political, or ecclesiastical control. Dedicated to

an idealistic approach to the solution of human problems, the Society's program stresses the need for the integration of religion, philosophy, and the science of psychology into one system of instruction. The goal of this instruction is to enable the individual to develop a mature philosophy of life, to recognize his proper responsibilities and opportunities, and to understand and appreciate his place in the unfolding universal pattern. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

If you're reading this review, then you already know about Manly P. Hall, so I won't get into that. The best edition to get is the hardcover University Edition printed in 2008. BUT if you want a cheaper paperback, make sure you get the authorized 2000 reduced facsimile of the 1988 Diamond Jubilee edition from the Philosophical Research Society (PRS). It's the only edition in print that is a true reprint of the original typography and illustrations in their correct places. All other editions are re-typeset, and some cluster all the color illustrations together rather than at the beginning of each chapter where they belong. The Reduced Facsimile is also the only edition that was authorized by Hall when he was still alive, and the only edition that contains ALL the original illustrations. The 2000 edition from PRS is very good quality with a sewn signature binding printed on heavy photo paper. DON'T get the Dover edition or the "Readers" edition!! Much of the value in this text is the beautiful typography and illustrations. It's not worth owning it otherwise. A cheap used copy of the facsimile edition can be easily found for under \$10. I got mine for \$2.99 and it's beautiful.

If you're a student of the Western Mystery tradition, you'll want to own this encyclopediac tome by the iconic Manly P. Hall. This book is not a perennial-philosophy type text along the lines of Aldous Huxley's *The Perennial Philosophy*; rather, it is an encyclopedia that best serves as a reference guide to the Western Mystery tradition. Because I plan to eventually write texts on Hermeticism, I decided I needed to revisit this tome, which I remember perusing at my chiropractor's office forty years ago. At that time, the material didn't particularly interest me because my orientation was exclusively toward Eastern spirituality, so I never purchased a copy. Now that it is available for .99 at Kindle and for free on the web, getting a copy is a no-brainer. Positively, the book contains lots of information on arcane subjects that I have not encountered elsewhere. Negatively, when I read the material on subjects that I'm knowledgeable about, I was less than satisfied with some of the information. The quality of this .99-cent Kindle edition is atrocious -- typos and spacing errors abound. If you want a copacetic copy of this book for your digital library, be advised that this particular edition won't provide it.

Having been disappointed with the first version I ordered (the other new, blue-covered edition from Wilder Publications) as the illustrations are so bad, I'm writing this review to save others wasting their money in a similar way. One can always return a book, but when it's shipped from another continent, it costs a fortune in postage. Both texts are identical of course, but this version also has an index at the back which the Wilder Publications version sadly lacks, which is very frustrating when trying to look up information. The pictures in this book are well-copied and every detail can be seen, which is important when the illustrations are under discussion in the text. Having said that, the paper used is not of a particularly high quality. In this single aspect, the version with the poor pictures wins with better paper, but it costs near \$10 extra at the moment second-hand. As they say, you can't win 'em all.

Manly P. Hall's writings are, in my opinion, stupendous. I highly recommend reading the majority of his works and a great place to start is with *The Secret Teachings of All Ages*. This book serves as a wonderful encyclopedia and introduction in to all sorts of topics ranging from symbolism to ancient ways of thought. I highly recommend this book. In fact...buy two. Once you read it you may find that you want to give one to a close friend. It is an eye opener.

This book is filled with nuggets of knowledge. It is a long read, but well worth the time and effort. It has some archaic spellings and words, so patience is required if you seek further information on topics via the internet. Overall a very satisfying read which answers many questions. Highly recommend.

This is a book that is referenced time and time again in other metaphysical books. I have a hard copy, but it is HUGE! The topics are so diverse and Manly P. Hall provides a plethora of info on many secret teachings from the mystery schools. Well worth the purchase and i would definitely recommend this to other seekers of the Light. The reason i got the kindle version is so i would have access to it anywhere, at anytime.

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