

*The Esoteric
Quarterly*

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**Esoteric philosophy
and its applications to
individual and group
service and the expansion
of human consciousness.**



The School for Esoteric Studies.

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The *Esoteric Quarterly*'s mission is to provide a forum for the exploration of esoteric philosophy and its applications. Full-length articles and short papers are solicited pertaining to both eastern and western esoteric traditions.

We also encourage feedback from readers. Comments of general interest will be published as letters to the editor.

All communications should be sent to editor@esotericstudies.net.

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITY AT THE FULL MOON

The influence of the full moon is normally felt as a stimulation of the emotional life leading to over-activity or imbalance. However, this event can also enhance our mental and spiritual life, offering us a special opportunity for spiritual work and meditation.

The spiritual festivals celebrated at the monthly full moon are potent opportunities for energy exchange in our relationship to the higher worlds. We actively participate in a dynamic energy stream of ascending aspiration and descending spiritual energy with its blessings of light and healing.

Each of the twelve moon festivals is presented as a brief introduction to meditation in the booklet *Twelve Festivals: Spiritual Opportunity at the Full Moon*, available for US\$10.00 from:

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Relationships at Every Level

We are fond of saying that earthly existence bring us into contact with individuals, groups, corporate entities, and aspects of our own being that we might not otherwise encounter. These contacts are not always harmonious but they are great learning experiences, and one day we shall look back with satisfaction at what they have helped us achieve. Like rocks in a rock tumbler, our rough edges are worn away by mutual friction, (literally) turning us over long periods of time into smooth, shining gems and revealing the marvelous colors that were latent in us from the beginning.

Fortunately, easing the pain of continual agitation, we are also blessed by loving, harmonious contacts with those who fill us with joy. These relationships provide the salve, and the hope that urges us forward on our journeys toward perfection.

This issue of the *Esoteric Quarterly* is devoted to discussions of relationships. Our first article, by Donna Mitchell-Moniak, reflects on Christmas and its symbolism. In addition to its topical significance, it reminds us how our relationships with loved ones, neighbors, and people on the other side of the world are all influenced by the timeless story of the birth of light and love in Bethlehem.

In her article, Kathy Newburn discusses personal relationships and sexual expression. She describes the ways these have changed, and will continue to change, as we move into the Aquarian Age. Newburn makes the important point that the pain that relationships can cause is relieved “when we love truly, freed from the grasping of the separated self.”

Martin Vieweg’s article turns to group relationships and to the “elder brothers” of the human race whose task is to encourage us on our journeys. As we evolve in consciousness each of us will have opportunities to promote

successful group interplay and—an essential ingredient of success—to encourage forgiveness. Vieweg notes in conclusion that by sacrificing personal ambition the elder brothers, and we in turn, will help make straight the crooked places of our world.

The next two articles deal with relationships among esoteric groups—by no means always motivated by the love, understanding, and mutual acceptance that the groups promote so strongly in their teachings. Bruce Lyon’s article draws upon a framework of synthesis proposed by Ken Wilbur to contrast how competing groups may view one another and how the outside world views them. Mutual differences that seem so jarring from within may not be apparent to onlookers. In fact, from outside, the groups may be viewed as parts of a single esoteric system competing with others systems over ideas and ways to organize our lives.

The article on the seven rays shows that the Hierarchy of Masters may use two or more esoteric groups, whose mutual relationships have not always been harmonious, to disseminate a body of new knowledge. Discussion of the seven rays is now a cornerstone of Trans-Himalayan teachings. Among many other things, we learn from these teachings how relationships among individuals and groups are affected by ray influences. Importantly, the ways we relate to one another at the personality level may be quite different from the ways we relate at the soul level.

The theme of relationships extends to the books reviewed in this issue. Each of the books contributes, in its unique way, to improving relationships at personal and group levels.

This quarter’s “News from the School” section is devoted to subjective group work and offers a special opportunity to readers of the *Esoteric Quarterly*. The School invites interested read-

ers to participate in the Spring 2007 Subjective Group Conference. Participants will be provided with sets of readings forming the basis for meditation over a three-month period. Insights will then be shared with the group. The topic of the 2007 conference will be announced in the next issue of the *Quarterly*, along with instructions on how to take part.

For readers' convenience we have provided a cumulative index of articles in Volumes 1 and 2 of the *Esoteric Quarterly*. We thank the authors who have shared their research and insights in our pages. The *Quarterly's* success has been the result of their efforts. As we move into our third year of publication, we look forward to hearing from them again as well as to reading articles by many new authors.

Finally, we thank our reviewers, our readers, and everyone else involved for their support of the *Quarterly*. This is your journal, and we are indebted to all who are making it possible.

John Nash
www.uriel.com

Publication Policies

Articles are selected for publication in the *Esoteric Quarterly* because we believe they represent a sincere search for truth, support the service mission to which we aspire, or

contribute to the expansion of human consciousness.

Publication of an article does not necessarily imply that the Editorial Board or the School for Esoteric Studies agrees with the views expressed. Nor do we have the means to verify all facts stated in published articles.

We encourage critical thinking and evaluation of ideas. However, we will not allow this journal to be used as a platform for attacks on individuals, institutions or nations. This policy applies to articles and features as well as to letters to the editor. In turn, we understand that the author of an article may not necessarily agree with the views, attitudes or values expressed by a referenced source. Indeed, serious scholarship sometimes requires reference to work that the author finds abhorrent. We will not reject an article for publication simply on the grounds that it contains a reference to an objectionable source.

An issue of concern in all online journals is the potential volatility of content. Conceivably articles could be modified after the publication date because authors changed their minds about what had been written. Accordingly we wish to make clear our policy on this issue. We reserve the right to correct minor typographical errors, but we will not make any substantive alteration to an article after it "goes to press."

Quotes of the Quarter

A new era, wrapped in the garment of approaching day, is dawning in the hearts of all men; and soon again will the virgin Spirit of God shine forth from the heart, and the door again will open, by which all who will may find entrance to a larger and fuller life. Young, vibrant, with perennial youth and hope and endeavor, the soul of man stands on the threshold of a new era, more glorious than any

other that has brightened the sky since Creation's dawn. The Star of Bethlehem shone brighter at Jesus' birth than it had before, but soon its brightness will be like the noonday sun, for this new light foretells the day when the Christ is born in the hearts of all men.

Baird T. Spanding. *Life and Teachings of the Masters of the Far East*, Vol. II. DeVorss & Co., 1927.

To love at all is to be vulnerable. Love anything, and your heart will certainly be wrung and possibly be broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact, you must give your heart to no one, not even to an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements; lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket — safe, dark, motionless, airless—it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable. The alternative to tragedy, or at least to the risk of tragedy, is damnation. The only place outside of Heaven where you can be perfectly safe from all the dangers and perturbations of love is Hell.

Need-love cries to God from our poverty; Gift-love longs to serve, or even to suffer for, God; Appreciative love says: “We give thanks to thee for thy great glory.” Need-love says of a woman “I cannot live without her”; Gift-love longs to give her happiness, comfort, protection—if possible, wealth; Appreciative love gazes and holds its breath and is silent, rejoices that such a wonder should exist even if not for him, will not be wholly dejected by losing her, would rather have it so than never to have seen her at all.

Friendship arises out of mere companionship when two or more of the companions discover that they have in common some insight or interest or even taste which the others do not share and which, till that moment, each believed to be his own unique treasure (or burden). The typical expression of opening Friendship would be something like, “What? You too? I thought I was the only one.”

C. S. Lewis. *The Four Loves*.
Harvest Books, 1960.

For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever *in that* which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying... They shall not labour in vain, nor

bring forth for trouble; for they *are* the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust *shall be* the serpent’s meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 65:17-25 (KJV).

There can be no temple but the world itself, which is the Everlasting House and the living sanctuary. Until such time as this mystery is completely known in the soul, we increase in grace by broadening the foundation of faith. To the mechanist, the universe is a machine; to the vitalist, a magnificent living organism; to the idealist, the manifestation of the universal mind; and to the mystic, the eternal sanctuary.

Manly P. Hall. *The Mystical Christ*.
Philosophical Research Society, 1951.

Owing to the fact that a large number of fellows of the society have felt the need to form a body of esoteric students, to be organized on the ORIGINAL LINES and devised by the *real* founders of the T.S., the following order has been issued by the founding president:

I. To promote the esoteric interests of the Theosophical Society by the deeper study of esoteric philosophy, there is hereby organized a body to the known as the “Esoteric Section of the Theosophical Society.”

II. The constitution and sole direction of the same is vested in Madame H. P. Blavatsky, as its head; she is solely responsible to the members of results; and the section has no official or corporate connection with the Exoteric Society, save in the person of the founding president.

Announcement in *Lucifer*,
October 1888.

