

*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

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The mission of the *Esoteric Quarterly* 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.

The New Millennium in Spiritual Perspective

The advanced Beings who guide the evolution of humanity are preparing to emerge into outer visible functioning in the world. In preparation for this, the inner side of world developments is gradually precipitating into human consciousness in the form of a growing global impetus toward freedom and right human relations, a necessary first step.

Could the fact of this preparatory stage explain some of the constructive and destructive events we see unfolding in the world? Could there be a positive purpose behind apparent chaos?

More on the theme of the emergence of the Kingdom of God on Earth is given in a free compilation from the writings of Alice A. Bailey, *The Externalization of the Hierarchy*, available from:

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One copy of this booklet is available free, but your \$5.00 (U.S.) donation is encouraged to help keep these publications in service.

Heart, Mind and Action

All five articles in this issue of the *Esoteric Quarterly* discuss topics relating to the spiritual path that runs from aspiration to discipleship, to initiation. Or perhaps it would be more correct to say that initiation can result from both aspiration and discipleship, because, properly understood, the two latter are not so much successive phases in a linear path as overlapping and mutually supportive opportunities on a multidimensional approach to higher consciousness. Initiation, we emphasize, should never be the *goal* of spiritual work; rather it is the outcome of work undertaken for its own sake, in the love of God and humanity.

The first two articles address issues in esoteric astrology/cosmology. Both challenge the reader on intellectual and intuitive levels but have implications for our understanding of many other levels of reality.

The first article by Karl Maret and Lesley Carmack presents a series of geometric mandalas based on the Platonic solids and with deep astrological significance. These mandalas are intended to be used in meditation to draw the mind and heart toward great truths. The advanced student will be led to new heights of contemplation. Even the beginning esoteric student will appreciate the esthetic value and the evocative appeal of the mandalas provided by Dr. Maret and his coauthor.

In his article, Bruce Lyon also presents a series of evocative graphics that lead the heart and mind toward Shamballa, the great center of planetary energy—the planet’s “crown chakra.” Lyon concludes the article with the observation: “The ‘point’ in the centre of time and space; the heart... reveals the fourth quality of deity that lies behind and permeates the three manifest qualities or dimensions of will, love and active intelligence.”

William Meader’s article on practical mysticism expresses the emerging sense that the yearning for the divine can no longer be regarded as an escape from the concerns of the world. Mysticism in the modern world needs to be grounded in service. Moreover, mysticism unites heart and the mind; both, as Meader emphasizes “are equally divine, and both must be utilized in service to humanity’s betterment.”

Cornelia Schaum makes a similar point in her article, but she urges the reader to approach the topic on a meditative rather than a rational basis. Dr. Schaum uses the symbolism of the Cross to focus attention on the juxtaposition of the aspiration and service. The disciple offers him- or herself on that cross in the ultimate act of renunciation.

The last article in this issue explores religious ritual and its strong links with ceremonial magic. Like Schaum’s article, it has a Christian focus, though its applications are more general. Ritual is the oldest known religious practice, but it is becoming increasingly important as the seventh ray of Ceremonial Order comes into manifestation in the early centuries of the Aquarian Age. Ritual speaks to the religious aspirant but it also offers a vessel into which energy from the highest realms of existence can flow—either to raise the consciousness of participants to intuitive and higher levels or to benefit the larger human community.

In this issue we continue the practice of including quotes from the literature and a poem that we hope will inspire our readers. This quarter’s poem was written by a young man who overcame daunting physical challenges to become gifted healing practitioner and writer.

As we come to the end of our third year of publication we pay tribute to the many contributors to the *Esoteric Quarterly*. The *cumu*

lative index at the end of this issue reminds us of the wide variety of articles we have been privileged to publish. We have also had the opportunity to review many books that we felt were of interest to esoteric students.

We also pay tribute to the members of the Editorial Board and others who have volunteered their time, energy and insights to make it all happen. The *Quarterly* is a collaborative endeavor in which members of the worldwide community of esoteric students share their insights for the benefit of all.

We are sorry to have lost two long-serving members of the Editorial Board during the last three months. Barbara Domalske and Kathy Newburn retired from the Board. We thank them most sincerely for their service and wish them well in their future endeavors.

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."

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Thank you for publishing Luisa Romero de Johnston's excellent article on Freedom and Free Will (*Esoteric Quarterly*, Summer 2007, pp. 21-23). I would like to add one more perspective on freedom and will. As we know, a gradual and steady growth in personal and then group consciousness leads to what D.K. [the Tibetan Master Djwhal Khul] calls 'identification.' When the state of identification is reached, there is no more need to feel that we

have no choice and no escape or for the attitude of humility and acceptance, because there is no other to relate to, no Divine Will as opposed to individual or group will. I think Friedrich Engels captured the essence of this idea in his famous statement: "Freedom is the recognition of necessity."

Regards,
Maxim Osinovsky
Berkeley, Calif., USA

Quotes of the Quarter

The most incomprehensible thing about the universe is that it is comprehensible.

Albert Einstein.
Physicist & Nobel Laureate

For you to be here now trillions of drifting atoms had somehow to assemble in an intricate and intriguingly obliging manner to create you. It's an arrangement so specialized and particular that it has never been tried before and will only exist this once. For the next many years (we hope) these tiny particles will uncomplainingly engage in all the billions of deft, cooperative efforts necessary to keep you intact and let you experience the supremely agreeable but generally underappreciated state known as existence.

Why atoms take this trouble is a bit of a puzzle. Being you is not a gratifying experience at the atomic level.

Bill Bryson. *A Short History of Nearly Everything*.
Broadway Books, 2003.

The *solar Logos* is the initiatory impulse or Father of the Son in His physical incarnation, a solar system. He is the sum total of the Pitris, in the process of providing *form*. The union of Father (positive force) and Mother (negative force) produces that central blaze which we call the form, the body of manifestation of the Son. A *Heavenly Man* holds an analogous position in relation to a planetary scheme. He is the central germ of positive life or force, which, in due course of time, demonstrates as a planetary scheme, or an incarnation of the planetary Logos. A *man* similarly is the positive life or energy which, through action on negative force, creates bodies of manifestation through which he can shine or radiate.

Alice A. Bailey. *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*.
Lucis Publishing Company, 1925.

“God” is in fact, as Martin Buber explains in his moving meditations on the “Darkness of God,” “the most loaded of all human words. None has been so misused, defiled and mauled. Men have torn it apart in religious factions, have killed for it and died for it; there is no comparable term to designate the supreme reality and yet it is so often used to disguise the worst impieties. But just because it means so much for man—even for atheists, who reject God and not merely a nameless something—it cannot be given up. We may respect someone who avoids it; the term cannot be cleared of dubious associations. But neither can it be forgotten. It can however be taken up and freshly considered—and obviously also defined in other words. So, instead of talking no longer of God or instead of talking of him in the same way, the important thing today is to learn to speak with great care in a new way of God. If a theology were not logos of God, but were to speak only of man and human fellowship, it would have to be described honestly... as anthropology.

Hans Küng. *On Being a Christian*.
Doubleday & Co., 1974

Sacrifice is the supreme virtue, the greatest contribution, the meaning of “rejection of the stone” and why that stone is the “keystone.” The worker voluntarily foregoes acceptance... Therefore let sacrifice, renunciation, ever be the keystone of life and work, the master theme, the motif or motifs. Then it will also be the joy of life. Let go of the separate self, the individual life. Then the greater life will be revealed and known.

Self-negation does not produce futile nullity. It is the only gateway to fullness of being and to infinite potency. But to achieve and maintain this, one must live in the realm of infinite thought and eternal truth. "He that loseth his life for my sake, shall find it unto life eternal." Give to have. Serve to live.

Renounce to perceive and receive. Share to enjoy. See life whole and live for the whole and nevermore for the separate self alone.

Geoffrey Hodson. *Light of the Sanctuary*.
Theosophical Publishers.

Poem of the Quarter

Welcome to My World by Shannon Paul Stokely

I want to create a world for everyone.
A world without money...
Where the worth of a being is measured
By the help they give to others.
Not by the amount of money they make.
I want to create a world for you, my friends.
A world without bigotry...
Where every being is viewed
As equal.
Not as gay, black, Wiccan, liberal, handi-
capped, *et cetera*.
I want to create a world of infinite possibilities.
A world of magick...
Where magick exists without question
And 10,000 Magi guide and inspire us.
Not rule over or govern.
I want to create a world of freethinkers.
A world of intellect...

Where people are *not* sheep!
And can do what they want,
Without anyone spouting off or judging them.

I want to create a world of peace.
A world of healing...
Where people only raise a weapon against op-
pression
And injustice,
Not out of fearful, foolish, capitalistic, or
prideful reasons.

I want to create a world of appreciation.
A world of thanks...
Where people take pride in their work
And give thanks for what they have,
Not feel jealous or envious over the stuff they
don't have.

This world starts with you.
When you help someone to better themselves
Not for pay, except for a smile.
When you learn not to hate for stupid reasons
But to love, accept, and embrace the differ-
ence.