



The Secret Teachings of All Ages (Reader's Edition)

By Manly P. Hall

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A classic since 1928, this masterly encyclopedia of ancient mythology, ritual, symbolism, and the arcane mysteries of the ages is available for the first time in a compact "reader's edition."

Like no other book of the twentieth century, Manly P. Hall's legendary *The Secret Teachings of All Ages* is a codex to the ancient occult and esoteric traditions of the world. Students of hidden wisdom, ancient symbols, and arcane practices treasure Hall's magnum opus above all other works.

While many thousands of copies have sold since its initial publication in 1928, *The Secret Teachings of All Ages* has previously been available only in oversized, expensive editions. For the first time, Hall's celebrated classic is now published in an affordable trade paperback volume. Literally hundreds of entries shine a rare light on some of the most fascinating and closely held aspects of myth, religion, and philosophy from throughout the centuries.

More than one hundred line drawings and a sixteen-page color insert reproduce some of the finest illustrations of the original book, while reset and reformatted text makes this edition of *The Secret Teachings of All Ages* newly accessible to readers everywhere.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In 1928, a 20-something Renaissance man named Manly Hall self-published a vast encyclopedia of the occult, believing that "modern" ideas of progress and materialism were displacing more important and ancient modes of knowledge. Hall's text has become a classic reference, dizzying in its breadth: various chapters explore Rosicrucianism, Kabbalah, alchemy, cryptology, Tarot, pyramids, the Zodiac, Pythagorean philosophy, Masonry and gemology, among other topics. This affordably priced edition would be vastly improved by a new foreword, placing the work in some kind of historical and critical context and introducing readers to the basic contours of Hall's sweeping corpus. Instead, we have a disciple's adulatory 1975 foreword, which merely parrots the same themes of mystery and esoterica that are espoused in the book. Readers who are unfamiliar with Hall's work will be at a loss in ferreting out which chapters have stood the test of time and which have been vigorously debunked (like the one on Islam, which actually uses novelist Washington Irving as a primary source on the prophet Muhammad). However, they will also marvel at the sheer scope of Hall's research and imagination, and at J. Augustus Knapp's famous illustrations, including a 16-page color insert.

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Review

"A masterful summation of the esoteric teachings of the ages."

From the Author

Mystical speculations about God, the world, and man occupied the minds of many medieval scholars and theologians. They conceived creation itself to be a symbol or figure through which the Divine Will manifested its purposes and intentions—thus by analogy, the world revealed God, and man revealed the world. The human being himself was a microcosm—a miniature of the cosmos. After the collapse of the pagan cultural institutions, it was unlawful to teach classical learning or to advance scientific knowledge contrary to the prevailing scholasticism. To avoid persecution and at the same time perpetuate for the benefit of qualified disciples the more advanced formulas of the ancient wisdom, the sacred truths were presented symbolically through the beautiful engraved devices of the emblem writers.

The seventeenth century restoration of learning gradually brought about a Universal Reformation as proclaimed in the Fama of the Rosicrucians. A careful study of the emblem books of that period reveals that most of the figures and designs were based upon Egyptian or Greek mythology, and like the alchemical symbols, perpetuated the secret teachings of esoteric fraternities. Today, those well informed in the Orphic Mysteries and the mystical speculations of the Neoplatonists can interpret the design with little difficulty. It appears that the emblem books were, in many cases, actual extensions of Pythagorean and Platonic metaphysics. Paracelsus said that the first hieroglyphic book is nature, published in folio, and the second hieroglyphic book is man, published in duodecimo.

To live in the world without becoming aware of the meaning of the world is like wandering about in a great library without touching the books. It has always seemed to me that symbolism should be restored to the structure of world education. The young are no longer invited to seek the hidden truths, dynamic and eternal, locked within the shapes and behavior of living beings.

The present volume is itself a symbol made up of many symbols gathered from rare sources. It invites the

thoughtful reader to explore the meanings of these emblems and devices with his own insight. Because spiritual growth is the goal of all human aspiration, symbols that help us to grow are precious things for they open the doors to life everlasting.

I wish to express my deep indebtedness to those faithful artists and engravers whose remarkable meditation pictures have guided my labors for so many years. This book is dedicated to the truths they served and the wonderful designs which they have bestowed as a priceless heritage upon the truth seekers of the future. It is my sincere hope that this memorial may continue to serve and inspire new generations of kindly and dedicated people.

Manly P. Hall Los Angeles, California October 1, 1975. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Brian Mejia:

The book *The Secret Teachings of All Ages (Reader's Edition)* make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You may use to make your capable more increase. Book can to get your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem using your subject. If you can make looking at a book *The Secret Teachings of All Ages (Reader's Edition)* for being your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your own capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You are able to know everything if you like available and read a guide *The Secret Teachings of All Ages (Reader's Edition)*. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science publication or encyclopedia or others. So , how do you think about this publication?

Maryann Carson:

People live in this new day of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the time or they will get lots of stress from both day to day life and work. So , if we ask do people have free time, we will say absolutely without a doubt. People is human not really a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer will unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the book you have read is usually *The Secret Teachings of All Ages (Reader's Edition)*.

Marlys Wieland:

Do you have something that you want such as book? The publication lovers usually prefer to pick book like comic, short story and the biggest some may be novel. Now, why not hoping *The Secret Teachings of All Ages (Reader's Edition)* that give your entertainment preference will be satisfied through reading this book. Reading behavior all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world considerably better then how they react to the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading routine only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to always be success person. So , for all of you who want to start examining as your good habit, you could pick *The Secret Teachings of All Ages (Reader's Edition)* become your personal starter.

Melvin Dove:

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