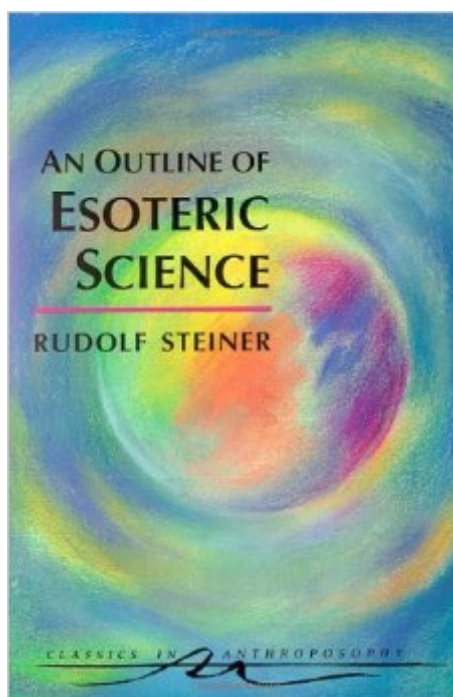


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An Outline Of Esoteric Science: (CW 13) (Classics In Anthroposophy)



Synopsis

Written in 1909 (CW 13) "Esoteric science is the science of what takes place esoterically, in the sense that it is perceived not outside in nature but where one's soul turns when it directs its inner being toward the spirit. Esoteric science is the opposite and counterpart of natural science."

•Rudolf Steiner This masterwork of esotericism places humankind at the very heart of the vast, invisible processes of cosmic evolution. When we use the term "natural science," do we mean that we are dealing with human knowledge of nature? Steiner worked and reworked his Rosicrucian cosmology to make it increasingly precise and accurate. An Outline of Esoteric Science is as vital and relevant now as it was when first published in 1910 and remains the most comprehensive and effective presentation of a spiritual alternative to contemporary, materialistic cosmologies and a strict Darwinian view of human nature and evolution. In this foundational work of spiritual science, we see how the creation and evolution of humanity is embedded at the heart of the vast, invisible web of interacting cosmic beings, through whom the alchemical processes of cosmic evolution continue to evolve. Included are descriptions of the physical-spiritual makeup of the human being; the relationships of the different "bodies" of the human being to sleep and death; and a detailed, practical guide to methods and exercises, including the "Rose Cross Meditation," through which we can attain knowledge of the spiritual worlds. The most remarkable and revolutionary aspect of this work is the central function that Steiner attributes to the Christ and his involvement in human and earthly evolution through the Mystery of Golgotha. Contents:

Introduction by Clopper Almon Preface by Rudolf Steiner The Character of Esoteric Science The Makeup of the Human Being Sleep and Death Cosmic Evolution and the Human Being Knowledge of Higher Worlds •Initiation Cosmic and Human Evolution •Now and in the Future Details from the Field of Spiritual Science Appendix: Rudolf Steiner's Early Introductions Further Reading This is essential reading for all serious students of esoteric spirituality. Previous translations: An Outline of Occult Science and Occult Science: An Outline. An Outline of Esoteric Science is a translation of Die Geheimwissenschaft im Umriss (GA 13).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"An outline of esoteric science" isn't a general or popularized overview of Rudolf Steiner's teachings, which I assumed when ordering it. Rather, it's an incredibly torpid, boring and extensive survey of just a few aspects of Anthroposophy. Steiner describes, in almost impossible detail, the "cosmic evolution" of humanity through various re-incarnated versions of planet Earth (!), which he calls Saturn, Sun and Moon. Apparently, further re-incarnated Earths await us in the future, including a Vulcan incarnation. The other planets of our present solar system are inhabited by spiritual beings on different levels of evolutionary accomplishment. Many of these ideas are obviously derived from Madame Blavatsky's Theosophy, but have been subtly altered by Steiner in various ways. Humanity emerged (sort of) during the Old Saturn incarnation of Earth, with some aid from various angelic beings. A kind of cosmic fall or mistake took place when the Moon separated from Earth. The details escape me, but because of this evolutionary mishap, humans are influenced by two alien spirits known as Lucifer and Ahriman. Of these, Ahriman seems to be the worst. The Christ being is a solar spirit who works to reverse the negative developments, a process which will take millennia. But how are we to know that Steiner isn't making it all up? The second half of the book deals with this question. Steiner believes that anyone can develop the clairvoyance necessary to see and confirm his "esoteric science". This part of his work is truly fascinating! Thus, Steiner claims that those who *don't* have visions identical to his own, are being deluded by their own subjective consciousness or perhaps by evil spirits.

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