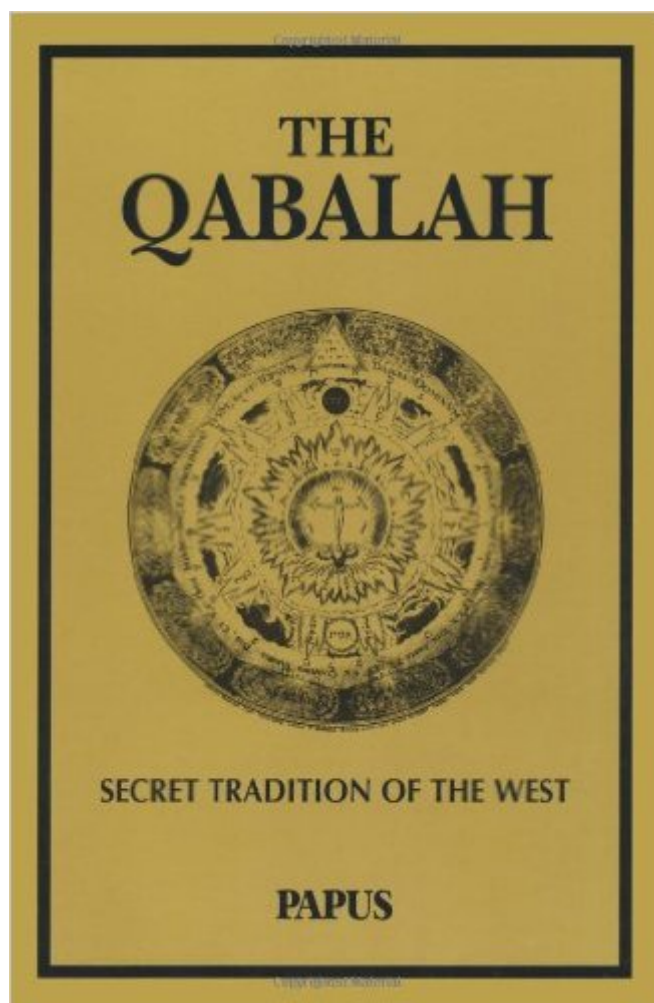


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The Qabalah: Secret Tradition Of The West



Synopsis

The Qabalah, which was first published in 1892, provides a concise and valuable introduction to the sacred science of the Hebrews, and thus to the esoteric teachings of Christianity. It also contains Papus' complete translation of the Sepher Yetzirah, Eliphas Lévi's famous Ten Lessons on the Qabalah, Rabbi Drach's important treatise, The Qabalah of the Hebrews, along with his original theoretical explorations of the Qabalah. Foreword by W. N. Schors. Bibliography.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

You might wonder why the author calls the Qabalah the "secret tradition of the west" when he seems to believe it originated with Abraham, Moses, or the Egyptians. "Middle east" would seem more appropriate, but actually the subtitle is correct, because this is definitely Qabalah from a western occult viewpoint. Papus includes huge quotes from other occultists, most notably Eliphas Levi. Levi gives high praise to the Catholic religion and encourages initiates to continue practicing the religion they were born into. Of course, he also says that Osiris and Jesus represent the same thing. The author's real name was Gérard Anacleto Vicent Encausse. Papus was a name taken from a book by Eliphas Levi. Anyway, the book really is quite interesting if a bit difficult to wade through. It doesn't help that some of the diagrams are still in French. The first part of the book consists mostly of letters from other authors which you can read later. I think maybe pages 74-91 were put there to scare off the casual reader. This section is quoted from somebody called Sedir. (Sedir was a pseudonym for Yvon Le Loup - a member of Fabre des Essarts's Eglise Gnostique

Universelle together with Papus as well as the Ordre Martiniste.) Sedir's writing is very difficult to understand. You could easily read that whole section and not have any idea what you read except to know that the worthy Qabalist is somebody advanced in years, with knowledge in all manner of subjects, and who possesses "absolute purity". I would recommend skipping directly to page 92 (the beginning of part 2) where Papus begins his actual introduction to the topic.

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