

MAGICAL KNOWLEDGE

BOOK TWO

THE INITIATE

BY JOSEPHINE MCCARTHY

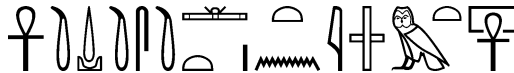
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Dedicated to Josephine Stockdale, my greatest teacher.

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Introduction

Once you have been initiated into or have been working at any depth in a magical or spiritual line, there are certain things that will start to happen to you: the inner contacts will begin to include you in their job listings and things will be put in your path for you to sort out. If you decide to be totally self-serving, then this peculiarity will fade off and they will eventually leave you alone. Just bear in mind if you do that, they will also leave you alone when you don't want them to.

But if you rise to the challenge, then more things will be put in your path and the tasks that will be thrown your way might have no connection to the stream of magic/spirituality that you are initiated into or working on. You become a worker in their eyes and they will give you jobs: they don't care what robes you wear or who's books you read.

This book is about methods, approaches and techniques that can be used regardless of what tradition you are from, as it is a book that shows you the world from the back door: a view into the boiler room of the universe. This is where adepts work from, whether they are Western Mystery adepts, Mystical Christian adepts, or Pagan adepts. It doesn't really matter because once you get past the surface details, the skills and techniques are more or less the same, and the beings that you will encounter are most definitely the same.

Instead of taking you by the hand and spoon-feeding you details, visions and a step-by-step guide, which is a stage you should be past now, these chapters look at potential pitfalls and suggest good working methods, approaches and how to tackle common problems. There are practical parts where you are shown how to develop certain tools, but in general the idea is to move beyond the beginner shuffle and progress to more advanced working methods.

Once you have got your head around using working methods without specific structures (i.e. traditions) then you start to look at the tradition that you are an initiate of in more depth. You start to see the inner pattern that holds that tradition together and the blueprint of the structure that was used to build it. Once you look at a tradition this way, you start to see its strengths and weaknesses, and it begins to expose the reasons why certain things within that tradition are the way that they are. It helps you to understand the best way to work within your tradition, and the most positive way to move forward with the work as a part of the new generation.

A tradition that grows as a result of the magical development of its initiates and adepts is a tradition that will survive the many ups and downs that all magical and spiritual groups go through. The more balanced a tradition, the less infighting, power games and glamour it expresses and that balance comes from the maturing of the skills of the adepts over time and sometimes generations. It also encourages offshoot development which keeps the original group healthy by pruning and by satellite development instead of mummifying and degenerating the line of magic as a result of no innovation.

What is a magician?

‘One who does magic’ is the Magician’s reply.

What is a magician?

‘One who stands at the centre of everything’ is the Developing One’s reply.

What is a magician?

‘One who reflects the golden rays’ is the Foremost One’s reply.

What is a magician?

‘One who is I,’ replies the Divine.