

16 MAGIC

16.1 What Magic Is

¹“Magic” was the name given to the knowledge of the energies and to the right method of using them, those energies which are always connected with all kinds of consciousness expressions. Magic is the power of causing changes in the visible molecular kinds through a knowledge of the pertaining mental, emotional, and physical etheric laws and of physical etheric material energies.

²Like all other terms belonging to esoteric knowledge that have been picked up by the uninitiated, also the words “ceremony” and “ritual” have become meaningless. By “ritual” the esotericians meant the methodical, systematic, rhythmic processes that are necessary to the transformation of chaos into a cosmos. It is the ritual of nature that the researcher is studying when in his laboratory he prepares and observes the chemical and physical processes to obtain a certain result. The esoteric ritual was a symbolical representation of the order in which energies must work lest the cosmos be wrought into chaos. The ritual was intended to demonstrate the manner in which events happened and their expediency. It was an external support to attention as it was following the energy processes that the magician had to direct mentally to obtain physical phenomena. By the aid of the ritual those present at the “experiment” could not only follow the process but also participate in it with their thinking. As the esoteric knowledge was lost this power of thought was lost, too. What remained was the external ceremony, which the ignorant believe to be essential, even the one essential thing. In that manner magic has degenerated into the superstition of ignorance.

³There are two kinds of magicians: white and black ones. However, they are of quite another calibre than imagination depicts them,. They fight each others. The white magicians possess knowledge of all physical, emotional, and mental laws of nature and laws of life and apply them with unfailing precision. Mistakes would have serious repercussions on themselves. Suffice it so say that they are members of the planetary hierarchy. The black magicians try to counteract consciousness development,with everything implied in this as for conception of reality, in order to remain rulers in the physical and emotional worlds as long as possible. When mankind has reached the mental stage, their power will be at an end.

⁴Telepathy is the science of mechanical transference of thoughts from and to different individuals. Magic is the science of the effects of consciousness expressions. Both telepathy and magic are esoteric disciplines. However different they are in many respects, they nevertheless are part of the esoteric science of consciousness expressions.

⁵“Energy follows thought” means that thought is an energy expression, for without energy there is no consciousness expression, and also that energy affects the thing thought of. Anyone who is thinking of what is bad in him strengthens this bad thing. This condition is the ground and cause of “magic”, the control of energy manifestations by mentality.

⁶The “magic of words” is an emotional phenomenon. Words can arouse emotions, and emotion can intoxicate and blind you. Especially poets (masters of the magic of words) are well cognizant of this condition.

⁷Magic is the knowledge of sound, the effect of sound, and the power of using this knowledge. According to D.K.–Kleinias the study of sound will afford mankind an “instrument in the world of creation”. “Through the use of sound the scientist of the future will bring about his results; through sound, a new field of discovery will open up; the sound which every form in all kingdoms of nature gives forth will be studied and known and changes will be brought about and new forms developed through its medium... the release of energy in the atom is linked to this new coming science of sound.”

⁸It is not surprising that science does not really understand the effect of sound. It knows nothing of the higher worlds of existence. Sound is the strongest power factor in existence. In material respect it has a constructive and a destructive effect. It combines atoms into molecules, molecules into aggregates, etc., and disintegrates all compounds.

⁹The laws of sound are part of the great all-embracing cosmic law.

¹⁰All art is found in higher worlds, and the conception of beauty is a manifestation of the fact that all existence accords with law.

¹¹The material worlds come into being through what we call “music”. And this brings us into the realm of music, the most “spiritual” of all arts, being an immensely important factor of consciousness activation. Mankind begins to suspect the importance of rhythm, but has no understanding whatsoever of the significance of harmony. Consonance has a constructive, edifying, healing effect. In contrast, dissonance has a destructive, disintegrating effect, not only on the psyche but also on organic tissues.

¹²The fact that people can be accustomed to enjoy dissonances is no proof of the latter’s viability and finality.

¹³The laws of harmony can be established mathematically once you have received the pertaining “key”. They cannot at all be determined by subjectivism with its sovereign arbitrariness.

¹⁴Subjectivism, now gaining ground in all spheres of life, by its effects leads to the mental hospital. If this goes on, we shall have to build big cities to house the mentally ill. Many people have said that the “whole world is just one big madhouse”. It can become a reality.

¹⁵The Jewish story of how the walls of Jericho came tumbling down with the trumpet blasts of the priests was stolen by the Jews from Chaldean archives. The event took place in Atlantis. The walls came down with “sounds”, which are the true energy and can blast any mountain more efficiently than the atomic bomb. These kinds of sound are inaudible to the physical ear. So there were no Israelite priests who made walls crumble by the “power of god”, “blessing of god”, and more in the same ignorant style. Jewish priests never had the power of magic.

16.2 The Energy Aspect of Consciousness

¹The world of Platonic ideas, the world of knowledge of the esotericians, is not only the world of knowledge. It is also the world of energies. Causal ideas are energies that only mental selves can assimilate without risk. At lower stages of development they have a destructive effect. This is a fact which only esotericians can understand. Anyone who does not see the significance of these ideas will misinterpret and distort them. Anyone who does not use them in the right manner in his work for development and unity commits serious mistakes for himself as well. Ideas are charged with explosive stuff, physically, emotionally, or mentally. Idea energies that are not given expedient outlets through their right centres in the different envelopes seek other avenues. Disturbances of balance of various kinds will often appear. It is one of the tasks of the planetary hierarchy to supervise mankind lest it gain more ideas than it can use in an expedient way.

²Magic is the science studying the energy aspect of consciousness expressions. The fact that it has always been kept extremely secret is due especially to the fact that “children should not be allowed to play with explosives”. It is common knowledge how the very term “magic” has been idiotized. What else could be expected from the indissoluble union of ignorance and belief? The person who “has no sense of history” at least has been spared deception through the errors of historians. When the esoteric history is published some time, not much will remain of the exoteric history now being studied.

³Emotional and mental consciousness expressions have a double effect. Vibrations arise in the molecular kinds to which the original expressions belong, and in emotional and matter

energy robots are formed whose life-time and energy effect correspond exactly to the intensity of the original expression. The intense, fervent “prayer” of a whole assembly (religious, political, etc.) has an effect of which the participants in their life ignorance have not the slightest idea. They do not know that “sowing has to be reaped”, that every consciousness expression is a seed for sowing that will ripen to be reaped some time. People never know the effects of their consciousness expressions (least of all the collective ones). At the present stage of mankind’s development more than 90 per cent of consciousness expressions are of the repulsive kind, and taking this attitude an effect of hatred is produced. Everything that mankind has experienced in historical times in physical, emotional, and mental respect should have taught them something, if historians had been able to know what they report and what they do not report. Try at last to use the little reason there is to think out the energy consequences of hatred (which may be of any strength, such as causing earthquakes, plague germs, etc.) and all the ideologies of hatred! The history of the world has been the history of horrendous, nameless suffering. And nevertheless mankind with its collected expressions of hatred has not yet reaped more than a tiny fraction of what it has sown. Fortunately the thoughts and deeds of love can blot out those of hatred. And that will be the salvation of mankind.

16.3 Ignorance of Magic

¹Those who were the first to venture to suggest the reality of magic were held up to mockery, scorn and derision during many generations by all learned bodies in all countries. This is among the things that must not be forgotten, for it is a valuable experience to start from when studying mankind’s stages of development and its helplessness in the matter of understanding the consciousness aspect of existence.

²How is it that the learned, who may come up with the most absurd vagaries, cannot even for once find a real idea (one agreeing with reality)? What if they toyed with the idea that the whole cosmos is an ocean of consciousness and not just an aggregation of lumps of matter?

³It is a real scream that illusionists, who manage to entertain their audience by sleight of hand and tricks, are called “natural magicians”. However, they provide a natural protection to the true magician, who can save himself from persecution by declaring that it is a matter of “psychological tricks”. Otherwise he will be condemned as an impostor.

⁴Many initiates of esoteric knowledge orders were given permission by the planetary hierarchy to make magical experiments in certain exceptional cases. They were clear about the fact that great risks were involved in such doings. If you were considered a “wizard”, it was tantamount to being declared by theologians as having a pact with Satan. And if they did not have some powerful protector, the undaunted would meet their end at the stake. The spiritual guides of the nations have certainly seen to it that mankind was kept down in ignorance and spiritual darkness. They still do so up to this very day. And in our times they have received unexpected assistance from political leaders who know what is the one, unerring, absolute truth, and who “liquidate” people who have independent views. We may wonder how long such madness will continue.

⁵The data given by encyclopedias on mysticism, occultism, magic, and, besides, everything esoteric demonstrate a complete ignorance. Magic is declared to be the idea of witchcraft, black art, necromancy, etc. You could fancy you had been transported to the darkest depth of the Middle Ages. Magic is presented as superstition, the illusionism and imposture of charlatans, the belief in the breaking or suspension of laws of nature. Of course all such claims are as unreliable as all the opinions of ignorance.

⁶Everything in the cosmos happens according to law. There are laws in everything and everything is expressive of law. There is no such things as miracles, the breaking or “suspension” of natural laws. But energies of higher kinds suspend the action of energies of

lower kinds, as long as these higher energies are working. The propelling force of the aeroplane suspends the action of the earth's attraction but therefore does not suspend the "law of gravity" (constantly acting attraction).

⁷Scientists assert that magical phenomena "conflict with the laws of nature". However, they conflict only with their conception and knowledge of the laws of nature. According to esoterics, they have not explored even one per cent of all the laws of nature.

⁸To scientists there are no other kinds of energy than the ones they have explored. Such an attitude demonstrates their dogmatism. A few years hence, science is different from what it is today. They should have learnt to see this, and, above all, they should have been able to draw the conclusion from such an experience. They know only what they have learnt, which undoubtedly is much. But they have no understanding of the fact that this is like a drop in the ocean.

⁹Science knows nothing of magic and, therefore, should not give any opinion on the matter. Because you should know what you are talking about, not what you believe you know, for in so doing you demonstrate a lack of judgment. It should be asserted, however, that science is in no position even to understand the pertaining phenomena. Its methods never extend beyond physical reality. And the abode of magic is the mental world. Only esotericians possess the knowledge required to express opinions on the essence of magic. That is thing you do not even discuss with the "uninitiated", who will just misunderstand it.

16.4 Magical Phenomena

¹The general public is very interested in so-called magical phenomena, manifestations that may be ascribed to the existence of superphysical energies. The esoterician refuses to have anything to do with such phenomena. They satisfy curiosity and the desire for sensations and only serve to increase superstition, since the correct explanation of causes is not given.

²Esoterics is a system of knowledge. It wants to teach people how to think in the esoteric way. When they have learnt how to do this, they will be able to understand better. In the meantime, they are very wise to leave magical phenomena out of account. At all events, such things cannot be correctly explained by others than causal selves.

³Blavatsky's magical phenomena, which she produced by mentally directing physical etheric energies to bring about effects in "visible" physical matter, had to be discontinued for several reasons. Scientists, being able to judge everything of which they know nothing, declared those phenomena frauds. The uneducated masses regarded them as demonstrations of "supernatural" forces, that is to say, witchcraft pure and simple. They did not at all understand that it was a matter of forces of nature unknown to science, that there can be nothing "supernatural" or art of witchcraft. Esoterics maintains that there can no kind of "miracle" whatsoever.

⁴If the idea of witchcraft were generally accepted, the door would be opened wide to all manner of grossest superstition, and mankind would soon be back in the darkest depth of medieval times. The very understanding that everything in nature takes place in accord with eternal, immutable laws of nature is the great merit of natural science and has swept away the barbarous belief in divine arbitrariness and lawlessness.

⁵Fortunately, the planetary hierarchy has prohibited the esotericians from making magical experiments. This prohibition is in force until mankind has reached such a stage of development that the magician will not be a martyr to his power. Otherwise there is a risk that people relapse into the medieval belief in witches and warlocks, so that they would blame everything evil that befalls them upon sorcery by imagined enemies.

⁶Magic is a quite natural things to Indians, because they observe almost daily how fakirs make experiments, which the uneducated think are magical, which they generally are not. They are certainly able to make simple experiments, such as making plants grow fast from

seeds by transferring vegetable sap from other sources through the usual method of etherization, or hovering in the air by making the etheric envelope of the body, which is an electrical envelope, assume the same polarity as that of terrestrial magnetism, so that repulsion acts upon it instead of attraction. But most of the tricks are purely psychological (using mass suggestion).

⁷During a discussion about Jeshu's miracles, a professor of chemistry declared that no one could turn water into wine. An esoterician agreed that probably no chemist could do it. But perhaps someone who knew how water is turned into grape juice through the vine could accelerate this process from a couple of months into just a few minutes, adding to the water whatever substances were needed, so that it would appear as magic. Then it is another matter whether the result would justify the expenditure of energy. No avatar uses his knowledge of magic for any other purpose than the consciousness development of other beings. So the story of the wedding in Cana could be classed among the legends, as most of the "miracles". They were never meant to be understood in any other sense than the symbolical one.

Endnotes by the Translator

To 16.1.7 The quotation is from *A Treatise on White Magic* by Alice A. Bailey, p. 335.

To 16.1.11 "...music – the most divine and *spiritual* of arts." *The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett*, p. 185 (Letter 24B from 45-self K.H. to A. P. Sinnett).

The above text constitutes the essay *Magic* by Henry T. Laurency.

The essay is part of the book *Knowledge of Life Three* by Henry T. Laurency. Translated from the Swedish by Lars Adelskog.

Copyright © 2008 by the Henry T. Laurency Publishing Foundation.