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ZOHAR, THE BOOK OF SPLENDOR

BASIC READINGS FROM THE KABBALAH

ZOHAR THE BOOK OF SPLENDOR

BASIC: READINGS FROM THE KABBALAH

ZOHAR: THE BOOK OF SPLENDOR

BASIC READINGS FROM THE KABBALAH

Schocken One of the great masterpieces of Western religious thought, the Zohar represents an attempt to uncover hidden meanings behind the world of appearances. It is the central work in the literature of the Kabbalah, the Jewish mystical tradition. This volume of selected passages from the Zohar, culled by the greatest authority on Jewish mysticism, offers a sampling of its unique vision of the esoteric wonders of creation; the life and destiny of the soul; the confluence of physical and divine love; suffering and death; exile and redemption.

ZOHAR, THE BOOK OF SPLENDOR

ZOHAR

ESSENTIAL READINGS FROM THE BOOK OF SPLENDOR

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform Kabbalah, often defined as a

Jewish mystical tradition, actually encompasses "the spiritual heritage of all mankind," according to Rav P.S. Berg in *The Essential Zohar*. Berg, the dean of the Kabbalah Centre (whose members include celebrities such as Madonna and Mick Jagger), has concentrated a core of teachings from the central kabbalistic text, the Zohar, in a single volume that makes kabbalistic wisdom accessible to readers of all religious traditions. The Zohar, which dates back to the second century B.C.E., offers tools for doing the work of kabbalah: "transforming chaos and fragmentation into unity and completion." The Zohar's biblical commentaries and rabbinical stories of apparently "surprise happenings, sudden insights, and full-blown epiphanies" are intended to help readers open themselves to similar revelations. And Berg explains that all of the Zohar's rarified spiritual stories have potential for practical application, to help readers "replace doubt with certainty and darkness with Light." --Michael Joseph Gross --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

THE ESSENTIAL ZOHAR

THE SOURCE OF KABBALISTIC WISDOM

Harmony For thousands of years, no book has been more shrouded in mystery than the Zohar, yet no book offers us greater wisdom. The central text of Kabbalah, the Zohar is a commentary on the Bible's narratives, laws, and genealogies and a map of the spiritual landscape. In *The Essential Zohar*, the eminent kabbalist Rav P. S. Berg decodes its teachings on evil, redemption, human relationships, wealth and poverty, and other fundamental concerns from a practical, contemporary perspective. The Zohar and Kabbalah have traditionally been known as the world's most esoteric sources of spiritual knowledge, but Rav Berg has dedicated his life to making this concentrated distillation of infinite wisdom available to people of all faiths so that we may use its principles to live each day in harmony with the divine.

JUDAISM

HISTORY, BELIEF AND PRACTICE

Taylor & Francis This newly revised all-encompassing textbook is a guide to the history, beliefs and practice of Judaism. Beginning with the ancient Near Eastern background, it covers early Israelite history, the emergence of classical rabbinic literature and the rise of medieval Judaism in Islamic and Christian lands. It also includes the early modern period and the development of Jewry in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Extracts from primary sources are used throughout to enliven the narrative and provide concrete examples of the rich variety of Jewish civilization. Specially designed to assist learning, *Judaism*: • Introduces texts and commentaries, including the Hebrew Bible, rabbinic texts, mystical literature, Jewish philosophy and Jewish theology • Provides the skills necessary to understand these step-by-step with the help of a companion website • Explains how to interpret the major events in nearly four thousand years of Jewish history • Supports study with discussion questions on the central historical and religious issues, and includes key reading for each chapter, an extensive glossary and index • Illustrates the development of Judaism, its concepts, observances and culture, with maps, photos,

paintings and engravings • Links each chapter to a free companion website at www.routledge.com/cw/cohnsherbok which provides things to think about, things to do and tips for teachers as well as other online resources

KABBALAH

THE SPLENDOR OF JUDAISM

Jason Aronson Incorporated *Kabbalah: The Splendor of Judaism* applies Kabbalah to everyday life activities such as business, pleasure, and politics. David M. Wexelman shows readers that the meaning of success in life and the way to world peace are made possible by the wisdom in the Kabbalah.

SCHOLEM CONFERENCE

BRILL The articles collected in *Scholar and Kabbalist: The Life and Work of Gershom Scholem* offer new and fresh insights into the life and work of Gershom Scholem, one of the most prominent German-Jewish intellectuals of the 20th century.

NEW RELIGIONS: EMERGING FAITHS AND RELIGIOUS CULTURES IN THE MODERN WORLD [2 VOLUMES]

ABC-CLIO A valuable resource for students and general audiences, this book provides a unique global perspective on the history, beliefs, and practices of emergent faith communities, new religious traditions and movements worldwide, from the 19th century to the present. *New Religions: Emerging Faiths and Religious Cultures in the Modern World* provides insightful global perspectives on the emergent faith communities and new traditions and movements of the last two centuries. Readers will gain access to the information necessary to explore the significance, complexities, and challenges that modern religious traditions have faced throughout their history and that continue to impact society today. The work identifies the themes and issues that have often brought new religions into conflict with the larger societies of which they are a part. Coverage includes new religious groups that emerged in America, such as the Seventh-day Adventists, the Latter-day Saints, and the Jehovah's Witnesses; alternative communities around the globe that emerged from the major Western and Eastern traditions, such as Aum Shinrikyo and Al-Qaeda; and marginalized groups that came to a sudden end, such as the Peoples Temple, Heaven's Gate, and the Branch Davidians. The entries highlight thematic and broader issues that run across the individual religious traditions, and will also help students analyze and assess the common difficulties faced by emergent religious communities. Presents alphabetically arranged entries on new religions that provide readers with easy-to-access, historical information about how these religions emerged from their cultural contexts and evolved over time Provides numerous primary source documents—each introduced by a headnote—that convey firsthand accounts of the founding of new religions and supply students material for critical analysis Includes photographs that help students better visualize important places, people, and things related to new religions Helps meet world history content standards and enables a fuller understanding of religious beliefs and practices in the

contemporary world as well as how religions have responded to challenges and uncertainties

THE CHICKEN QABALAH OF RABBI LAMED BEN CLIFFORD

DILETTANTE'S GUIDE TO WHAT YOU DO AND DO NOT NEED TO KNOW TO BECOME A QABALIST

Weiser Books A unique and humorous -- and also practical -- approach to the increasingly popular study of Qabalah. This is a seriously funny book! Traditional Qabalistic (or Cabalistic, or, indeed, Kabbalistic -- read this book to find out what the difference is...we know you've always wondered) sources tend to be a bit, er, dry. DuQuette spices up the Qabalah and makes it come alive, restoring the joy of learning the fundamentals of this admittedly arcane system by using simple, amusing anecdotes and metaphors. This account, written pseudographically (fictitiously attributed to a supposed authority), allows DuQuette as Rabbi Lamed Ben Clifford to soar to outrageous heights and, when necessary, stand apart from the silliness to highlight the golden eggs of Qabalistic wisdom nested therein. Sure to be a revelation to those who think that learning about the Qabalah needs to be tedious and serious, DuQuette shows that great truths can be transmitted through the medium of laughter.

THE ZOHAR, VOLUME 1

Stanford University Press

AWAKENING TO THE SPIRIT WITHIN: EIGHT PATHS

AuthorHouse The premise of Awakening to the Spirit Within is that all beings are connected by a spiritual energy which forms the essence of who they truly are. Eight paths, which facilitate an awakening to this essence, are explored: Native American Spirituality, Taoism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Kabbalah, Jesus and the Christ Within, Sufism, and The New Thought Movement. Practice exercises and references are also included. This book highlights some of the unique gifts which various spiritual traditions have to offer our world. In addition, it explores the mystical threads of connection which underlie them. Like the title suggests, it also gives ways of listening to guidance from within. The author includes messages from her own inner guidance in an effort to illustrate how this may occur. Her openness provides more warmth and intimacy than is usually found in such a book. In these uncertain times, there has been an upsurge of interest in books related to spirituality, religion, and mysticism. People are looking for ways to heal, rather than destroy, our planet. That is why this book, and others like it, are so timely and important in moving us closer to our shared goal of creating a more peaceful and harmonious world.

A RIVER FLOWS FROM EDEN

THE LANGUAGE OF MYSTICAL EXPERIENCE IN THE ZOHAR

Stanford University Press In the Zohar, the jewel in the crown of Jewish mystical

literature, the verse "A river flows from Eden to water the garden" (Genesis 2:10) symbolizes the river of divine plenty that unceasingly flows from the depths of divinity into the garden of reality. Hellner-Eshed's book investigates the flow of this river in the world of the Zoharic heroes, Rabbi Shimon bar Yohai and his disciples, as they embark upon their wondrous spiritual adventures. By focusing on the Zohar's language of mystical experience and its unique features, the author is able to provide remarkable scholarly insight into the mystical dimensions of the Zohar, namely the human quest for an enhanced experience of the living presence of the divine and the Zohar's great call to awaken human consciousness.

SIMPLE KABBALAH

Conari Press

EXPANDING CURRICULUM THEORY

DIS/POSITIONS AND LINES OF FLIGHT

Routledge This book brings together some of the newest work in curriculum studies to explore central questions that swirl inside (and out) of the field: What counts as curriculum research? What procedures are considered legitimate for the production of knowledge? What forms shape the making of explanations? What constitutes proof? It forefronts work by curriculum theorists who are interested in looking at educational problems from a vantage point that questions current models of research--one that suggests adopting "lines of flight" or multiplicities that offer promise to disentangle curriculum theory from traditional research hierarchies and methods-driven dependence on formalities. In *Expanding Curriculum Theory: Dis/positions and Lines of Flight*: *The essays are connected by their shared concern for combining alternative methodologies, such as textual analysis, discourse theory, hermeneutics, and post-structuralism with perspectives on race, class, gender, and sexual orientation. *Disciplinary boundaries are blurred as curriculum theory is interwoven with cultural studies, political theory, psychoanalysis, dance, technology, and other fields. *To assist readers in understanding the various essays, as well as comparing, contrasting, and connecting them with each other, each chapter opens with a "Thinking Beyond" section. The questions posed are designed to make the text engaging and pedagogically friendly. By doing all this within an overall poststructural framework that encourages and demonstrates creativity, multidisciplinary, and new lines of flight, this volume makes a unique contribution to expanding curriculum theory. It is a stimulating text for students, faculty, and researchers in the field.

ORIGINS OF THE KABBALAH

Princeton University Press With the publication of *The Origins of the Kabbalah* in 1950, one of the most important scholars of our century brought the obscure world of Jewish mysticism to a wider audience for the first time. A crucial work in the oeuvre of Gershom Scholem, this book details the beginnings of the Kabbalah in twelfth- and thirteenth-century southern France and Spain, showing its rich tradition

of repeated attempts to achieve and portray direct experiences of God. The Origins of the Kabbalah is a contribution not only to the history of Jewish medieval mysticism, but also to the study of medieval mysticism in general. Now with a new foreword by David Biale, this book remains essential reading for students of the history of religion.

MYSTERIOUS ENTANGLEMENT

SCIENCE AND RELIGION

Author House About The Book I believe that it is our destiny to wonder at and seek after the mystery that is our origin as humans and our place in the Universe. To explore this mystery the greatest minds of 40 millennia have created the most wondrous fabric of possibilities, with threads of imagination, change, color, denier, weave and substance. Sometimes we called this mystery Religion and sometimes we called it Science and for most our sentient existence we saw no conflict between the two. Both had dogma which from time to time was shown to be misdirected. Both had periods when they were in apparent conflict and periods when they were in complete harmony. Both Science and Religion evolved sometimes in spectacular leaps of mind and faith. The strangest part of this evolution has been the discovery that at the deepest level of human cognition of Science or Religion, the quest has been and will be the same, namely, the search to understand The Creation we live in, The Creator and the Origin of Life. The strangest irony has been that there is always a considerable gap of uncertainty in both Science and Religion and the answer to Creation, The Creator and Life, no matter how far or fast we evolve. We are, never the less, always confused, by our knowledge, and with our prejudices and intolerance. Science is only an approximation to the physical nature around us. Religion is only an approximation to our spiritual nature within and around us. We often get both wrong from time to time and are compelled to change. We may find in time that Science and Religion are indeed two sides of the same coin

JUDAH MOSCATO SERMONS

EDITION AND TRANSLATION, VOLUME FOUR

BRILL The fourth volume concludes the critical edition of the original Hebrew text and English translation of Moscato's sermons and includes studies on his cultural background and significance.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF JUDAISM

Infobase Publishing An illustrated A to Z reference containing over 800 entries providing information on the theology, people, historical events, institutions and movements related to the religion of Judaism.

TOWARD A HISTORY OF JEWISH THOUGHT

THE SOUL, RESURRECTION, AND THE AFTERLIFE

Wipf and Stock Publishers The work is a history of Jewish beliefs regarding the

concept of the soul, the idea of resurrection, and the nature of the afterlife. The work describes these beliefs, accounts for the origin of these beliefs, discusses the ways in which these beliefs have evolved, and explains why the many changes in belief have occurred. Views about the soul, resurrection, and the afterlife are related to other Jewish views and to broad movements in Jewish thought; and Jewish intellectual history is placed within the context of the history of Western thought in general. That history begins with the biblical period and extends to the present time.

RHETORIC, CULTURAL STUDIES, AND LITERACY

SELECTED PAPERS FROM THE 1994 CONFERENCE OF THE RHETORIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Routledge This volume presents a representative cross-section of the more than 200 papers presented at the 1994 conference of the Rhetoric Society of America. The contributors reflect multi- and inter-disciplinary perspectives -- English, speech communication, philosophy, rhetoric, composition studies, comparative literature, and film and media studies. Exploring the historical relationships and changing relationships between rhetoric, cultural studies, and literacy in the United States, this text seeks answers to such questions as what constitutes "literacy" in a post-modern, high-tech, multi-cultural society?

KABBALAH FOR DUMMIES

John Wiley & Sons Kabbalah For Dummies presents a balanced perspective of Kabbalah as an "umbrella" for a complex assemblage of mystical Jewish teachings and codification techniques. Kabbalah For Dummies also shows how Kabbalah simultaneously presents an approach to the study of text, the performance of ritual and the experience of worship, as well as how the reader can apply its teaching to everyday life.

72 IN HIS NAME

REUCHLIN, LUTHER, THENAUD, WOLFF AND THE NAMES OF SEVENTY-TWO ANGELS

Academic Studies PResS Leading figures at the dawn of the sixteenth-century Reformation commonly faced the charge of "judaizing": 72 In His Name concerns the changing views of four such men starting with their kabbalistic treatment of the 72 divine names of angels. Johann Reuchlin, the first of the four men featured in this book, survived the charge; Martin Luther's increasingly anti-semitic stance is contrasted with the opposite movement of the French Franciscan Jean Thenaud whose kabbalistic manuscripts were devoted to Francis I; Philipp Wolff, the fourth, had been born into a Jewish family but his recorded views were decidedly anti-semitic. 72 In His Name also includes evidence that kabbalistic beliefs and practices, such as the service for exorcism recorded by Thenaud, were unwittingly recorded by Christians. Although the book concerns early modern Europe, the religious interactions, the shifting spiritual attitudes, and the shadows cast linger on.

ANOTHER MODERNITY

ELIA BENAMOZEGH'S JEWISH UNIVERSALISM

Stanford University Press *Another Modernity* is a rich study of the life and thought of Elia Benamozegh, a nineteenth-century rabbi and philosopher whose work profoundly influenced Christian-Jewish dialogue in twentieth-century Europe. Benamozegh, a Livornese rabbi of Moroccan descent, was a prolific writer and transnational thinker who corresponded widely with religious and intellectual figures in France, the Maghreb, and the Middle East. This idiosyncratic figure, who argued for the universalism of Judaism and for interreligious engagement, came to influence a spectrum of religious thinkers so varied that it includes proponents of the ecumenical Second Vatican Council, American evangelists, and right-wing Zionists in Israel. What Benamozegh proposed was unprecedented: that the Jewish tradition presented a solution to the religious crisis of modernity. According to Benamozegh, the defining features of Judaism were universalism, a capacity to foster interreligious engagement, and the political power and mythical allure of its theosophical tradition, Kabbalah—all of which made the Jewish tradition uniquely equipped to assuage the post-Enlightenment tensions between religion and reason. In this book, Clémence Boulouque presents a wide-ranging and nuanced investigation of Benamozegh's published and unpublished work and his continuing legacy, considering his impact on Christian-Jewish dialogue as well as on far-right Christians and right-wing religious Zionists.

THE ZOHAR: RECEPTION AND IMPACT

Liverpool University Press *National Jewish Book Awards Finalist for the Nahum N. Sarna Memorial Award for Scholarship, 2016.* From its first appearance, the Zohar has been one of the most sacred, authoritative, and influential books in Jewish culture. Many scholarly works have been dedicated to its mystical content, its literary style, and the question of its authorship. This book focuses on different issues: it examines the various ways in which the Zohar has been received by its readers and the impact it has had on Jewish culture, including the fluctuations in its status and value and the various cultural practices linked to these changes. This dynamic and multi-layered history throws important new light on many aspects of Jewish cultural history over the last seven centuries. Boaz Huss has broken new ground with this study, which examines of the reception and canonization of the Zohar as well as its criticism and rejection from its inception to the present day. His underlying assumption is that the different values attributed to the Zohar are not inherent qualities of the zoharic texts, but rather represent the way it has been perceived by its readers in different cultural contexts. He therefore considers not only the attribution of different qualities to the Zohar through time but also the people who were engaged in attributing such qualities and the social and cultural functions associated with their creation, re-creation, and rejection. For each historical period from the beginning of Zohar scholarship to the present, Huss considers the social conditions that stimulated the veneration of the Zohar as well as the factors that contributed to its rejection, alongside the cultural functions and

consequences of each approach. Because the multiple modes of the reception of the Zohar have had a decisive influence on the history of Jewish culture, this highly innovative and wide-ranging approach to Zohar scholarship will have important repercussions for many areas of Jewish studies.

ALCHEMY AND KABBALAH

Spring Publications A classic text on alchemy by the leading scholar of Jewish mysticism, Gershom Scholem, is presented here for the first time in English translation. Scholem looks critically at the century-old connections between alchemy, the Jewish Kabbalah; its Christianized varieties, such as the gold- and rosicrucian mysticisms, and the myth-based psychology of C. G. Jung, and uncovers forgotten alchemical roots of embedded in the Kabbalah.

ZOHAR, THE BOOK OF ENLIGHTENMENT

Paulist Press This is the first translation with commentary of selections from The Zohar, the major text of the Kabbalah, the Jewish mystical tradition. This work was written in 13th-century Spain by Moses de Leon, a Spanish scholar.

THE WISDOM OF THE ZOHAR

ANTHOLOGY OF TEXTS

Liverpool University Press 'A classic, a landmark in modern Hebrew letters. Beautifully written and deeply learned ... the appearance of the long-awaited English translation is a cause for celebration.' - Elliot Ginsburg, Journal of Religion

GILDED LIONS AND JEWELLED HORSES

THE SYNAGOGUE TO THE CAROUSEL

UPNE A richly illustrated volume celebrating Jewish carving traditions from the Old World to the New

ESSENTIAL PAPERS ON KABBALAH

NYU Press *Occupied by Memory* explores the memories of the first Palestinian intifada. Based on extensive interviews with members of the "intifada generation," those who were between 10 and 18 years old when the intifada began in 1987, the book provides a detailed look at the intifada memories of ordinary Palestinians. These personal stories are presented as part of a complex and politically charged discursive field through which young Palestinians are invested with meaning by scholars, politicians, journalists, and other observers. What emerges from their memories is a sense of a generation caught between a past that is simultaneously traumatic, empowering, and exciting—and a future that is perpetually uncertain. In this sense, Collins argues that understanding the stories and the struggles of the intifada generation is a key to understanding the ongoing state of emergency for the Palestinian people. The book will be of interest not only to scholars of the Middle East but also to those interested in nationalism, discourse analysis, social movements,

and oral history.

THE SCANDAL OF KABBALAH

LEON MODENA, JEWISH MYSTICISM, EARLY MODERN VENICE

Princeton University Press How the Jewish culture war over Kabbalah began The Scandal of Kabbalah is the first book about the origins of a culture war that began in early modern Europe and continues to this day: the debate between kabbalists and their critics on the nature of Judaism and the meaning of religious tradition. From its medieval beginnings as an esoteric form of Jewish mysticism, Kabbalah spread throughout the early modern world and became a central feature of Jewish life. Scholars have long studied the revolutionary impact of Kabbalah, but, as Yaacob Dweck argues, they have misunderstood the character and timing of opposition to it. Drawing on a range of previously unexamined sources, this book tells the story of the first criticism of Kabbalah, Ari Nohem, written by Leon Modena in Venice in 1639. In this scathing indictment of Venetian Jews who had embraced Kabbalah as an authentic form of ancient esotericism, Modena proved the recent origins of Kabbalah and sought to convince his readers to return to the spiritualized rationalism of Maimonides. The Scandal of Kabbalah examines the hallmarks of Jewish modernity displayed by Modena's attack—a critical analysis of sacred texts, skepticism about religious truths, and self-consciousness about the past—and shows how these qualities and the later history of his polemic challenge conventional understandings of the relationship between Kabbalah and modernity. Dweck argues that Kabbalah was the subject of critical inquiry in the very period it came to dominate Jewish life rather than centuries later as most scholars have thought.

THE FREEDOM OF MAN IN MYTH

Wipf and Stock Publishers Myth is not a remote subject, restricted to the limited intellect of "pre-logical" man. The question "What is man?" is an ancient one. It is also a recent one, still unanswered in the impasse of our sciences. Wherever and whenever human beings are alive, there are creators of myth among them. Kees Bolle singles out one group as having the most significant "say" in the formation of myths: the mystics, who epitomize the common urge for a simplicity beyond the whirlpool of personal existences. And, surprisingly, the author finds that the study of humor provides a great deal of insight into the study of religious traditions.

READING JEWISH RELIGIOUS TEXTS

Routledge Reading Jewish Religious Texts introduces students to a range of significant post-biblical Jewish writing. It covers diverse genres such as prayer and liturgical poetry, biblical interpretation, religious law, philosophy, mysticism and works of ethical instruction. Each text is newly translated into English and accompanied by a detailed explanation to help clarify the concepts and arguments. The commentary also situates the work within its broader historical and ideological context, giving readers an enhanced appreciation of its place in the Jewish religious experience. This volume includes a comprehensive timeline, glossary and

bibliography.

CREATIVITY/ANTHROPOLOGY

Cornell University Press Creativity and play erupt in the most solemn of everyday worlds as individuals reshape traditional forms in the light of changing historical circumstances. In this lively volume, fourteen distinguished anthropologists explore the life of creativity in social life across the globe and within the study of ethnography itself. Contributors include Barbara A. Babcock, Edward M. Bruner, James W. Fernandez, Don Handelmann, Smadar Lavie, José E. Limon, Barbara Myerhoff, Kirin Narayan, Renato Rosaldo, Richard Schechner, Edward L. Schieffelin, Marjorie Shostak, Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing, and Edith Turner.

A LIFE IN LETTERS, 1914-1982

Harvard University Press Inscribing a life that epitomized the intellectual ferment and political drama of an era, this selection of letters gives readers an intimate view of one of the leading lights of Israel during its founding and formative years. 6 halftones.

TSIMTSUM AND MODERNITY

LURIANIC HERITAGE IN MODERN PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY

Walter de Gruyter GmbH & Co KG This volume is the first-ever collection of essays devoted to the Lurianic concept of tsimtsum. It contains eighteen studies in philosophy, theology, and intellectual history, which demonstrate the historical development of this notion and its evolving meaning: from the Hebrew Bible and the classical midrashic collections, through Kabbalah, Isaac Luria himself and his disciples, up to modernity (ranging from Spinoza, Böhme, Leibniz, Newton, Schelling, and Hegel to Scholem, Rosenzweig, Heidegger, Benjamin, Adorno, Horkheimer, Levinas, Jonas, Moltmann, and Derrida).

WE ARE GOD INCARNATE

Page Publishing Inc In this book Alex Vary sets the stage for understanding our world and why we are in it. He agrees with Sir James Jeans and Professor John A. Wheeler that the cosmos originated as a thought that became material and tangible and that we participated in bringing into being not only the near and here but the far away and long ago. Vary gives examples of how we may traverse the entire cosmos and visit its worlds in spiritual chariots of thought. This implies that extraterrestrials from distant parts of the cosmos may also travel in spiritual chariots of thought to visit and inhabit Earth. Even institutionally accepted physics is often based on theoretical imaginings involving what Sir Roger Penrose termed fashion, faith, and fantasy. Vary argues the existence of adjacent realities - the mesostratum reality and the phyiostratum reality - which when taken together may form the basis of a new physics that can explain the interplay of the transcendent, the spiritual and the material. Vary introduces the idea of the mesostratum - by means of which we may realize and crystalize unique DNA structures, exotic mathematical objects and

innovative ideas. According to Vary we are spiritual beings occupying bio-physical machines that are designed to survive the uncertain, often hostile and volatile, conditions of Earth. Our survival machines are essentially hedonistic while our spirits are essentially altruistic. This results in a conflict in which the machine may prevail if the spirit is weak or concedes control. World history testifies to this ongoing conflict which persists despite human and societal evolution. Vary claims that our transcendent consciousness combines our minds in a primordial consciousness. Our transcendent consciousness is in this sense unbounded and extraterrestrial. This may not be experimentally provable. It needs to be experienced. Examples of such experiences are abundant in the cited literature. We genuinely share oneness in God and in a primordial consciousness. This oneness allows us to materialize our spirits in a vast variety of living entities. There appears to be a basic spiritual awareness in intelligent, purposeful cells and the trillions of differentiated cells that form our bodies. Indeed, we are embodied spirits living in imperfect worlds and we attempt to evolve and to perfect our species and to improve our worlds.

BORGES AND THE KABBALAH

AND OTHER ESSAYS ON HIS FICTION AND POETRY

Cambridge University Press This volume brings together a collection of essays on Borges by leading scholar Jaime Alazraki. Together the essays constitute an introduction to important aspects of Borges' oeuvre, including the influence of the Kabbalah, structure and style in the fiction, Borges' poetry, and Borges' impact on Latin American literature.

THE MESSIANIC IDEA IN JUDAISM

AND OTHER ESSAYS ON JEWISH SPIRITUALITY

Schocken Gershom Scholem was the master builder of historical studies of the Kabbalah. When he began to work on this neglected field, the few who studied these texts were either amateurs who were looking for occult wisdom, or old-style Kabbalists who were seeking guidance on their spiritual journeys. His work broke with the outlook of the scholars of the previous century in Judaica—die Wissenschaft des Judentums, the Science of Judaism—whose orientation he rejected, calling their “disregard for the most vital aspects of the Jewish people as a collective entity: a form of “censorship of the Jewish past.” The major founders of modern Jewish historical studies in the nineteenth century, Leopold Zunz and Abraham Geiger, had ignored the Kabbalah; it did not fit into their account of the Jewish religion as rational and worthy of respect by “enlightened” minds. The only exception was the historian Heinrich Graetz. He had paid substantial attention to its texts and to their most explosive exponent, the false Messiah Sabbatai Zevi, but Graetz had depicted the Kabbalah and all that flowed from it as an unworthy revolt from the underground of Jewish life against its reasonable, law-abiding, and learned mainstream. Scholem conducted a continuing polemic with Zunz, Geiger, and Graetz by bringing into view a Jewish past more varied, more vital, and more interesting than any idealized portrait could reveal. —from the Foreword by Arthur Hertzberg, 1995