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# Great Books On Religion & Esoteric Philosophy: With A Bibliography Of Related Material Selected From The Writings Of Manly P. Hall





## Synopsis

With a Bibliography of Related Material Selected from the Writings of Manly P. Hall A selection of classical literature is recommended by Mr. Hall, who has himself amassed the library of the Philosophical Research Society, one of the most respected repositories of rare esoteric source material. Great works from the fields of comparative religion, philosophy and world cultures, esoteric arts, sciences, and fiction are discussed. Includes an index and bibliography. Also invaluable for the bibliography of Mr. Hall's own writings.

### **Book Information**

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The Philosophical Research Society is a nonprofit organization founded in 1934 for the purpose of assisting thoughtful persons to live more graciously and constructively in a confused and troubled world. The Society is entirely free from educational, political, or ecclesiastical control. Dedicated to an idealistic approach to the solution of human problems, the Society's program stresses the need for the integration of religion, philosophy, and the science of psychology into one system of instruction. The goal of this instruction is to enable the individual to develop a mature philosophy of life, to recognize his proper responsibilities and opportunities, and to understand and appreciate his place in the unfolding universal pattern.

Manly P. Hall was the founder of the Philosophical Research Society. In over seventy-five years of

dynamic public activity, he delivered more than 8,000 lectures in the United States and abroad, and authored countless books, essays, and articles. In his lectures and writings, Manly Hall always emphasized the practical aspects of philosophy and religion as they applied to daily living. He restated for modern man those spiritual and ethical doctrines which have given humanity its noblest ideals and most adequate codes of conduct. Believing that philosophy is a working tool to help the individual in building a solid foundation for his dreams and purposes, Manly Hall steadfastly sought recognition of the belief that world civilization can be perfected only when human beings meet on a common ground of intelligence, cooperation, and worthy purpose.

Truly one of the most unque sort of books I have read. Manly Hall in the opening chapter gives a lengthy discussion on books and how to appreciate them and what one should do in reading and collecting books. Paperbacks he says have sort created a novelty in publishing, as well as lost some of the finer aspects of harcover books. Granted one can argue price over quality any day. Yet many times in paperbacks much of the work is edited. Not so much the text, but perhaps little drawings, headers, borders and so forth. These, he says, are all clues to understanding the book, author, the history as well as symbols. Second he gives a list of books he feels are praiseworthy as well as ones he feels one should include in their library. Setting out earlier that one should have about 100 books for their library and set out to learn about them, the publishers, printing, dates and rarities. These 100 books should be prized books, not just Dover reprints or mass market paperbacks. As he says "This author could have touched this book" in which one will place more personal value on it. The books he lists are obscure, perhaps ones you would not pick, but ones he chose mostly for their historical value as well as content value. Ones that are hard to find (during the time of this books printing) as well as the originals themselves. One should choose a book to begin their library, save the money and search for it. find out the quality of the book, the condition, making sure that its in its original form (with dustjack and other accessories that may accompany it). Then he discusses when one reads a book to always have a dictionary at their side. Read for no more than an hour because your brain will begin to hesitate and slide if its strained and forced. Read for an hour, look up the words you dont know and learn the word by writing it down. Manly Hall surely has a fascination and total appreciation for, not just good books, but books in general. This book has given me a new outlook on the quality and appreciation of books today and always.

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