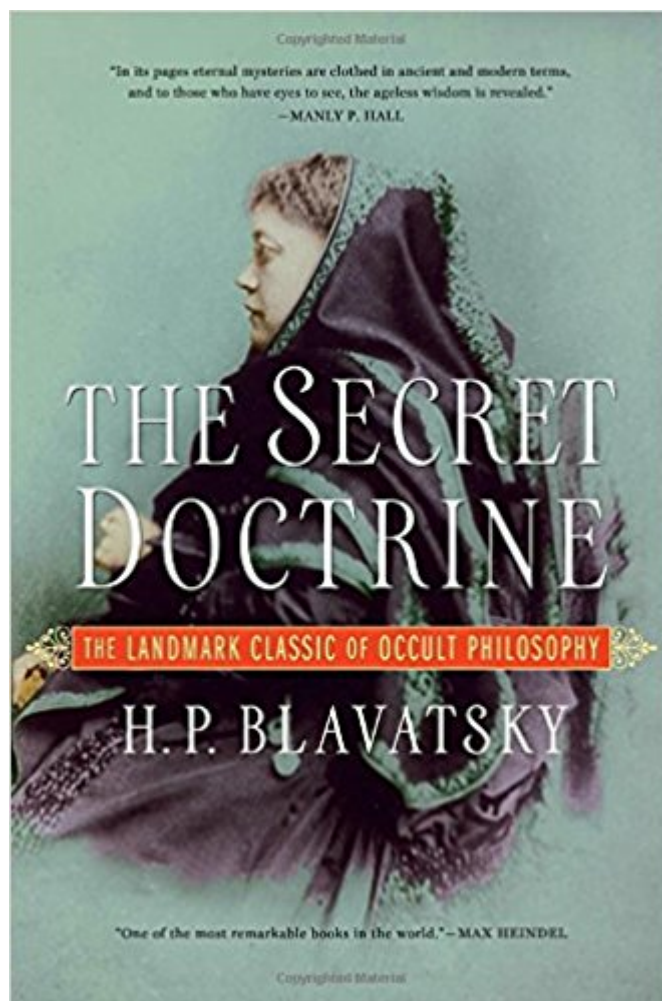


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The Secret Doctrine



Synopsis

Complete and unabridged, here is the unparalleled landmark of occult philosophy and lost history that reshaped the modern spiritual mindset and continues to fascinate readers today. There is perhaps no greater enigma in modern Western literature than *The Secret Doctrine*. The controversial Russian noblewoman Madame Helena Petrovna Blavatsky told the world that the book restored humanity's lost history and destiny. Its insights, she said, had been gleaned from long-secret books of wisdom and her tutelage under mahatmas, or great souls: adepts from the East who exposed the seeker to their esoteric teaching. To read *The Secret Doctrine* is to enter a mysterious world of ancient cosmology and spiritual-scientific insights, which tell of humanity's unthinkable ancient past and its burgeoning evolution into a new, more refined existence. For the first time, Blavatsky's encyclopedia arcana is available in a reset and redesigned single-volume edition, complete and unabridged. Its truths and challenges are available to the intrepid reader, who may find yet-unknown insights within its pages.

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Customer Reviews

"The Secret Doctrine assumes the dignity of a scripture, for in its pages eternal mysteries are clothed in ancient and modern terms, and to those who have eyes to see, the ageless wisdom is revealed." --Manly P. Hall, author of *The Secret Teachings of All Ages*

Like a comet across the horizon of complacent Western civilization, MADAME HELENA

PETROVNA BLAVATSKY (1831-1891) appeared on the American scene in the early 1870s and almost single-handedly revived interest in the occult and esoteric, and also introduced many Westerners to the religious ideas of the East, particularly Hinduism and Buddhism. The world-traveled Russian noblewoman founded the Theosophical Society in New York City in 1875 to study the esoteric ideas behind the world's religions. She relocated to India in 1878, where she and her collaborator, Colonel Henry Steel Olcott, a retired Civil War officer, helped inaugurate India's independence movement. Blavatsky moved to London in 1885, where she began writing her magnum opus, *The Secret Doctrine*--a vast, two-volume compendium of occult philosophy and a cosmological vision of humanity's lost history and secret destiny. Published in 1888, *The Secret Doctrine* became a formative influence on avant-garde artists and intellectuals, and propelled the dawning occult revival and alternative spiritual culture. Blavatsky died two years after its publication.

I found two of her books in a rare book shop, love to read them! When I saw this bought it too

Very deep, very enlightening, and a must read for those who are searching for their true identity.

Still rereading this book years after getting it. It is so dense with ideas some take a while to digest. Some of the mystical stuff is not my interest, but I always keep an open mind.

Difficult read but a must have for library reference

love it

The good: This is the book that started it all. "All" being the West's awakening to the heretofore hidden secrets of the cosmos and of mankind. HPB was not a "seer," she was a mouthpiece. She wrote what was given to her in communication with certain Eastern masters, which she received in, for lack of a better term, a trance, or psychic link to these other personalities. Even her enemies gloss over the fact that she wrote the book alone in her room with none of the books that she cites in her thousands of footnotes and references. Not a single one to this day has proved erroneous. She cites manuscripts in the Vatican Library where she has never been allowed entrance; she cites unpublished manuscripts throughout the ages. For many, the most important book published in many centuries. The bad: It's horribly written. It always reminds me of a beautiful stained glass creation that has been smashed to pieces and thrown back together willy-nilly. It makes Ulysses

look like a comic strip. She is also angry, sarcastic, and bitter. And incredibly defensive. The ugly: Believe nothing from these Eastern masters when they speak of Christianity. They know little about it, for starters, but more annoying -- they hate it, and spare no opportunity to tear it to pieces, deliberately conflating the deeds and thoughts of self-proclaimed "Christians" at their worst, while propping up the Eastern view as the best and one-and-only. But with these caveats, the book is indispensable and a must-read for anyone with any pretense of serious study of the mysteries of the universe. After this, read Steiner.

Don't buy this edition - besides very poor formatting and a lousy table of contents, it doesn't match with the real one (check the authentic one on Theosophical University Press site).

Good work

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