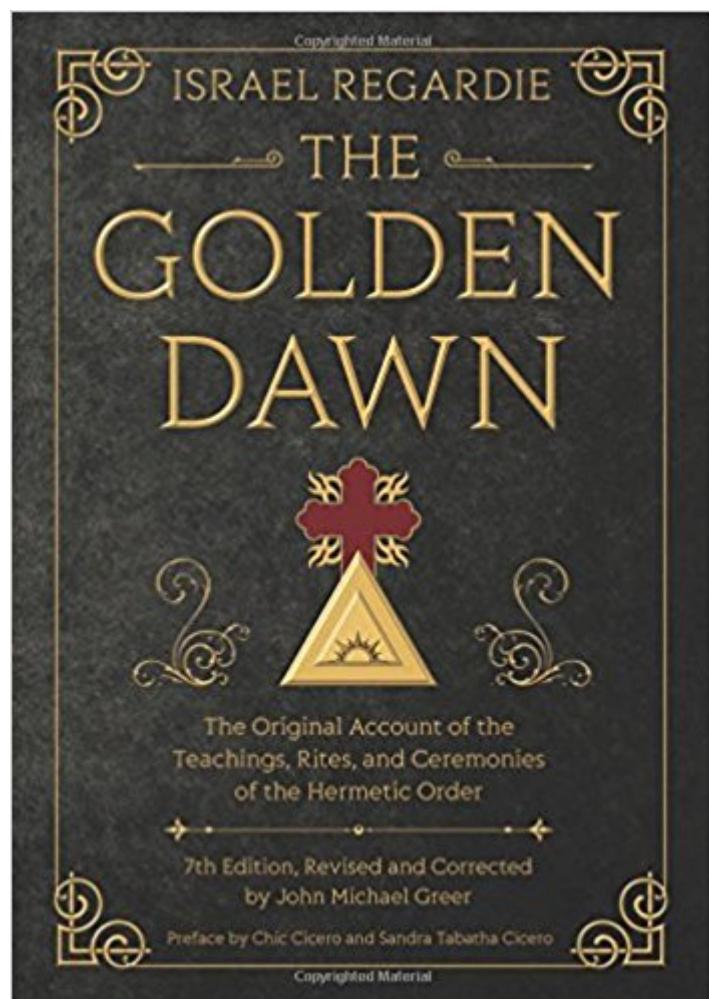


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The Golden Dawn: The Original Account Of The Teachings, Rites, And Ceremonies Of The Hermetic Order



Synopsis

First published in 1937, Israel Regardie's The Golden Dawn has become the most influential modern handbook of magical theory and practice. In this new, definitive edition, noted scholar John Michael Greer has taken this essential resource back to its original, authentic form. With added illustrations, a twenty-page color insert, additional original material, and refreshed design and typography, this powerful work returns to its true stature as a modern masterpiece. An essential textbook for students of the occult, The Golden Dawn includes occult symbolism and Qabalistic philosophy, training methods for developing magical and clairvoyant powers, rituals that summon and banish spiritual potencies, secrets of making and consecrating magical tools, and much more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was overjoyed to receive my 7th Edition, and it has been an utter joy to look through. I have to say that I am impressed with the work, and I truly feel like this is a vast improvement over the 6th Edition -- the only exception being the Temple diagram errors, as noted below.* Disclaimer: this review contains spoilers in the form of grade ritual information. If you are a member of a Temple and have not made your way through the Outer Order, you may want to skip to the conclusion, lest you be made aware of aspects of a ceremony that are better left a mystery. The intuition and the psyche receive poignant gifts through the surprise of unknown rituals.= General Thoughts =I cannot begin to convey how many errors within the text of the 6th Edition were corrected for this 7th Edition. There were tons of misspellings, incorrect hebrew, bad stage directions, erroneous ritual scripts, etc. My 6th edition was riddled with red scratches and notations so as to make it usable during

ceremonies. Lucky for us that John Michael Greer and the Golden Dawn community flushed these out for this new release, and I am grateful for the immense amount of work that must have been involved. The book is beautifully bound and well made, making it a gorgeous addition to my overflowing bookshelf. The organization and readability has improved by leaps and bounds. In particular, Z1 and Z3 are a pleasure to read, with the entire section having proper headings and spacing. And there are actual images for the Godforms! The Editorial note by JMG on page 444 on the Coptic language is a very pleasant surprise, and clarifies some confusion I had in regard to pronunciations.

The Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, based in Britain, was one of the most important Western esoteric orders of the late 19th and early 20th century. Luminaries such as W B Yeats, Charles Williams and Dion Fortune were members of the order or one of its offshoots, and so was notorious non-luminary Aleister Crowley. During the 1930's, the Golden Dawn was long past its prime. This prompted another member, Israel Regardie, to publish the order's secret knowledge papers and rituals in the hope that this unprecedented act would save the lore from oblivion. The resultant work, "The Golden Dawn", was published in four volumes between 1937 and 1940. The publication history of Regardie's magnum opus need not concern us here. Suffice to say is that a "seventh edition" in a single mastodon volume was recently published under the editorship of John Michael Greer, who heads a small Golden Dawn-inspired group of his own, known as the DOGD. Greer claims to have studied all the material in this book, and I for one believe him! I haven't studied it, and probably never will. But yes, skimming "The Golden Dawn" was fascinating. I always wondered what on earth these guys were *actually doing* in their secret chambers, apart from appearing strangely clad in front of a coffin containing a likeness of Christian Rosenkreuz à la Madam Tussauds. And, of course, trying to stay clear of Crowley! It turns out that more was involved. Much more! The rituals and techniques described in this book are quite detailed and serve very definite purposes. Conjuring angels, "gods" and other spirit-beings is an important activity. Another is creating a special body of light which will make it possible for the magician to traverse the astral spheres.

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