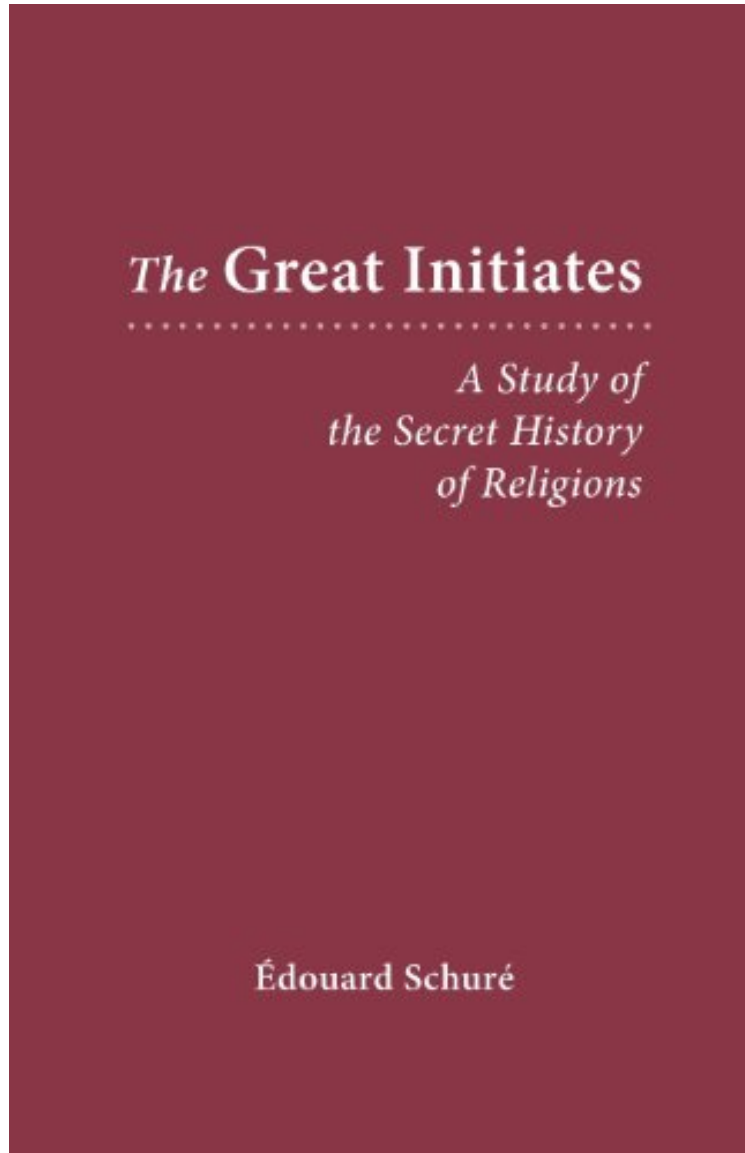


[Download] The Great Initiates: A Study of the Secret History of Religions

The Great Initiates: A Study of the Secret History of Religions

Edouard Schur

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Edouard Schur : The Great Initiates: A Study of the Secret History of Religions before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Great Initiates: A Study of the Secret History of Religions:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. The Cosmic Connection By Michael From Mountains This book is a

masterpiece of 19th century esoteric writing, and well worth reading...deeply. Whether one believes in this sort of thing or not is irrelevant. The primary focus here is on a heartfelt search for meaning in the human existence, and the joy found in the ancient spiritual writings that are connected by a thread of enlightenment, a point of view commonly held by students of Esoteric systems. How much of the descriptions of the spiritual lives mentioned in this work comes from research and how much comes from the voice of the author's close friend and contributor, a seer, isn't stated, but again, that's not critical to the point. Seers answer to no man or woman, and readers must decide for themselves whether to lend credence to what they're reading, much of which is richly laden with underlying metaphorical complexity and esotericism. The focus of this great visionary's writing represents a look at the battle of the soul versus the intellect, and the struggle between the the world of the spirit and the world of materialism in the 19th century, when the scientific community was seemingly laying waste to one tenet after another of traditional religious beliefs. This work is a call to arms for the metaphysical belief system, a testament that there is, in fact, a world beyond substance that incorporates the spiritual world, a world that surrounds us yet remains hidden, and that this is a world we may freely tap into if we search for meaning in the traditional places of its domain and show the correct amount of reverence and discipline needed to connect with it. These searches, if one is inclined to them, are always well-worth the time for believers, and a total waste of time for the dubious. For those truly interested in spirituality as a all-inclusive universal concept this is a magnificent work. To traditional Christians it is a work of heresy. To the materialist it is sheer nonsense. For those who were truly intended as readers this is a vibrant and beautifully written and very reverent work that proclaims the continuity of the search for, and proudly expresses the true mission of the soul and the spirit, and the real, hidden, meaning to our existence. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. but for those who are looking for meaning and context behind the worlds great religions, this is your book By Stephanie Georgieff I was told of this by a friend while doing research for a presentation on the Ark of the Covenant. I had never heard of this book, originally published in the late 1800's. It's depth and scope is basically breathtaking and gives deep insights into the evolution of spirituality and human consciousness. It is a bit dense, so this is not light reading for bed sort of material, but for those who are looking for meaning and context behind the worlds great religions, this is your book. So glad it is still in print, and this edition is quite well presented 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Wina Smit Amazing book! Well written. The author has so much inner knowledge of his subject. Good read.

The Great Initiates encompasses long centuries of human existence and reflects our great search the greatest search of all the quest for the spirit. This book describes the motivations behind external history, the growth of religious striving, the rise and fall of cultures, and indicates their importance for us today. It reflects the lives and deeds of human beings of extraordinary stature: Rama, Krishna, Hermes, Moses, Orpheus, Pythagoras, Plato, and Jesus. In these pages one witnesses spiritual adventure of a depth and intensity rarely experienced by creative human beings, even in their most exalted moments. This excitement of discovery which breathes through The Great Initiates may well explain its continuing popularity after over a century.

About the Author Edouard Schur (1841-1929) was a French writer born in Strasbourg. He was a writer, philosopher, and musicologist. He wrote novels, theater pieces, historical works, poetry, and philosophical treatises. He was especially well known for his work The Great Initiates, which has been in print continuously in numerous languages. He was a devoted and early student of Rudolf Steiner and Anthroposophy. His other books include From Sphinx to Christ: An Occult History and the play The Children of Lucifer.