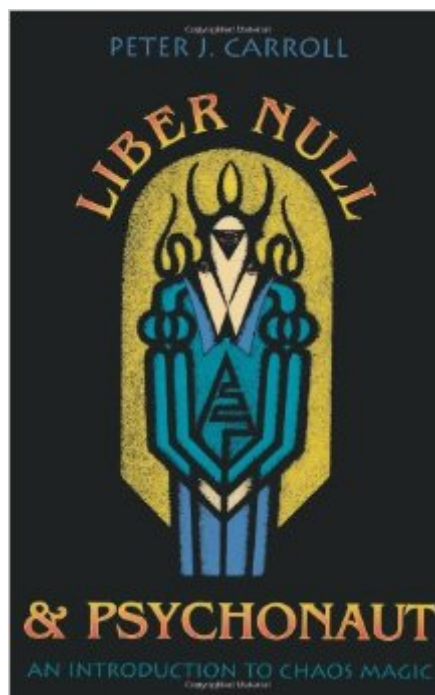


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Liber Null & Psychonaut: An Introduction To Chaos Magic



Synopsis

Two complete volumes in one. Liber Null contains a selection of extremely powerful rituals and exercises for committed occultists. Psychonaut is a manual comprising the theory and practice of magic aimed at those seeking to perform group magic, or who work as shamanic priests to the community.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you are new to the writings of Peter Carroll you should read this book first. It is the result of a tremendous effort to clarify the often confusing and unnecessarily complicated writings of the past. In this day and age it is no longer necessary to withhold this information or to write about it in "code". Carroll presents his information in a clear, rational and pragmatic way. Readers who have read his later books will notice that some of the theories presented here have become dated, which is only natural considering that the book was written over twenty years ago and that the development of magical theory and practice has progressed since then. In spite of this, it is important to familiarize oneself with the information presented here as it gives a solid foundation for understanding the basic principles and techniques that his later, more advanced books only touch upon briefly. For example the book has the clearest system for attaining proper mind control which is absolutely necessary for more advanced work. It also explains the different methods of going into trance as well as the procedures for creating personalized sigils or encoded desires. The second part of the book entitled Psychonaut (great word by the way) consists of essays on a variety of topics related to the subject at hand: The use of psychoactive substances in ritual, different models

for explaining magical phenomenon, etc. In a way, I tend to regard this book as a successful clarification of what Crowley and Spare tried to say in their confusing and long-winded fashion.

"Liber Null" presents some great ideas. If you are new in chaos magic I strongly suggest you get this book along with "Condensed Chaos" by Phil Hine. Read "Condensed Chaos" first then "Liber Null". As with any Peter Carroll book it contains dogmatism about his personal beliefs. However that is more than cancelled out by the wealth of ideas that is hidden throughout the book. If you see magic as being divided in black and white and different subdivisions within each one this book will prove truly valuable to read and try. If not (which was my case) it will prove as an interesting source of information that you can adapt or discard according to your liking and the belief system you are currently ingrained in. Assume nothing.

Peter Carroll has some interesting ideas, but they are mostly poorly-written regurgitations of what Crowley and A.O. Spare already said before he came to the table. I would recommend starting with source material if you want an understanding of those two. Israel Regardie and Lon Milo DuQuette both write some more accessible interpretations of Crowley if you don't want to wade through lengthy pontifications. If you want a good introduction to Chaos Magick and to see some unique ideas, I highly recommend getting Phil Hine's "Condensed Chaos" (also available here on). His writing is excellent, and he does a much better job of clearly presenting the basics of Chaos Magick with a pragmatic attitude. Carroll is interesting from a historical perspective since he was one of the early Chaos Magicians, so this is probably worth having for the completist.

Our life is an uncertain mess of chaos. We never know if tomorrow will come for us, or what it will bring. Nothing is true. If you've been jostled awake by the sirens of nihilism, this book will keep you awake long into the night, as you wonder at what may just be possible for someone with the inclination and the wonderment to actually jump, head first, into the world of the Chaote. Otherwise, you can just sit on the shore, enjoying the view. This book, more or less, is an instruction manual for initiates of the IOT, an order of anarchist-occultists founded by the scientist/punk/philosopher (my kind of guy!) Pete Carroll. It outlines the practices of Neophytes, Initiates, Adepts, and Priests of Chaos, as well as includes some basic practices (a combination of A.O. Spare's Zos Kia, non-religious Thelema, Wicca, Sorcery, Shamanism, Goetic Necromancy, and Vajrayana Buddhism)... in other words, total and complete wickedness. Check it out.

One of the greatest books on Magick/Occult studies ever written. Carroll continues the Western Esoteric tradition of Aleister Crowley and Austin Osman Spare and like with Crowley and Spare, evolved that tradition into progressive new territory. This is a MUST read for anyone interested in the Occult and also for beginners too. This is one of the best books for someone who's just starting out to check out first.

Peter Carroll's book "Liber Null" has given me an interesting outlook on life. I feel like if this book was written to emphasize the philosophical teachings, rather than magic(k)al practices, this book would gain much more popularity. If you get this book, read it with an open mind. This text has significantly opened my mind, and I've bought a couple more copies so I could distribute to some friends. Highly recommended for any occult reader.

Like the title of this review says, this is an amazing book. It's one of the only books I've found that completely cuts away traditional religious and superstitious trappings to reveal the pure essence of magic. It's true that he does add his own theories and perspectives on certain issues, but I found these to be extremely helpful in understanding the teachings within. This is a very enlightening book, one of the best occult texts on the market. I HIGHLY recommend this book to anybody who's interested in occultism or magic (not to mention chaos magic).

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