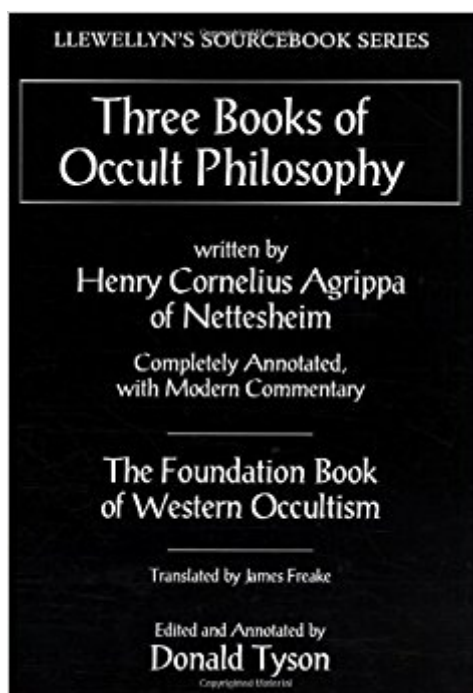


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# Three Books Of Occult Philosophy (Llewellyn's Sourcebook)



## Synopsis

Now you can learn from the original, most important source for magic in the Western world that has ever been published, when you get Agrippa's Three Books of Occult Philosophy. This massive volume was originally published in 1531, and occultists have been drawing on it ever since. Now, Llewellyn is proud to produce the first complete reprint of the original English translation in the last 500 years. Donald Tyson edited this work and removed the hundreds of errors that appeared in the original translation. He also fully annotated the work, to make it understandable and usable by people today. • Discover what the Renaissance scholar knew about astrology, medicine, history, herbs, geography, animals, angels, devils, Witches, charms, the weather, and a host of other subjects • Gain immediate reference to a vast amount of arcane, but completely annotated, magical material • Find corrected drawings of seals, sigils, and magic squares, and correctly represented geomantic figures • Explore the practical Kabbalah, geomancy, the magic squares, the elements, the humors, and the Soul of the World • Consult the new Biographical dictionary for background on each of the hundreds of writers and historical figures referred to by Agrippa • Consult the new Geographical Dictionary for data on referenced rivers, mountains, nations, cities many of which now carry different names. The Three Books of Occult Philosophy is the most complete repository of pagan and Neoplatonic magic ever compiled. This book is packed with material you will not find elsewhere, including copious extracts on magic from obscure or lost works by Pythagoras, Ptolemy, Plato, Aristotle, and many others. Tyson's detailed annotations clarify difficult references and provide origins of quotations, even expanding upon them in many cases, in order to make Agrippa's work more accessible to the modern reader. The Three Books of Occult Philosophy is the ultimate "how-to" for magical workings. It describes how to work all manner of divinations and natural and ceremonial magic in such clear and useful detail that it is still the guide for modern techniques. The extensive new supplementary material makes this wisdom practical for use today. The Three Books of Occult Philosophy is an essential reference tool for all students of the occult. Get your copy today.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Latin

The Three Books of Occult Philosophy by Agrippa is the single most important text in the history of Western occultism. Even today, occultists use the techniques first described here, although rarely giving credit to it. Barrett's *The Magus* is a direct plagiarism of a part of this book. The Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn's systems of the Kabbalah, geomancy, elements, and seals and squares of the planets are all taken, in a large measure, from Agrippa's; but for 500 years, *Three Books of Occult Philosophy* was almost impossible to find. Donald Tyson took on the Herculean task of digging out the original, correcting the errors, and fully annotating the entire work. As a result, not only is this new edition easily available to scholars, but it is now fully understandable by people today. The ancient magics, in their original form, live again. Besides the annotations, there are also extensive appendices on such topics as the elements, the magical squares, the humors, and more. Biographical and geographical dictionaries and the general index make accessing and understanding information in this book easier than ever. This is the ultimate version of the book that is the ultimate book on magic. If you are interested in any form of magic or occultism, you must get *Three Books of Occult Philosophy*.

A classic for those into the occult! This edition is easy to read while it stays true to the original text and meaning. A recommended reading for any one practicing any form of magic!

I absolutely love it. It is textbook-quality. It has a wealth of information about Agrippa's life, as well as other stuff. It is formatted as though it were a textbook, and loaded with sources, citations, footnotes, and commentaries. It seems like it was printed by a university's press. It is the ultimate

source for somebody researching Agrippa, as well as an extremely spiritual and enlightening piece of illuminating literature for the student interested in alchemy and occult philosophy. Agrippa's language and writing are beautiful. I've been reading at least a chapter a day since I've gotten the book, in somewhat of the fashion of a daily bible reading. The chapters are short, but there is a lot to digest therein, and there are commentaries in the footnotes, which are almost as long as the chapter itself in some cases, that explain what Agrippa is talking about. This is one of the best transliterations of this work, and formatted for modern times I.E., Agrippa didn't use paragraph breaks in the original. I would definitely recommend this book to any student of the great work, or an academic researching the aforementioned topic.

This is not just a book, but it is an undertaking. True, that some of the information is a bit dated according to our modern sensibilities, however; the book itself is a vast tome of knowledge. The dedicated Scholar will find it intensely proliferated with points of view and examples of the inner workings of Magic. It is a wonderful read if one can make it through so thick a tome. This book makes you think outside the realms of comfort, and the authors history in and of itself would make a fine tale.

I just purchase Agrippa's Three Books of Occult Philosophy and I must say so far it has been one of, if not the best, book I've read on occultism, magic, or western occulticism/religion/metaphysics. Here are a few of the things that really impressed me: For starters, Agrippa seems very modern in that, whether he was aware of it or not, he brings up two points that I've only heard from more contemporary occultists. First, much of his book, to me, seems to tie in with Joseph Cambell's The Power of Myth (which discusses world myths and comparative religion). Agrippa, often when discussing a single concept, simultaneously pulls from hebrew and the Qabalah, christianity and the Bible, Greek, Roman, and Egyptian mythology, and Greek philosophers such as Plato and Pythagoras. It seems that in his mind, all these beliefs and philosophies hold truths in them and he takes them all into consideration, like a scientist would take in all the facts he receives from the natural world. I'm certain that if Agrippa was familiar with far east philosophy, such as Taoism and the concept of Yin and Yang, he would have incorporated that too, since it easily ties into a lot of the concepts he already elaborates on through the ideas of multiple religious and spiritual schools of thought. And secondly, the idea that what a magician is really doing is using words, symbols, etc. to focus and strengthen the mind and will, and that it is really the human mind and will that creates all the magic, is also suggested by Agrippa. I've read this theory from Aliester Crowley and another

modern occultist (Brennan, I think). Agrippa states that words, numbers, and symbols have power because of the way they interact with our souls and that it is our souls that are actually effecting the world, not the words, symbols, etc. themselves. Further more, while the book has no apparent actual magic rituals, spells, etc., it provides the philosophy and concept behind the magic, which I feel is ultimately more important. The book is thoroughly annotated, to the point where the footnotes are often longer than the chapters, so that everything is understandable to a modern reader, and provides a great springboard for further and more in-depth study into all of Agrippa's sources and influences, and into some of the most important spiritual and philosophical writings in western history. And, just to make me love it more, Agrippa is probably the first occult writer who doesn't write with that annoying pompous, or arrogant attitude, nor talks down or oversimplifies things as if he thinks his readers are too stupid to understand. So many occult writers come off this way, either oversimplifying or overdoing it to the point of sounding arrogant or full of themselves. Agrippa talks like an educated scientist, talking to someone of equal intelligence on a subject that is serious, but accessible to all. In his words, occultism and magic don't seem to be some mysterious, shadowy, and dark subject, but rather a divine science and wisdom that can and should be used to elevate all mankind. So far I've been extremely inspired, pleased, and excited with this book. I strongly suggest this book to anyone and everyone interested in not only occultism, but also religion, spirituality, metaphysics, and even history.

Cornelius Agrippa's *Three Books of Occult Philosophy* must rank as one of, if not the most important work ever written on the Western Occult tradition. Written in relative youth, it nevertheless has an immensely broad range of topics covering malefic and benefic magic while still remaining in the Christian tradition. Agrippa's work certainly provides numerous practical instructions, but always ties together a wide range of classical and traditional sources in a broad theoretical framework. As a traditional astrologer I found Agrippa's exposition of astrological magic to be among the best available in English, on a par with the Kaske and Clarke translation of Marsilio Ficino's *Three Books on Life*. This is not surprising as Agrippa draws directly from Picatrix, *De Imaginibus* of Thabit Ibn Qurra, *Hermes on the 15 Fixed Stars* and other key astrological magic texts. Donald Tyson, the editor of this modern edition of the original 17th century English translation of *Three Books of Occult Philosophy*, has done a good job of providing references and citations, though he occasionally makes technical mistakes. A perusal of the Brill Latin critical edition of *Three Books of Occult Philosophy* can be useful in this respect. In common with other traditional sources Agrippa does not lay out a recipe style method of magic (step 1, a, b, c, step 2, etc.) Instead as he states in the final

chapter of book III, he deliberately scatters information throughout the three books. This points the way to the best method to learn from and absorb what Agrippa has written: deep and repeated study, practice and meditation. If I could have only one book on the Western occult tradition (perish the thought!) this would be it. Anyone with a serious interest in studying or practicing in this area should have this book.

I liked this book because it helps one to see more clearly. I would only recommend this book to those who are not fooled by christian hypocrisy and can think on their own.

Came on time and everything went well. Shipping was fast and I had no issues here.

Excellent book.

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