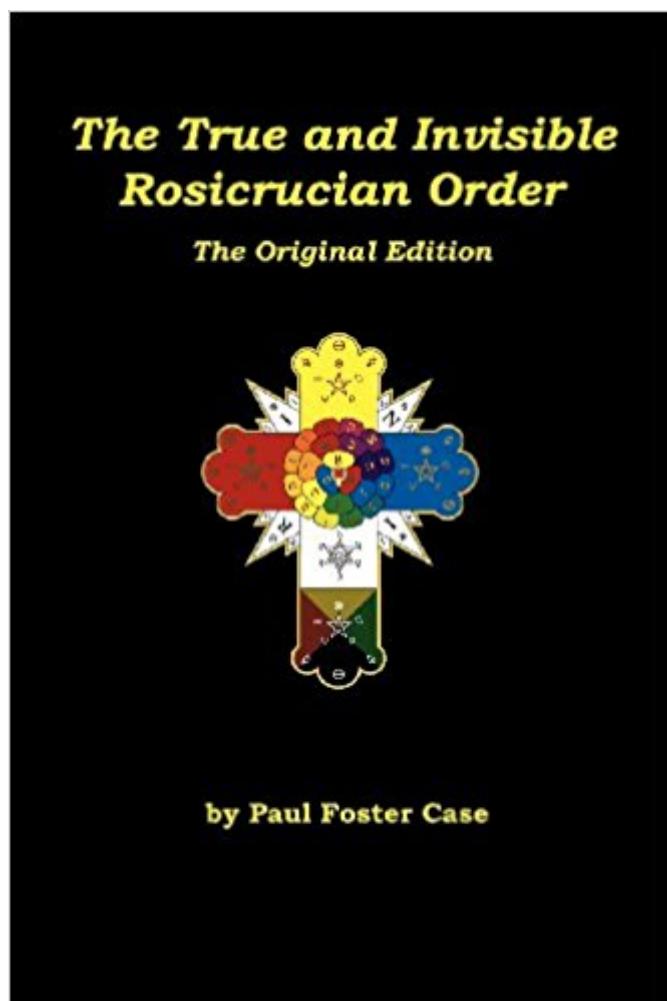


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The True And Invisible Rosicrucian Order: The Original Edition



Synopsis

The "Original Edition" of The True and Invisible Rosicrucian Order was first published in 1927 with a limited print run of 64 copies. It was followed almost immediately by a second edition in 1928. The second edition was only a moderate revision but Paul Foster Case removed much of the sound and color practices that were presented in the original edition. These practices can now be found in slightly altered form relatively far along in the Builders of the Adytum (B.O.T.A.) curriculum (approximately during the fourteenth and fifteenth years of the coursework). The fourth edition which is the most expanded edition represents Paul Foster Case's most complete thought on this subject is still in print currently published by Weiser and is highly recommended to the readers of this edition on its own merits. The "Original Edition" provides content not present in the fourth and final edition and contains valuable insight into the Work of Paul Case during an earlier and more formative period of his life. "The True and Invisible Rosicrucian Order is a book by Paul Foster Case that unites the Kabbalah with Hermetic ranks or grades of attainment, as seen through a Rosicrucian lens. It is one of the first major attempts at reducing a vast body of esoteric teachings into an understandable format. The Golden Dawn philosophy is very evident throughout this text, plus many of the new innovations that Case developed. "The value of this book is that it presents an American A.O. window of how the rungs of the ladder in the Golden Dawn learning system were viewed. Case wanted more structure from the Golden Dawn and what it did not supply, he developed. This work tries to explain the Rosicrucian philosophy from a Golden Dawn and Kabbalistic perspective and goes further than many of the early order papers did. This was one of the catalysts that helped Case work out his B.O.T.A. philosophy. In many respects this work reflects the cross-over point between the Golden Dawn and the formation of Case's B.O.T.A philosophy and as such has a foot in both realms of Hermetic thought. It is a book that should be on the shelf of those interested in modern hermetic literature." - from the foreword by Pat Zalewski, author of the best selling modern classic Alchemy and Golden Dawn Ritual

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Customer Reviews

Paul Foster Case (1884-1954) was one of the leading American occultists of the twentieth century. His book, "The Tarot," and his deck of Tarot cards significantly influenced how Tarot is taught and understood today in the United States, and in other parts of the world. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is an absolute gem of a book on the school of esoteric wisdom known as the Rosicrucian Order. There is a cloud of mystery that surrounds the Order, and this book helps to lift a lot of the fog by expressing not only what the Order actually is, but also what it is NOT. Dr. Case's commentary on the allegorical texts that brought the Order to the surface of public consciousness - the Fama Fraternitatis and the Confessio - is enough to make this book a treasure worth owning for any student of spirituality, especially of the esoteric wisdom of the ages. Beyond Case's adept exposition of the two publications mentioned above, he goes beyond and describes the grades of the Order, which did not originate with the publications but were created over time by learned occultists with a firm grasp of Hermetic Qabalah and the process of liberation or awakening. Case's detailed description of each grade with tarot correspondences is priceless and demonstrates not only his understanding of the Western mystery school tradition, but the Eastern yoga tradition as well (the two being closely related). My only negative, and a very weak one, is the way in which some of the gematria is used throughout - it seems like a slight stretch in certain instances. Most of the explanations of the allegory via gematria, however, are eye-opening and leave little room for doubt as to their validity. The explanation of C.R.C.'s vault, the compendium of the whole universe, as described in the Fama Fraternitatis is brilliant, to say the least. I can't praise or recommend this book enough to the true spiritual aspirant, especially those who have chosen the path of the Western mystery school of esoteric wisdom. If you're a member of BOTA (Case's Builders of the Adytum), you MUST own this book. It will only strengthen your faith in Case's credibility as a teacher of the mysteries and of the legacy he left behind in BOTA.

Studying all the negative comments about this book, the following group reveal themselves: 1. Those with over-bloated egos who want to be masters without paying the coin 2. Those who read only a few from this illustrious work lines and dared to comment 3. Those who're in organizations that claim to be the true R.C. 4. Those who are so hoodwinked with the Christian Rosenkreutz phenomena that they're unwilling to leave it 5. Those who do not know that Western Mystery Tradition means exactly what it means - a tradition and know one copied from anyone let alone invent the tradition not G.D. nor S.R.I.A. 6. The orthodox minded who see Satan in everything not sanctioned by the Church. To all these people the Rosicrucian manifestos say "for we will not move gross wits." This is a work not for jokers and the lazy. Neither is it for those looking for a romantic read which fill most New Age and self help books that have the temerity to call themselves spiritual. There is almost no personal attachment to this work. The author does not claim to be a Rosicrucian, he merely interprets what the manifestos say and nowhere is Christian Rosenkreutz mentioned by name. Those who say he is a Rosicrucian claimant definitely did not read this book. Rosicrucianism according to the manifestos is nothing but Christian Hermeticism. This book settles the Rosicrucian argument once and for all and exposes the various groups answering the name Rosicrucian. The True Rosicrucian is every child of the One Reality especially those who dine at the Table of Life - those who are one with the Father. The hero Our Father and Brother C.R.C. Is none other than the Christos - the Universal Consciousness enthroned in the heart of man whereby he is called Microcosm. No organization secret or open can lay exclusive claim to Rosicrucianism and Rosicrucianism has nothing at all to do with that joke called AMORC. This is the best and most illuminating book I have ever read. I can only speak for myself. Like the manifestos, Paul Foster Case's book is addressed to the erudite of the world and it does not move gross wits. L.V.X.

Paul Foster Case is one of those rare people who managed to crack the code of Western mysticism. His dissection of the Rosicrucian mysteries is far more than a beginner's survey. It's a profound work. My only warning is this: he dives right into the deep end. If you haven't studied Western mystery traditions before, much of what he says will feel like he's just pulling random ideas out of the air. I would suggest starting with [ASIN:B001IXS90Q Smoley]] who gives an excellent set of overviews of broad and specific topics without the extreme depth of Case. Once you feel comfortable, follow up with Case and you'll find that you get quite a lot out of it!

Few books written on the Western Mystery Tradition cover the subject as well as this. Paul Foster

Case not only understands the subject extremely well, he also gives excellent instruction on how to learn it.

I have read and reread this book for over 20 years. Each time I refer back to it, I am amazed with regard to the Knowledge packed inside. Several other peers and I have noted how while reading the TIRO, we experience a sensation of Love.

Very enlightening. In all my years of study, this publication has brought to my attention much information that I have not seen before or that I have forgotten. Encourages me to 'walk the path', so to speak.

This is a carefully written and attractively presented overview of that esoterica of Rosicrucians that can be shared with outsiders. The focus is on Quabbalah and Tarot, with little on alchemy or astrology. Although this is an insider's view, with little critical balance, there is only the slightest criticism of dissident views. It is not a casual read, but I found it worthwhile. It is probably no accident that the central Truth of Rosicrutionism is in the middle of the book, on page 147.

I am enjoying reading this book I like Paul Foster Materials.

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