

## Mani And Rudolf Steiner Manichaeism Anthroposophy

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### KADE DILLON

*Inner Reading and Inner Hearing* Temple Lodge Publishing

For many centuries, the teaching of Mani was hidden behind the distorted picture that had been created by the adversaries of Manichaeism in East and West. In the course of the twentieth century, new light was shed on Manichaeism by the discovery of several Manichaean scriptures. These have shown that Manichaeism was a true, distinct world religion that, in the question of good and evil, for instance, offers insights that complement and deepen Christianity. Also in the twentieth century, Rudolf Steiner brought Anthroposophy, Spiritual Science, which is a continuation of a stream of esoteric Christianity that has run through human history ever since the resurrection of Christ. Anthroposophy is centered on a new, deepened idea of Christianity that, as indicated by Rudolf Steiner, is so great and all-encompassing that it can be understood in its full depth only gradually. In this book, Christine Gruwez explores the essence of Mani's revelation and then shows what Rudolf Steiner has communicated regarding Mani and his teaching. This generates an image of two spiritual streams that, each from its own beginning, are moving toward a future when a Christianity of the deed shall become reality.

**Guidance in Esoteric Training** Routledge

In recent decades, there has been an upsurge of interest in "the Camino," the pilgrim's route to Santiago de Compostela in northern Spain. But where does this fascination in the spiritual exploration of the Middle Ages come from, and what is its significance? Virginia Sease and Manfred Schmidt-Brabant assert that we live in a time of spiritual quest, discovery, and change. Humanity is becoming increasingly sensitive, and primal memories are beginning to emerge in people's consciousness. Within this dynamic context of inner transformation, the Camino's historic importance is being reechoed in human souls. Rudolf Steiner explained that people need to live not only with outer history, but also with the esoteric, hidden narrative behind it--the history of the mysteries. Today, at the beginning of the twenty-first century, the authors suggest that it is increasingly necessary for us to live consciously with this veiled history of humanity's continual search for communion with the divine world. Based on long research and contemplation, the authors present a survey of extraordinary breadth and depth. Focusing on the spiritual history of humankind, they begin with the cosmic origin of the Grail Mysteries and culminate with the suprasensory Michael cultus and the being of Anthroposophia. Topics also include: the school of Athens; early Christian art and its Gnostic impulses; the Grail initiation in northern Spain; the role of the Cathars and Troubadours in the Manichean spiritual stream; the Camino to Santiago de Compostela and the esoteric aspect of music for the pilgrims; the Music of the Spheres and the Elders of the Apocalypse; the Templars as emissaries of the Holy Grail; the initiations of Christian Rosenkreutz and his relation to anthroposophical art; the early Rosicrucian impulses in America and Europe; and much more.

*Old Testament Studies* Floris Books

Underlying Sergei O. Prokofieff's life's work was a fundamental research-theme to which he returned to repeatedly: the individuality of Rudolf Steiner as manifested through his past incarnations on Earth. Beginning in 1982, inspired by a visit to an exhibition on The Epic of Gilgamesh, Prokofieff planned a full-scale spiritual biography with the intention of finding an answer to the question: Who is Rudolf Steiner? In a sequence of five past incarnations – as indicated by Steiner himself – and culminating in the life of Rudolf Steiner, Prokofieff searched for the inner thread between the six stages of this great, all-encompassing life. His intention was to find not only the outer connections in this sequence but also the deeper, more esoteric stream that offers the key to the unique significance of this individuality. In 1984, Prokofieff began to write the first chapter about Rudolf Steiner's incarnation as Enkidu in Sumer. Sadly, many obstacles in his path were to prevent him finalising the project. However, the author returned to the book in his final months, preparing a Preface that outlines its conception together with a summary chapter on Rudolf Steiner's evolutionary journey. This precious 'fragment' of a biography features valuable additional material, including: a full introduction to the relationship of the anthroposophical movement to other occult streams of esoteric Christianity and their Masters; a detailed spiritual-scientific interpretation of the Epic of Gilgamesh that establishes Rudolf Steiner's connection with the being of Jesus of Nazareth, and an exploration of Steiner's relationship to the Nathan soul, the Luke Jesus child. Serious students of anthroposophy will welcome these final writings from the pen of one of Rudolf Steiner's most faithful and insightful disciples.

**The Gnostic World** SteinerBooks

"Perception of the idea within the actual is the true communion of the human being" --Goethe Religious ritual is often seen as a way of bringing divine influences down into the material world. In this profound and stimulating work, Rudolf Steiner and Friedrich Benesch introduce the idea of "reverse ritual"--a way that each of us can raise our souls to the spiritual realm. In this process, the everyday world becomes a portal through which we can enter the dimension of the sacred. Here, each of us can be a "priest," and each of our actions can be a cosmic, ritual act. This stimulating collection of writings on spiritual communion of humanity includes two further lectures by Steiner that show how this process can engage our social lives. Also included are two additional essays as appendices: "Sacramental and Spiritual Communion" by Dietrich Asten and "Human Encounters and Karma" by Athys Floride. The introduction by Christopher Schaefer brings these ideas into focus for modern seekers. Contents: Part One: "The Spiritual Communion of Humanity" (5 lectures from GA 219) Part Two: "Preparing for the Sixth Epoch" Part Three: Commentaries by Friedrich Benesch

Appendices: Selections from Dietrich Asten: "Spiritual and Sacramental Communion" & Athys Floride: "Human Encounters and Karma."

**The Redemption of Thinking** Rudolf Steiner Press

Even within the Anthroposophical Society and the anthroposophic movement, people's relationship to Rudolf Steiner is weakening and dissipating. This is problematic, says Prokofieff, as the future of both the Society and movement depends on a sufficient number of people aspiring to and realizing a true spiritual connection with the founder of Anthroposophy. Prokofieff deals in detail with this issue and asks, "Can one be an anthroposophist without being Rudolf Steiner's pupil?" In the second part of this book, Prokofieff elaborates on the mysteries surrounding the laying of the spiritual Foundation Stone at the Society's Christmas Meeting that began 1923. That event, he asserts, ensured that a personal relationship with Rudolf Steiner "would not remain within the realm of the generally abstract or intellectual, but would become a real inner deed." Thus, Steiner gave each anthroposophist the possibility of connecting with him through free inner work on the Foundation Stone. Both parts of this book are linked, in the sense that once a relationship with Steiner is established, an inner longing to work with the "new mysteries" will follow. In Prokofieff's words, "The will to take the foundation of the new mysteries seriously leads to a real, inner connection with Rudolf Steiner." Relating to Rudolf Steiner includes an essay on the "problem" of digitally publishing Steiner's most important esoteric texts and the esoteric background of the internet and electronic media in general. In response to readers' questions about how to counteract the harmful consequences of these developments, Prokofieff has expanded and developed his original essay on this subject.

**The Temple and the Grail** Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht

Light Against Darkness is comprised of articles that put on display the power and pervasiveness of dualistic thought. Dualism has proved a potent cultural tool for clarifying and ordering reality. Particularly in times of social stress and psychological insecurity, it can offer a valuable conceptual grid that provides orientation to the world and a clear sense of identity. At the same time, though, there are important questions to be asked about the social effects of binary thinking. As history amply illustrates, dualistic notions can readily be deployed to legitimate cultural demonization and to rationalize violence. At a deeper level, a dualist worldview can also obscure the possibilities to be found in multiplicity. The articles in this volume treat Dualism across a wide historical spectrum and from multiple methodological perspectives. The studies are organized around the religious and cultural contexts of Ancient Judaism and they include contributions from leading voices on ancient Persia, Israel, Greece, and Egypt. Experts on modern religious and philosophical thought not only lend context to concepts applied to the ancient world, but engage recent European and American experiments in binary thought. All of the studies contribute to a richer and more complete portrait of dualism in ancient Judaism.

**Temple Legend** SteinerBooks

Two Lectures Cycles, Followed by Two Christmas Lectures Dornach, October 3-7 and December 12-20, 1914; Dornach, December 26 and Basel, December 27, 1914 (CW 156) These two lecture courses, given just after the beginning of World War I, stand as a kind of unexpected gift. A few months later, once the war became a reality, the possibilities for esoteric work would change and it would become more difficult to do spiritual research. But in the short interval before the true horror of the conflict unfolded, Rudolf Steiner--almost by the way--was able to give these lectures, which lay out in the clearest fashion the path of anthroposophic meditation, and its assumptions, language, and consequences. The first lectures expand on the idea of inner "reading" and "hearing" as the path to spiritual knowing. The spiritual world gives something and we, as spiritual researchers, receive and then read or interpret it. Spiritual knowledge is not a matter of will, desire, or intention on our part, but a gift from the spiritual world for which we must prepare ourselves by silencing our desires, emptying ourselves, and presenting ourselves in humility and devotion to the spiritual world. Then we become aware of the reality that the spiritual world is nowhere else but here, all around us; and if we dissolve the sense of being skin-bound, we can become open to it, reflect its images in our astral bodies, and then learn to read them by identification. Steiner describes this complex, subtle, existential and living process, in which ultimately we can become one with the universe, in a masterful way from which anyone who meditates, or wishes to begin to meditate, will gain a great deal. The second lecture cycle, "How to Achieve Existence in the World of Ideas," deepens the themes developed in the first cycle, so that the two together provide a useful guide to the processes underlying meditation or learning to know the spiritual world. At the same time, because work was just beginning on the building that would become the Goetheanum, Steiner connects the esoteric principles of its design with the overall theme of the suprasensory human being in relation to meditation and spiritual knowing. The volume closes with two wonderful lectures in celebration of Christmas. Here Steiner has a threefold emphasis: Christ, supraearthly, glorious, and divine, fully united with humanity and the Earth and born in each human heart. To celebrate Christmas truly means that we recognize all three of these as one in the spiritual world, in the earthly world, and in ourselves. CONTENTS: Introduction by Christopher Bamford PART I: Inner Reading and Inner Hearing 1. The Human Being in Relationship to the World (Dornach, October 3, 1914): Inner reading and inner hearing as a method of spiritual scientific research. Acquiring new forms of judgment, thinking, sensing or feeling for the spiritual world. The significance of thinking, feeling, willing on the physical plane as preparation for the investigation of the spiritual world. Difference between perceiving in the physical world and in the spiritual world. Suppressing the self in meditation. Experiences of the soul while learning inner reading. Learning inner hearing. 2. Identification with the Signs and Spiritual Realities of the Imaginative World (Dornach, October 4, 1914): The physical organism as a mirror for experience in the outer world. Experience of the astral body in the spiritual world reflected in the etheric body--images of spiritual realities. Differences between natural and trained clairvoyance. Cosmic vowels and consonants. 3. The Vowels and Consonants of the Spiritual World (Dornach, October 5, 1914): Experience of the

cosmic vowels. Human thoughts and ideas as shadow pictures of real imaginations. The beings of the hierarchy of angels. Practicing loving interest in the world. The animal world as the physiognomy of nature; the plant world as the facial expression; the mineral world as the gesture of nature. The capability to change into other beings. The evil misuse of higher spiritual forces. 4. Inner Mobility of Thought (Dornach, October 6, 1914): Space and time relationships and imaginations of the angels, archangels, archai. Experience of the Cosmic Word. Reflections of the seven cosmic vowels in the etheric body and the twelve cosmic consonants in the physical body. Perception in the spiritual world between death and new birth. The future organ of thinking during the Jupiter and Venus periods. 5. Times of Expectation (Dornach, October 7, 1914): Christian Morgenstern's connection with the spiritual-scientific movement. Christian Morgenstern's soul after death as spiritual guide for souls that had felt on Earth the yearning for the spiritual. Goethe, Hermann Grimm, and Christian Morgenstern and their relationship to the suprasensory worlds. Spiritual science as fulfillment of this expectation. The nature of eurythmy. PART II: How to Achieve Existence in the World of Ideas 6. The Human Organization, Memory, and Inner Reading (Dornach, December 12, 1914): Human memory. The astral body as reader of the esoteric script. The sacred art of writing in ancient times. Goethe's relation to color. The significance of judgments out of the folk nature, of sympathy and antipathy for a particular folk soul. 7. Microcosm and Macrocosm: Human Gestures and the Life of the World (Dornach, December 13, 1914): The transition of the "I" into the astral body, from conscious to subconscious experience. Possibilities of a plant therapy. Ideas in Maeterlinck's book, *Der Schatz der Armen* [the treasure of the poor] and Fichte's *Reden an die deutsche Nation* [addresses to the German nation] as examples of the striving for the re-enlivening of human spiritual development. Spiritual-scientific impulses for artistic creating. The building of the human form under the influence of the cosmos. 8. Human Beings as illuminators of the Cherubim, heaters of the Seraphim (Dornach, December 19, 1914): How can human beings enter reality with concepts and ideas? Perception of the world in mirror image. Spiritual science adds a concluding chapter to Riddles of Philosophy. Developing specific capacities through philosophy. The objective thought world; the world of the hierarchies. The dying of thoughts in the physical body. The world of images and the world of realities. How can we bring reality to the world of images? Moral impulses of human beings and their significance for the hierarchies. 9. The Separation of Art, Science, and Religion (Dornach, December 20, 1914): The transformation of a one-sided head culture into a whole-human view of the world as the task of spiritual science. Separation and re-uniting of art, science, and religion. Artistic experience. The transformation of the human organism in the coming Jupiter evolution. The building-forms of the first Goetheanum. PART III: The Celebration of Christmas 10. Toward a New Understanding of the Mystery of Golgotha (Dornach, December 26, 1914): The Christmas festival of the renewed understanding of Christ. The descent of Christ out of the spiritual heights. The various views of a divine mediator in the Mithras service, in Manichaeism, and in Gnosis. Augustine and Faust, the renewed understanding of Christ. 11. The Birth of Christ in the Human Heart (Basel, December 27, 1914): The cosmic Christ and the birth of the Christ knowledge in us. The working of the Christ force in evolution. An old Gnostic verse and a poem by Christian Morgenstern.

*The Greatest Mirror* Temple Lodge Publishing

A collection of stories represented by the carvings at Rosslyn Chapel, drawn from the beginnings of the world, Ancient Egypt, the Holy Land, Celtic myth and Scottish history.

**The Mission of Manicheism: Lecture 2 of 18** SteinerBooks

"One of the most valuable and original works on the Grail yet to appear in any language." --John Matthews, author of *The Mystic Grail* "The definitive work on the historical background to the Grail Romances of the mediaeval age." --Trevor Ravenscroft, author of *The Spear of Destiny* Much plagiarized and its contents distorted over the years, Stein's seminal work is a classic of original scholarly and spiritual research. In studying the central Grail narrative of Wolfram von Eschenbach's *Parzival*, Stein takes a twofold approach. On the one hand, he searches historical records for the identity of actual people and events concealed behind the Grail epic's veil of romance. On the other hand, Stein deciphers Eschenbach's hidden spiritual messages, showing *Parzival* to be an esoteric document containing powerful pictures of the human being's inner path of development. Stein reveals the period of the ninth century to be far deeper and more important than to be of mere historical and academic interest. It is the karmic ground from which grows the very destiny of our modern era--the grand battle that must take place between the powers of the Grail and the hindrance of sinister anti-Grail forces at large today.

*Stones of the New Consciousness* ABC-CLIO

An insightful examination of some of the Old Testament's richest stories.

*Satanism Today* SteinerBooks

For centuries Manicheism was a powerful religion, rivaled only by Christianity, but now virtually unheard of. Today, there is a resurgence of interest in Gnostic teachings. This work has been painstakingly pieced together and is an important work for scholars, religious researchers and those interested in alternative spiritual paths.

*The Ninth Century and the Holy Grail* Temple Lodge Publishing

A compendium of information on contemporary Satanism covers such topics as Satanic childbearing, the anticult movement, Hell's Angels, Charles Manson, and heavy metal music.

**Mani and Rudolf Steiner** Simon and Schuster

The word Islam means surrender to God. In our secular Western culture, it is difficult to imagine what that means. Among other things, it indicates dependence and predestination. But is this really the case? Isn't this a superficial presumption? Allah calls on human beings to surrender in freedom to their God (Sura 96). Allah is merciful and forgiving. At the same time, however, Allah is the all-seeing one and the one who humbles. In Islam, free will and predestination have an uneasy relationship with each other—but isn't this true for every religion?

In this collection of essays, three authors discuss various aspects of the tension between freedom and predestination in Islam from the perspective of Rudolf Steiner's works. This background enables them to throw sometimes surprising light on the freedom impulse of Islam. It is the authors' hope that this book may contribute to a more balanced view of Islam today.

This timely book offers interested non-Muslims a rare opportunity to examine a frequently misunderstood aspect of one of the world's fastest growing religions.

**Reverse Ritual** Rudolf Steiner Press

The School of Spiritual Science and its individual sections was initiated by Rudolf Steiner at the Christmas Conference (1923-1924). His intention, in his own words, was to present "the esoteric aspect." It was to have three classes, though only the First Class was instituted before Steiner's death in 1925. Recently, the written records on which the teaching of the First Class is based have been published in both German and English, which has given rise to a number of questions. Consequently, the council of the General Anthroposophical Society in Dornach, Switzerland, commissioned Johannes Kiersch to write a history of this unique organization. The result is an overview of the First Class and its development, from the early esotericism developed by Rudolf Steiner while still connected with the Theosophical Society, to the period following World War II. The author provides individual commentaries on the first "mediators" of the school, including Lili Kolisko, Harry Collison, and Count Polzer-Hoditz. The book also presents some thirty-seven original documents in an extensive appendix, which features personal notes, letters, and speeches connected with the Esoteric School. A History of the School of Spiritual Science presents a balanced history of the birth and development of the First Class and its struggles through the controversial splits and conflicts that followed Steiner's death. As Kiersch states, "The aim has been, above all, to come as close as possible to the sources and offer historical material for individuals to form their own opinion." C O N T E N T S Preface 1. Introduction 2. Early Esotericism 3. The "Attempt" made in 1911 4. Founding and Development of the School of Spiritual Science up to March 1925 5. Developments up to the Second World War 6. The First "Meditators" 7. Between Free Rendering and Reading Aloud--How Can the First Class "Rise Again"? 8. A Brief Look at Developments after the Second World War Appendices

**Mani & Rudolf Steiner** Anthroposophic Press

In these unique lectures, given to members of his Esoteric School (1904-14), Rudolf Steiner's main intention is to throw light on the hidden content of the picture-language of myths, sagas and legends. Pictures, he explains, are the real origin of all things - the primeval spiritual causes. In the ancient past people assimilated these pictures through myths and legends. In order to work in a healthy way with pictures or symbols today, however, it is necessary that one should first become acquainted with their esoteric content - to understand them. At the time of these lectures Steiner was planning to inaugurate the second section of the Esoteric School, which was to deal in a direct way with a renewal - out of his own spiritual research - of ritual and symbolism. He gave these lectures as a necessary preparation, to clarify the history and nature of the cultic tradition. He thus discusses principally Freemasonry and its background, but also the Rosicrucians, Manichaeism, the Druids, the Prometheus Saga, the Lost Temple, Cain and Abel - and much else besides. Book jacket.

*The Knights Templar* Temple Lodge Publishing

3 lectures, Dornach, May 1920 (CW 74) Steiner begins these three lectures by depicting the background of early Christian thought, from which scholastic philosophers arose. He focuses on the "unanswered question" of the scholastic movement: How can human thinking be made Christlike and develop toward a vision of the spiritual world? A study of subsequent European thought, especially that of Kant, leads to the possibility of deepening into spiritual perception the scientific thinking that arose from scholasticism. Steiner explains that, since the beginning of the twentieth century, this is true Christianity. CONTENTS The Hymn of Boethius Introduction Prayer of Thomas Aquinas Three Lectures on the Philosophy of Thomas Aquinas 1. Thomas and Augustine 2. The Essence of Thomism 3. Thomism in the Present Day Epilogue Appendices This volume is a translation of *Die Philosophie Des Thomas von Aquino* (GA 74).

*The Temple Legend* AuthorHouse

Recent works of fiction and popular history have promoted the idea that the Holy Grail symbolizes a physical bloodline that resulted from a union of Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene. It is claimed by some that this is the secret kept tirelessly by certain esoteric movements for the past two millennia. Based on her groundbreaking research, Sylvia Francke exposes this notion as a blatant misinterpretation of the mystery traditions that preceded and ran parallel to the birth of Christianity. She traces the ancient spiritual paths of knowledge from the Cathars, the Knights Templar, and the enigmatic Rosicrucians, to the work of Rudolf Steiner in the twentieth century. Here, she concludes, is true Grail knowledge--the Tree of Life and the Holy Grail itself, explained in their metaphysical context. She suggests a solution to the mystery of sudden wealth and the strange behavior of Bérenger Saunière, the mysterious priest of Rennes-le-Château in southern France. True Grail knowledge, Francke concludes, has nothing to do with bloodlines or worldly status; rather, it is an ancient lifeline to the spiritual origins of creation. Its energetic forces radiate out from the Earth and in from the constellations and planets, while interacting with human individuals. It represents the key to fulfilling humanity's quest and the next step in human evolution. The recent explosion of interest in revisionist Christianity history--the shadow Grail--prompted Sylvia Francke to revise *The Tree of Life and the Holy Grail*, first published in 1996. The result is a completely reworked and expanded book that offers a powerful and convincing refutation of distorted esoteric truths. C O N T E N T S Preface 1. The Scene is Set 2. The Underground Stream and the New Mysteries 3. Science of the Grail 4. The Triple Goddess 5. Christ Energy, the Power of Transformation 6. Knights Templar, Guardians of the Grail 7. The Rosicrucian Impulse 8. Mary Magdalene, the Great Work, Venus, and the Pentagram 9. Opposing Forces and the Double 10. Saunière's Secret and the Priory of Sion, part one --The Philosopher's Stone and Knowing the Pentagram 11. Saunière's Secret and the Priory of Sion, part two --A Kind of Ahrimanic Immortality 12. Opposition to the grail and Its Influence in the Modern World 13. Rosslyn Chapel: The Tree of Life and the Holy Grail 14. Waters of the Moon 15. The Chalice and the Blade 16. Healing the Grail King Appendices: 1. Mani's Teachings 2. The Arabianizing of Aristotelianism 3. The Spiritual Hierarchies 4. The Science of the Grail: Some Modern Praticioners

*Mani, the Angel and the Column of Glory* SteinerBooks

Mani, the founder of the spiritual movement that has come to be called "Manichaeism," established an influential teaching that spread swiftly across Asia, Africa, and parts of Europe, but was later brutally suppressed. Little was known about this "Gnostic" religion until archaeological findings in the twentieth century revealed important aspects of Mani's biography and philosophical thought. Many years before those physical discoveries, Rudolf Steiner provided key esoteric insights based on his personal spiritual-scientific research, into Mani's life and work. Richard Seddon assembles pieces of the academic and esoteric puzzle, offering a lively and colorful picture of Mani and Manichaeism. He gives a succinct outline of Mani's life, the fundamental aspects of his teachings, and a description of the future spiritual role of Manichaeism. Seddon creates an image of a great Christian



initiate leading a movement with the critical task of transforming and ultimately redeeming evil. C O N T E N T S Preface Introduction 1. Mani's Life and Personality 2. The Cosmic Drama 3. Stages of Evolution 4. Redemption 5. Twelve Realms of Light 6. Fivefold Aspects 7. Manichaeian Community Life 8. The Expansion and Contraction of Manichaeism 9. Mani's Individuality 10. The Future Role of Manichaeians Conclusion Appendices

*Character Counts* Steiner Books

- Details the spiritual, healing, and energetic qualities of stones such as Moldavite, Nuummite, Circle Stones, Nirvana Quartz from the Himalayas, and high-vibrational Natrolite from the emerald mines of Russia • Features color photos of exceptional examples of each of the stones • Includes practices for deepening one's awareness of the stones' gifts--from expanding consciousness, to healing, to awakening the Light Body, to fulfilling one's personal and collective destiny In *Stones of the New Consciousness* Robert Simmons examines the 62 most important stones to help accelerate and enhance conscious evolution and spiritual awakening. Each entry is illustrated with color photos of exceptional examples. The stones include Moldavite, the extraterrestrial amorphous crystal; Nuummite, the oldest gemstone on Earth; and Circle Stones, the highly energetic Flint found in crop circle formations. Other featured rarities include Nirvana Quartz from the Himalayas and high-vibrational Natrolite from the emerald mines of Russia. Simmons begins with a new approach to meditation with stones and to the possibility of conscious relationship with the spiritual beings who express themselves in our world as crystals and minerals. He includes historical and mythological references for each stone, positing that the fabled Stone of

the Holy Grail and the Philosopher's Stone of the alchemists may have physical counterparts among the minerals discussed. Simmons presents practices for deepening one's awareness of the stones' gifts--from expanding one's consciousness, to healing, to awakening the Light Body, to fulfilling one's personal and collective destiny. While emphasizing direct contact with stones, the book also explores crystal energy tools, energy environments, and applications such as stone elixirs and essences that can aid anyone on a spiritual path.

*The Gospel of the Prophet Mani* Yale University Press

Award for the Best First Book in the History of Religions from the American Academy of Religion Reconstructing Manichaeism from scraps of ancient texts and the ungenerous polemic of its enemies (such as the ex-Manichaeian Augustine of Hippo), BeDuhn reveals for the first time the religion as it was actually practiced. He describes the Manichaeians' daily ritual meal, their stringent disciplinary codes (intended to prevent humans from harming plants and animals), and their secretive religious procedures designed to transform the cosmos and bring about the salvation of all living beings. Overturning long-held assumptions about Manichaeian dualism, asceticism, spirituality, and the pursuit of salvation, *The Manichaeian Body* changes completely how we look at this ancient religion and the environment in which Christianity arose. BeDuhn's conclusions revolutionize our understanding of the Manichaeians, clearly distinguishing them from Gnostics and other early Christian heretics and revealing them to be practitioners of a unique world religion.