

A.C. to G.J.Y. 25/1/40 From 57 Petersham Rd Surrey

Please note the above address which is in the telephone book under Chutney.

I have been guarding the Holy Grail in Richmond.

There doesn't seem much news except that the Tarot is going on steadily. It's at that annoying stage where one never gets any nearer to the end, because as fast as one does new cards, one finds flaws in the old ones, but at least we are thinking far enough ahead to consider the question of booking a gallery for the show. It is hard to tell what the season is going to be like. It is really ridiculous having people bargaining about invading first one country, then the other, and then not doing it. If our propaganda in U.S.A. had not been so abominably ill-done, it might all have been over by now, but we send people who dine at the best houses and meet all the so-called important magnates, and do not understand the temperament of the people or what they are thinking....

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A.C. to G.J.Y. From 57 Petersham Road Richmond. Undated

My weeks holiday did me oodles of good.

Can't understand about The Moralists. I thought the ~~hythm~~ ~~absolute~~ rhythm absolutely simple and compelling. I defy you to read it aloud without being carried away.

The Trust Fund is now adjusted on a lower basis which I hope will be immune from fresh catastrophes. So all is very nearly well in that way. But I do want to produce the big things especially the Tao Teh King. It is a long time since you sent a substantial contribution. You may as well do so now. Total cost of printing about £65. I have saved some £20 towards it so far.

...Mechanized army? Case of rifle v flintlock: better, but needs more care and skill. And in our present inexperience we can hardly tell what kinds of care and skill are needed. Maybe your course of Magick may come in by-and-by...

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War Work refused to A.C

A.C. to G.J.Y. From Noel Arms Hotel. Chipping Campden 1/3/40.

I hope you got Temperance safely. I'm rather desperate about the Sol in Aries book. On top of everything else, the Trust Fund dries up periodically. Last week £1-0-7 only! this week Nix. I don't mind tightening my belt but I don't want to carry on at all unless I feel that I am being some use to the work. So I'm feeling depressed. I am having a week's holiday ~~with~~ here as the guest of Lady Harris; it was needed badly. I have been more or less ill for the last month or so - my usual ~~one~~ one-down-to-ther-come-on series of small ailments. No luck at all yet with N.I.D. I'm furious: I feel that we are messing up the U.S.A. work. Insularity and class-consciousness. Officials don't know how to "fraternize with the licentious soldiery". In other words everything's bloody. Perhaps part of it is the usual reaction of relief from immediate strain coupled with poor prospects on return to work. Enough of grousing. Tarot goes on A.I. Only 4 more cards to do and 7 to do over again. Yesterday I saw a lot mounted, lettered and framed. They are really stupendous. You'll be amazed when you see them. Lots more letters to write; so with all good greetings...

From Lady Harris to G.J.Y. Chipping Campden 31/12/40

Thank you very much for your

Thank you ever so much. As you say the response to my appeal raised only £1-10-0 and the rent was owing. Now, I have written to the landlord to find out what is owing, and if you do not mind, I will put your kind subscription to mine and get A.C. the right side of his flat difficulties.

His address is The Gardens, Middle Warberry Rd, Torquay. He has a semi-basement flat at £2 a week, not too bad - about as cheap as he can get because he must be on electric current for his asthma machine. I would send him the cheque, only I am afraid it will disappear and the rent will still be in arrears. He is difficult. He seems to be working on a new book on Yi King. I find it hard to understand at all. Michael Houghton seems to think he can do something about publishing the Tarot. Would you like to look at the manuscript?

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From A.C. to G.J.Y. From Torquay. 8/10/40

Haven't heard of you for ages; I suppose you were with de Gaulle at Dakar.

Have a delightful place here for a G.M.R. Lost in the hills; opens on a gorgeous garden - might be south of France! - with a great view over woods; sea about a mile away; every last word in comfort. Especially being alone! Asthma and other plagues practically ~~none~~/ non-existent. The air suits me, and I get lots of exercise. Full of pep. So let me know how you are.

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From A.C. to G.J.Y. ~~On~~ 26/3/(?41) From Barton Brow, Great Hill Road Torquay

I enclose the Word. The Omen is especially remarkable: it reads ~~like~~ in part like a direct reference to Hitler, also to his merry men. Look up your Yi!

I have heard from Karl. Air mail from near ~~Paris~~ Pau, just 4 months in transit. The modern craze for speed! He was (Nov 16) in an internment Camp, and all set to go to U.S.A. Needed exit from France, and transit permits for Spain and Portugal. Hope he's safely there by now.

Ham (Gerald Hamilton) was at the Café de Paris for the "incident": saw his boy friend killed before his eyes, and was blown "almost on to the balcony". Wrote me from ~~bed~~ in bed with the "Sisters of the Holy Family"....



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A.C. to G.J.Y. July 20 (?1941) 278

Yi this a.m. was Lu 56 "Strangers". So a letter from you did not surprise me. Also I went to Whiteley's and told them to sell everything of mine except books and papers - see lines 3 and 6. Why? because I must either die or get to California. (doctor says "sunny, dry equable climate") and in neither case shall I need furniture and other perishable goods... *Mac Alpine* *A.C. is in by bus*

My girl Pat and young Ataturk last heard of in Jerusalem - with her grandmother! - nearly a year ago. Good for the lad's education, but I can't help wishing I could see him every so often.

My news is voluminous, and the Oxford Tarot business important it's too long to write, for I am worn out with worry and illness. desperately poor of course since May 10, '40 when Hitler walked into Belgium. No loss of courage though: my next book is Thumbs Up (*in hoc signo vinces*) being a few war-effort poems. Eleven bob. I wish ~~you'd~~ you'd subscribe for 50. (There are 100 only, signed and numbered) You would find them good gifts for your friends, and I think you'd like "The Battle of the River Plate". There's one to suit Russia too - written long before the volte-face. It is amusing (when one has mastered one's contempt and disgust) to watch the hypocrisy and double-crossing and explaining-it-away. Much more fantastic than last time.

I've got a bed-sitting room; small, but clean and comfortable people very nice, and expected to stay so till Saturday morning. After that who can tell?

my It was really tough and go last year; reporters pestering ~~the~~ vet. to give them a scoop on my death. Heart fed up with resisting the Asthma Panzer-divisions. The worst part is the emphysema, which is of course as incurable as an amputated leg. Teeth very 'Concentrated' and anaesthetics too dangerous for extractions. I get a sort of semi-fainting attack two or three times a day, on an average. still a fair amount of work gets done.... *I have it*

Did I tell you about the ~~coins of~~ "Coins of Ko Yuen"? Very sudden: I must have been delirious, or near it. It came out one night and I made a set in the small hours, to the alarm and horror of the nurse. You take a hexagram and label it: then reverse and label that. On the back ditto, but each Yang turned to a Yin and vice versa. So you have 4 hexagrams on each coin, except when they're the same either way up, when you have two. There are thus 8 "gold" and 12 "silver" coins. It is lovely and neat; helps a new grouping in the mind. Sample enclosed. (55 is the symbol I had originally for you). Will you write me this week ~~as~~ after Saturday I may not be here? But I'm trying to hang on to fix the Exodus. Safest to address me at 10 Hanover Square.

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*I have it*

A.C. to G.J.Y. From 10 Hanover Square. 10/8/41

Thumbs Up was delayed, as I bethought me to beatify the same, and give better value by putting in a half-tone of the "famous" photograph - frontispiece of Equinox I 3 if you remember. It should be out one day this week.

Shall I send you 50 copies direct? - if you can't use them easily, it might be a good gesture to send 15 apiece to Exeter, Ajax and Achilles, as they are celebrated in my "Battle of the River Plate", although slightly mixed up with 'unting. [I told him to tell them]

Tom Briberg has been in Cambridge this week-end, so I may hear the solution of the "well-known evacuee" mystery. It may, or may not demand my presence. In any case I should like to see you, also to wander among the shades of happy days. Please let me know what day would suit. Thanks to you, I am a good deal better in health. If I can manage to find a climate, I may yet pull through the winter.

*He came for this time I was a Staff Captain at Cambridge Subdistrict  
the day. H. G.*



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A.C. to G.J.Y. From IO Hanover Square. 30/8/41

I have taken your advice fully

A new title page

Thumbs Up!

Five poems by the Author of

The V sign

for free distribution among

the Soldiers and Workers

of the Forces of Freedom

followed by pp 3 + 9: thats all. None of the "magical nonsense" at all, except one of the seals on the front page to improve the appearance. And no name. This can be done very cheaply as the type is standing: only the new title needs to be set up. 8pp instead of 12, and no cover.

I do believe that some of these lines will prove quotable, and may do a lot of pepping up. Everyone has been lamenting the dearth of good war poetry, and this will outflank the intriguing jealousies of Fleet Street. It will be food for the noble feelings that lurk in every modest heart, now crammed with journalistic humbug.

I hope too that it will put me in my proper place and make plain my way to issue the "war aims" (or is it "peace aims") of the New Aeon. I'll send you the "O.T.O. plan in words of one syllable" as promised in a few days. (Liber OZ)

I hope to circularize prominent people with sample copies of the reprint and personal letters -I have got 3 quite good helpers- asking for subscriptions to distribute copies. We need £50 to start:after that it should pay for itself.I shall offer all newspapers and magazines the right to reprint any of the poems free of charge.

I wish too that you would write a pamphlet on some aspect of the New Aeon.

Once I have a footing on the rock, after all these years of floundering in the mire, the whole world will respond to the pressure.

Thumbs Up or 02

A.C to G.J.Y. From 10 Hanover Square. 6/9/41

Herewith a proof of the reprint. Monday I hope to be able to put an address on it. Printer wants £5-10-0 per 1000 add 10/- for cost of distributing parcels. I need £50 for stationary and postage to ~~write to~~ ~~particular~~ ~~blokes~~ patriotic blokes, asking them to contribute so many copies apiece. Can you help with this?

So far, good and enthusiastic response; e.g. C.E.M. Joad, John Cooper Powys, Louis Wilkinson, Harold Mortlake, and other more or less prominent people. Navy quite thrilled!

If I can get really big success, it will put me in a position to ask for an interview with Winston to put up to him the 2nd half of my V plan. (This might be the "war-engine" in AL III-7,8) It is immediate practical, but so terrible that I will not disclose it to anybody else. I wish you had always understood me; I could have worked out the details with you. But there was a time when you distrusted me <sup>entirely</sup> entirely: a lot of

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it my own fault. Is it too late to get together heart and soul? "Trust not a stranger: fail not of an heir". I feel so lonely, like a frightened child. So much to do and my physical instrument untrusty.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. From IO Hanover Square. Undated  
*A card of 02 with a photo of A.C. on it*

Thanks for the photos etc. The next step is to apply for the passport, and that is at present impossible. (For him *Up to U.S.A*)

To be friendly and lend me £10 for the first 1000. It would keep me going for a month, by which time I hope things will be cleared up. There is a man in the field for the Tarot. By the way I would like you to promise that if I die before it is issued, you will arrange for this to be done In Memoriam. *[50 acres a new desert]*

It is really too tantalizing. Friends and a ranch of my own in California, and the only prospect is to walk out of here on Monday morning and hang about till the police pick me up. I can see nobody but you to avert this. It's misery to ask you, knowing what you (quite wrongly) think; but the standard-bearer mustn't mind anything but keeping it aloft.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. From IO Hanover Square. 13/9/41

But you are working with me! Nothing could have pleased me ~~more~~ more than your criticism - you put your finger exactly on the spot. Thanks very much for the unexpected contribution; very decent of you. A quite mild case of bronchitis would probably finish me. So I must be comically careful - diet, no exposure and so on. Saw Parsons this A.M.: no hope of arrears of income being paid in for another 6 months. I ~~want~~ want to live to see the Tarot published and to finish the Yi King. Small hope of getting to U.S.A. this year. Support fully guaranteed when I do get across, so if you care enough to keep me going till I depart, I ~~and~~ shall take it friendly.

Your trouble is that you don't really believe in Magick. ~~Silly~~ Silly because you ~~had~~ had good personal experience of success with it. If you had gone all out, and taken the kicks cheerfully, you could have been right on top by now. It is when you have learnt to "interpret every phenomenon" etc that life becomes logical and sensible, as it doesn't on any other hypothesis. You have always wanted to make the best of both worlds, and Mammon is just as stuffy as God about that! Fuller thought that his association with me would hinder his career in the ~~army~~ army; so he fell between the two stools bang on to the swiftly rising boot of Nemesis, and his rearguard had been badly mauled. He even tried Mosley. Couldn't stick to that, kept out of Brixton, and is despised all round. He might have been C-in-C and my right hand; he is "a very clever journalist". Quomodo cecidisti. *[He became a Major-General at least]*

Thumbs Up has extracted praise and thanksgiving from U.S. Embassy, Naval blokes, Joad, John Cooper Powys, Ralph Straus and so on. Joad specially nice about it. I'm encouraged.

Don't like any title so far, "Rights of Man" is an historical document. The items don't go easily on the Tree; but I've got them down



to five sections: moral, bodily, mental, sexual, freedom, and the safeguard tyrannicide. In its new form it looks shapely and well-balanced. 160 words in all. Of course "in practice almost impossible to do something anything without clashing with somebody": but this is because the rule is not accepted. Same applies to cricket, or machines. Our claim is that the system minimises friction.

The V sign. My object is to disclaim connection with my B.B.C. friend. The plate in Eqx I 3 and to face p 374 of Magick is entitled "The Signs of the Grades", caption to photographs "The L.V.X. signs". Each photo is marked L - Isis mourning, the Swastika. V - Apophis, the Trident, X - Osiris risen - the Pentagram. Dates at least from the '80 G.D. but I have "Squatter's Right" as first to publish it.

The second half. Only the P (rime) M (inister) could take the responsibility of promulgating so appalling a plan: and only he could give the pledge necessary to minimise the cataclysm which would follow its adoption.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. From 10 Hanover Square. I/II/4I

...I have been varying my pleasure by collecting an abscess in the middle of my thigh. An excellent specimen, I assure you. After a week in bed it had begun to threaten so I got in a doctor, and it seems to be mending. But I have at least another 10 days on my back. The rest is doing me good in other ways... The way people are talking about the war is not at all reassuring. But probably this is the sophisticated Londoner; there must be some loyalty and decency - to say nothing of common-sense - left somewhere!

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A.C. to G.J.Y. From 10 Hanover Square. Dec 30 (?4I)

By the title of the World's Worst Correspondent I salute you. (I had asked you questions too.)

Do you deserve enclosed? I weep as the Arabian tree drops its medicinal gum, and send it along. This is how it will be for size and shape and colour. Of course there's a verso, rose Cross and trellis with weapons design and printed on regular playing-card board. I'm working out a financial plan for getting the whole deck done. You'll see it in due course.

All jogs normally here - I'm working out a Qab. analysis of how each trigram modifies each. It shows that King Wan and Son were working from identical realities, not conventions. About half-way through. Hope you and yours are well: no news of mine

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A.C. to G.J.Y. From 93 Jermyn Street 28 May 1922

Yesterday at lunch the Attornet General happened to ask me if you were a good correspondent. -Gold Stick in Waiting broke in with that coarse laugh of his "In a pig's -----!" and Rouge Dragon - a nice fellow enough but shockingly lax about Supporters - sniggered "A hole in his socks"! What could I say? What? Such a lovely cardless letter card I ~~sent~~ sent you too! Really I do want to see you. Are there any May races this ~~year~~ June? I'd like to taste the bitter savour of old happiness.

Anyway, nearly killing myself in the process I finished the Court and small cards. They needed what was practically rewriting in parts, as I have found identities between certain cards and (a) the Yi (b) the Geomantic figures. This is exceedingly important from the point of view of official science, as it demonstrates beyond doubt that these independent systems reach the same conclusions, and therefore that they all represent a reality in Nature, not an arbitrary set of artificial conventions. I assure you that one day this will be the corner-stone of the scientific acceptance of the fact of Magick. Also I got additional evidence for my thesis that Tetragrammaton is a revolving formula, and so that the Universe is self-sustaining, self-renewing, perfect and eternal in itself, not a finite extension from a Creator.

To draw attention to the importance of these doctrines, which are the soul of the Book, I want some extra plates in colour. It would be decent of you to consider this, instead of the old "Then as asks shan't 'ave, and them as don't ask don't want". It isn't a lot; but U.S.A., though now we have got rid of our troublesome bad lad, won't recover from he changes for a month or two, perhaps longer

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A.C. to G.J.Y. From 93 Jermyn Street. 30 March 1922

Realize that its 18 months since I heard from you?... As for me I got an admirable tune for La Gauloise - now rechristened L'etincelle, just in case! - and all was going to be fun and ~~feasting~~ feasting when trouble came in California and knocked me sideways as far as active work was concerned until a few days ago. Now I'm pressing towards the mark of my high calling with the "City of God" - you never wrote re Fun of the Fair which wasn't like you, which did rather worry me - published this very week as ever is I 'opes, m'lud. 8

As for the 'arot, everything is still at a stand still. I'm hoping for good news in the next week or two; will let you know when I can.

Health about as usual; got through winter without any serious trouble. My leech rejoices that I am down to 10 st 7 lbs - and so am I. The treatment which has kept spasmodic attacks at bay has eased the strain on the old ticker; so has the loss of weight.

poor

I'm doing a good deal of odd stuff: e.g. translations of some more Fleur du Mal, rather successfully....

They do not survive



A.C. to G.J.Y. From Bell Inn, Aston Clinton. 6/6/44. Invasion Day

Thank you a thousand times for your very frank and sensible letter. I have long wanted a real show-down; but when I was with you every thing was so smooth that there seemed no opening. Also, until recently I did not see the whole business clearly myself.

All I ask is that you read this letter not once or twice, but until you understand. For "the Truth" (as even Freud found) "shall make you free".

1. It is dangerous to judge a man unless you have been able to put yourself in his place. I want you to understand me, first of all; to look through my eyes at what happened between us.

2. I have always taken myself and my mission with absolute seriousness. I believed in the Chiefs, and in my authority; also that those who opposed me were asking for trouble. I was, if you like, 80 per cent crazy in the same sense that Mohammed was; and I have often regretted that my common sense and my sense of humour prevented me from going over the line. But I was never one tenth of one per cent dishonest. Use your imagination! Suppose I had been a Spencer Lewis, what a Garden Path I could have led you down, and nothing would ever have persuaded you that it wasn't the Path of the Wise! *[Vol. Intelligence. I will be understood]*

3. When we first met I was having my "Indian Summer" No I. with Kasimira and Hansi; this excited me, disturbed the balance of my judgement, and made me impatient of delay or obstacle. *[My oath was to understand]*

Thus I interpreted your motto as "I will to become a Master of the Temple", in just that sense of the words that was true for me. (I see now that you had not really bound yourself by this Oath; but I thought you had done so.) The Crux of this initiation, as you know, is to surrender or rather to annihilate "all that I have, and all that I am". When therefore it seemed to me that you were not taking your fences cleanly, I concluded that you were becoming divided against yourself, (whence of course Black Brothers and all the rest of it) and jumped! (What you read as "abuse" I had written as "the Archbishop's most fatherly fatherly of rebukes". I also thought that you were making the common transfer of your Oedipus from your father-whom you were afraid to oppose - to me, whom you could treat as you chose. I may have been totally wrong about these as about so many other things; but I think that by this time you ought to be able to see that there were fairly good reasons for my attitude.

4. About money - by the way, the name of either of the creatures whom you mention is not thought proper to conversation between gentlemen, even to maintain that one is more despicable than the other! - do please try once more to put on my boots. Remember that I had spent over £100,000 of my own money, directly or indirectly, on the Great Work. This purchase of the Egg without haggling was completely in my blood, so that I simply could not understand how any serious Aspirant could even think of doing otherwise. (What was the first miracle after J.C. had gone aloft - like poor Tom Bowling? The blasting of Ananias, who 'kept back part of the price', according to the magical fable.) I am still utterly sure that this is Condition No I of full Attainment: but I realize that there are people who don't see, and can't be made to see, the necessity.

I will also ask you to remember that, since the wane of Kasimira-Hansi

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the Kasimira-Hansi moon (pardon G.K.C!) during which I was really exalted and so partially irresponsible, I have never wanted money for myself, but always, and only, for the work. What else do you think I live for?

5. You, per contra, have become so suspicious that my most natural remarks seem to you to bear a sinister import. You really can't blame me if I return a civil answer to a civil question. For, since your return from China, I have been very careful indeed not to approach you for help. But, when you have got me talking about how things are going, you have spontaneously, almost impatiently, burst out with an offer of help. My last letter is the exception, and you wouldn't have had that ~~blow~~ if the blow had not been such a surprising knock-out.

6. I do think, for all this, that it is rather the schoolboy "Those that ask shan't have, and those that don't ask don't want". Must you put me constantly on guard lest some casual remark about the war or the weather be interpreted as a hint, request, demand; .... Can't you see how such an attitude poisons all decent relations? Here is one bone to gnaw-your final sentence. "Are wishes for good luck any use if unsupported by a cheque?" Surely you can see the dishonesty of that, assuming of course, that the cheque would be forthcoming were it not for personal reasons.

I do believe that "prayer" (call it so) may be of use, but not unless it is sincere. Don't fold your hands when they are wanted to pull the man out of the ditch!

Now please, this is not a request, or a hint, or anything else; it is offered as "arising out of the previous question". Do believe at least that I have never forgotten my duty to you as a Member of the Order, and the above 'bone' is offered on that basis!

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A.C. to G.J.Y From Bell Inn, Aston Clinton. 10 July (?44)

Please, kind sir, I do dislike with my poet's ear the sound Crowley. Couldn't you make it Aelister? More warmly still, I should appreciate A.C., which takes me back to climbing days, when friends were friends.

Many thanks for your most lucid letter; the barometer is rising slowly but surely. ("Long foretold, long last" wrote Admiral Fitzroy.) Your welcome and very timely present is accepted in the spirit in which it is offered. Ta muchly!

(What follows is not an appeal; just to tell you my plans. The 'doodle-bugs' (scarabaeus or dung-beetle - you must have struck thousands in N. Africa, and its a jolly good name) have rather upset things. Personal accounts make them out worse than the official story. W.C. went to S. London with the V-sign and the grin, got cat-calls; and a man chucked a chunk of rubble at them, with "Laugh that one off!" Bad show. This from my friend Robert Cecil (of F.O.) who spent week-end here. He can't sleep at all in London, except in snatches from exhaustion. He actually saw the Guards Chapel smash. Now then, I think it's going to be much worse; I ~~believe~~ believe in their No 2 weapon. So I must give up Jermyn Street - unless it gives me up first! So I must hunt for a new place. Several friends would join me in a colony; so if you know a furnished house - even unfurnished - might do - let me know. Only way out would be if they collapsed utterly, as they would if we had generals who



A.C. in his attitude to the British of the Law 1943

go ahead regardless as the Russians do. So that's that!) Binders delayed too, but you should get your copy next week.

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Your memory -or mine?- is wrong about the lawyers. It was only about £500, on the promise of which I had given up all my hopes in Berlin. Please remember that I looked upon you as my magical son and my successor, that I thought your reaction Freudian, and that I wanted to make you toe the mark. I knew quite well what I was doing; that you might have to break with your family, and smash your career; but then, you might have come out of it a Great Man of the very first class. You had already achieved quite notable results; and my whole life was bound up in my hopes for you.

As to Liber AL, you cannot disagree with much of it more violently than I do. Any normal human being with decent instincts would be bound to do so. BUT. It is the only known document which carries in itself proof that its author belongs to a totally different Order of Being; he sees things from a point beyond our conception. The ideas of a farmer are not those of the stoat that he nails to his barn-door.

I accept these facts as facts, and obey (very reluctantly and badly) without understanding, like one of Napoleon's vieux grognards. But as to your Magical Oath, you can't break it. Unless you have found out how to unscramble eggs? Any act accomplished is irrevocable, and you must take the consequences. I am really surprised if you cannot see this; it is plain science and plain sense.

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You should also understand that suspicion in this vague sense is poison to yourself. I should certainly like to clear it up in a talk, and am sure I can do so, even though I can form no idea of its nature. I don't think you have understood the simplicity which goes with the sincerity you admit.

I should love to come to Cambridge for a week-end; but it's a cross-country journey, and accommodation none too good. If you could put me up for a couple of nights, I might manage it.

How right you are about marriage and about whole-heartedness in general! For all that, lots of people otherwise tied up can be most useful by sympathetic action, although debarred from direct cooperation.

Please accept the small present of 7 Cards: no great value, I fear; but they have cost me enough.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Bell Inn Aston Clinton .II July (?44)

Do not be surprised at this follow up on top of my previous long letter. There is no coup de fusil! But a few small areas in your last two letters seem to need mopping-up.

You have acquired the art -I expect with intention- of digging very deeply into me. You touch on critical matters with a sure finger. Nobody else does this; it is of great value for me,

I. Death. You seem to think that any allusion to my own demise is in the nature of a dirty trick! But an M.T. has to do this when making plans; and so (after all) does every one -when making a will, or taking out insurance. But in my case the matter is one of quite unusual importance.

-ance because the fact that I am alive holds up a great ? .

2. Suspicion. I want to 'plug' these remarks, because this is a vice which grows on a man terribly with age. I record two very notable cases

A, a rich man; B a crook. At 22 A was proud of knowing all the tricks and baffling would-be earbiters. At 52, having extended these principles to every one he knew, even when they were 5 times as rich as he was, he had been dropped by all his friends.

B at 24 was a high-class international crook; so were nearly all his friends. But at 50 he was so fixed in habit of thinking that they were all double-crossing him, that he simply couldn't bear any of them any more.

So far as I know, you deal with this matter rather well, on the whole; but beware of Old Time! The cure is of course absolute frankness and no delay for brooding. (See O.T.O. Oath of 3rd degree) The most extravagant and most tragic form of this is sexual jealousy. Once it starts, no action too innocent to escape. What hell comes of it. Othello was a very mild case.

3. Liber AL. This book is the crux. No man sees more clearly than I do how fantastic is this theory of the Secret Masters who run the planet. But I can't deny the evidence. The wars 9 months after publication - you were on the job this last time! - are not flukes - and that is the smallest item. No conviction of mine goes deeper, and is the more evidential because my common sense is in wild revolt. But it is so; that's all.

Obviously Chap III takes us right back to primitive savagery. But wasn't that unthinkable in 1904, and isn't it with us to-day.

'Mercy let be off,' and so on. Well if you want to plant a piece of land with a new seed, you must destroy weeds, vermin and parasites. (The garlic taste in the butter - See Tess of the D'Urbervilles Chp XXII) - In this case these weeds etc may be things and people we love and reverence most dearly - it may be ourselves! Who cares? Certainly not the farmer.

I presume that you read "The lost horizon" (Both you and I in different ways have a strong touch of Conway). Consider old Perrault's point of view: Alwass is as far above P. as he above the average 'paka sahib'. All our strongest beliefs and ways of thought and likes and dislikes are nothing in His eyes.

So I take what I can from the Book - and that scrap was enough to revolutionize and to illuminate my life, to solve all my problems, and to guide infallibly my course. For the rest, I merely strive to understand; also, to acquire that new, that infinitely lofty and remote, point of view. In this I have been sufficiently successful to convince me that such divergence as remains is due to my own imperfection of initiation.

There! You have dug out of me a clear and simple statement, helping my own mind immensely in the process. I hope you will keep this letter; one day it may be a valuable witness.

I add only that I think this: if you had had my experience or its equivalent, as you might very well have done, and may yet do, your point of view would differ from mine only in insignificant, personality-engendered details.

Love is the law, love under will

Y

ours

Yours A.C. 666, old uncle Tom Cobley and all!



-ance because the fact that I am alive holds up a great ? .

2. Suspicion. I want to 'plug' these remarks, because this is a vice which grows on a man terribly with age. I record two very notable cases. A, a rich man; B a crook. At 22 A was proud of knowing all the tricks and baffling would-be earbiters. At 52, having extended these principles to every one he knew, even when they were 5 times as rich as he was, he had been dropped by all his friends.

B at 24 was a high-class international crook; so were nearly all his friends. But at 50 he was so fixed in habit of thinking that they were all double-crossing him, that he simply couldn't bear any of them any more.

So far as I know, you deal with this matter rather well, on the whole; but beware of Old Time! The cure is of course absolute frankness and no delay for brooding. (See O.T.O Oath of 3rd degree) The most extravagant and most tragic form of this is sexual jealousy. Once it starts, no action too innocent to escape. What hell comes of it. Othello was a very mild case.

3. Liber AL. This book is the crux. No man sees more clearly ~~than~~ than I do how fantastic is this theory of the Secret Masters who run the planet. But I can't deny the evidence. The wars 9 months after publication - you were on the job this last time! - are not flukes - and that is the smallest item. No conviction of mine goes deeper, and is the more evidential because my common sense is in wild revolt. But it is so; that's all.

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Love is the law, love under will

Y  
ours

Yours A.C. 666, old uncle Tom Cobley and all!

I do not remember this

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A.C. to G.J.Y. From Bell Inn Aston Clinton 11/9/44

It was a <sup>great</sup> ~~great~~ pleasure to get your letter - and no <sup>see his letters to her</sup> scolding ~~either~~ <sup>either!</sup>

I agree with you that the book (of Thoth) puts the coping-stone on my Qabalah; it seems quite complete, and I certainly don't feel like doing any more. It may well be that my work in the future will be political in the main; I have a letter drafted to Vansittart. How well I remember your advice to "join the Nazis and come up with Hitler"! But I fear that I should hardly have got through all those purges. No: I was glad to leave his career in the hands of Soror I.W.E. Shows you doesn't it, the dangers of getting initiated half-way? At the same time, even if he had understood Thelema properly, the only weapon to his hand was Versailles. The world was not quite ripe for an international movement towards the revival of true Aristocracy. That, by the way, has been my deepest idea all my life. I began about 14 with a "poem" to ~~Rosebery~~ Rosebery. Verse I ends

"And now, my lord, in medias res:

Get rid of all your red Rad. fleas!"

I went on in Konx Om Pax with Thien Tao; hardly a word I would alter to-day, though I don't think that a ritual initiation ~~is~~ of necessity the proper beginning of education. Read it again if you've forgotten it and let me know what you think. Most seriously I see no hope for the world at all unless we can get the reins in the hands of the cavaliers. The Old School Tie has such very swearing colours; the snobbery, stupidity, prejudice - etc, I could go on for a page - put all the best people off it as a system. This throws many of the best men on to the left wing. One thinks of Mirabeau and Lafayette. It's all appallingly difficult. One can't start off-hand what must be the growth of decades-even centuries. But a return to a modified patriarchal-feudal system is the obvious gambit. We must first of all have a ~~normal~~ sound physical stock to pick out rulers from.

I don't know why your letter should have started this hare-probably because my mind is boiling over with it.

About the price of the book. Sorry, of course, but it cost over £5 to produce. When the 20s are gone, or nearly, I might ask a publisher to issue a popular edition. It is easy to do by photography. Then the paper can be machine-made and the binding buckram - say 4/ instead of 27/6. We are trying to do this in the U.S.A. already...

I have had a good summer, bar weather, Now I'm faced with problems: No I, how to get back, I moved lots of stuff out here and some of it stays until V2 has come and gone.



A.C. to G.J.Y. Bell Inn Aston Clynton. 2/II344

...I think you are much better in England than in Germany. It was not such a wonderful place after all, even in the time when I was there. And I should think that conditions would be hellish for the next umpteen years.

That's a most extraordinary story of yours about the demand (among German Prisoners of War, G.J.Y.) for hymn books and the rest of it. I cannot make it out at all. The only conclusion I can come to is that they have got everything else in such abundance (at our expense) that they can find time to cultivate their souls.

I don't think we can be using the expression 'old school tie' in quite the same sense. What I mean by it is the tradition of decent behaviour, usually accompanied by good blood. I have always had this same idea, as you will see in one of the essays of Konx Om Pax which is to the same effect. That was written a very long time ago. I always thought your English Mistry was very much the same principle, except that they seem to regard the business as a closed circle. They seem to insist literally on Eton or some similar institution, whereas in my experience a great many O Es have been very far from gentlemen. What it has to do with sleeping with your windows shut and incest I cannot imagine. You surely cannot be serious over that. I have to assume that you mean very close endogamy, mesalliance, or what the Germans call 'race-pollution', being the great crime. Of course I don't agree with that. I think that from time to time the strictly aristocratic stock should be broadened and fortified by the admixture of sturdy peasant blood. If you would read over that essay of mine in Konx Om Pax, you would see that the idea of service for privilege is more or less understood implicitly; but nowadays privilege is such a curious business; all blood, skin, and flesh seem to have gone, just naked bones of technical advantages. I think that what is really lacking is the romantic view of life. I have always felt at home spiritually with Dumas Père and Walter Scott. I have always considered my own life in exactly those terms. I have, in fact, in my 70th year, preserved all the illusions of my 19th, and it really does seem to me that if a sufficient proportion of the people of this country had the same idea things would go a great deal more smoothly.

Your remark about Hitler and Alwass amazes me a little, because I seem to remember telling you at Cambridge how Martha Kuntzel thought him her Magical Son, had spoonfed the budding Hitler on the Book of the Law. I remember mentioning Rauschnig's 'Hitler Speaks', and your admitting you had read it and been struck by some of the parallelisms. But perhaps my memory is at fault.

The Brothers of St Raphael are surely no new thing in the Church. I thought there had been Orders of this kind, or at least individuals with these ideas from time to time for a very long while. It seems to me that 'touching for the King's Evil' is all part of the same business.

I, too, have no news, except that it seems that I may have technically infringed one of those fool regulations about sending out prospectuses free of charge, but luckily the Book of Thoth is No 5 of Vol III of the Equinox, which constitutes it a periodical and therefore not subject to the paper control at all. Of course it is very trivial and technical: but considering how I have been framed up in the past, and how many wolves are out after my blood, I must confess to more than a

Finally called Napier without Tears 167

published posthumously

a little apprehension. If this matter turns out to be serious, I will write and give you further details. I am doing anything but stagnate. I am getting on with this 'Aleister Explains Everything', and the joke of it is that the letters seem to be turning into something very like that series of short pamphlets that you are always worrying me to write. Anyhow I seem to be making them quite interesting for the average reader. But I am sorely in need of an editor. I think they will have to be completely rearranged in order, and probably divided into two volumes, as there are now over 60 of them, and some of them are quite lengthy. I thought of having an elementary volume, and one a little more advanced, wherever I have to deal with technical subjects like the Cabalah. It should be easy enough to separate the letters of the first volume from those of the second: but I imagine that it is going to be a devil of a job to put the letters themselves in any order. Sometimes I have made in a letter some reference to a previous letter, and sometimes I have promised to elaborate some subject or other in a subsequent letter, so that its going to be the very worst kind of Chinese puzzle to avoid snags. I don't know who I can ask to do it for me. I am sure I should not be any use myself, and the very thought of doing it drives me half crazy. The only people I can think of are yourself, who are probably much too busy, Louis Wilkinson, ditto, Robert Cecil, ditto. I believe the best plan would be to engage some man accustomed to that sort of work, but not knowing anything much about my particular subject; and I don't know where to look for him.

Of course the one great burden on my mind is the lack of a printer. I wish to goodness you would buy a ~~printer~~ small printer, or a share in a large one. I should not want any special advantages except that of priority. I have got at least six books ready for the Press, and I really should like to see them issued while my energy remains unimpaired. On this last subject I am comparatively happy, as I find myself seized by an inspiration to write one of these letters at any time of day or night: and I go right to it and carry it through just about as well as I did forty years ago.

Give my love to Angela and the offspring, and do cheer me up with another nice long chatty letter as soon as you can find the time!

P.S. It is going to be pretty cold here in the winter. I suppose you don't know a place on the south coast where I could get a breath of sea air, beginning as soon as possible after Christmas? If you do drop me a line right away.



Kenneth G

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On Alwaz at bottom of page 148

A.C. to G.J.Y. From Netherwood, The Ridge, Hastings. 28/2/45

Many thanks for yours with £5-5-0. Letter especially welcome at this moment, as my 3 weeks illness at Aston, and the move (car hire £15) were a bit of a strain, and this last 10 days' bronchitis plus pleurisy plus the very narrowest squeak of pneumonia is going to cost a lot. Also young Grant is coming next week to learn shorthand and typing and do my odd routine work. I have arranged for him to be a guest here (£4-4-0) but he is to work for the house part of the time, and so reduce it to £2-2-0, of which he is to pay £1-1-0. It should be an immense relief.

You will be glad to learn that this last bout of sickness was wholly my own dampfoolishness. I was feeling so well that I did utterly mad things - head shaved, played 2 hours chess in an unwarmed room, waited 10 mins in icy streets for bus: so cold that I had to dance and sing The Sailor's Christmas Dinner to keep the blood moving. So - next day!

My conscience, always very sensitive, is quite clear about the letters. The U.B., A.M.O.R.C, O.H.M. kind are totally different. They promise "secrets" and sloop vast bibfolios of tripe - excuse mixed metaphor! You may compare my proposition with a Specialist consultation then the fee is very low. (For those who want a lot, special offer of 30 chosen by them for £10-10-0). As to waiting, it may be God knows how long before I can get a printer. I do wish you'd buy a share in an existing business. I should ask no advantage other than priority. You see, I can reckon on an income to pay bills as they fall due; but what is wanted is capital enough to control (within reason) the policy of the firm...

*Two of the letters in March without tears*

I am sending you XLIV and ZI9 which I think both valuable and interesting. I can't promise a date for the other three, as I am still confined to my room, and my departing secretary is off to hospital any day - possibly a major operation. But as soon as Grant comes, I will have him dig up the local Typing Office sabse jaldi and ek dam!....

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A.C. to G.J.Y. From Netherwood. 9/3/45

As it is written "Cast thy bread upon the waters" etc.

Thanks: I will deal faithfully with the lady. Piggin doesn't frighten me; at Aston Clinton for a fortnight I had a semi-secretary Edith Pogson!

Your words of approval encourage me immensely. But "coincidence", besides the comic relief, had a very shrewd ~~way~~ shaft for the conclusion of its sorites.

Surely Eqx of Gods covers your query re Alwaz as fully as possible. The only point undetermined is whether He is a discarnate Being, or (as seemed possible after the Samuel Jacobs incident - Magick pp 256 seq footnote 2) a human being, presumably Assyrian, of that name. And that I simply do not know, and cannot reasonably surmise, because I do not know the limits of the powers of such an One.

Snowed under getting ready for Grant, with an X.O.P. pen.

From A.C. to G.J.Y. Netherwood. 26/3/45.

....Thanks so much for your constructive criticism on the chapters but especially for rising to my 'Jock Scott' about Ophidian Vibrations. Do you remember how and why the term was invented? It was really a combination of myself and Jock Walker... I cannot comply with your request to make a short historical account, for the simple reason that the occasions are innumerable. In one sense you might call them continuous- but if you mean special occasions like the Ab-UL-Diz and Amalantrah incidents, I think that these are already on record quite as many data as can be usefully known.

With regard to the H.G.A., one is obliged to restrain oneself by a feeling which I can only describe as personal delicacy, the sort of thing which prevents a Mohammedan asking even his dearest friend - 'How is your wife this morning?' Unless anyone had attained to that Knowledge and Conversation, it is difficult to explain. It is in fact so powerful that one does not wish to say anything about it at all. If you will look back at your Magick page XXIX, you will notice that the Motto in the Grade of 5 equals 6 is left blank - and that is why.

I cannot agree with you wholly when you say that the Hindu had no H.G.A.. In the important Samadhi's there is one between Vishnarupa-darshana and Atmadarshana, the Sanskrit name of which I have unfortunately forgotten, which is at least of this character. I never experienced it and so can tell you nothing about it. *H.G.A. equates with Ishka devata for the Hindu and*

I cannot agree either about the Buddhist and his saints; this is not orthodox Hinayana Buddhism, though the Jains have their 72 tirthankas, and no doubt the Chinese Buddhists have something similar- but you know much more about this than I do. *with the Yidam in Tibetan Mahayana*

I'm not quite sure what you mean when you say 'the effect is the same' because I don't think that that is the case. The relation between the H.G.A. and His client is a strictly personal matter. Two different men could not have the same H.G.A. I will read the letter again and clear up these points if I can do so. I think it would be fair to say that the H.G.A. is a Being in the identical Path with that of His client and this fact is probably the reason for the confusion between Him and the "Higher Self". *2nd*

I am sorry you do not like No 12, I will try to make it flow more harmoniously when I revise it. I am in fact principally engaged in re-grouping the Letters under Subjects, and revising them in the process. I could not bear anything of mine to appear asynartete, which is even worse than spelling separate separate. Having thus smitten I smile and thank you again for a really useful letter.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. From Netherwood. 22/5/45? *Letter Plan 45*

No word from you for so long. Shame! Well the Boche ended much as we thought; question now is, does it make any difference to your job? As for me, it may ease things with U.S.A., even transit. One or two of them may visit me here, especially to clinch the Orson Welles and similar projects.

On ~~White~~ Sunday they roped me in here to lecture on Magick; a success from my point of view, as I elicited intelligent questions. There were some fairly good minds in the audience, very surprised to hear sound scientific sense instead of the usual blah. I got rid of about 20 Liber



1  
Garner  
150  
Al (U.S.A. edition) And so the Work goes on!

Karl has asked me for a Letter on the action and re-action of the New Aeon on social and political affairs in the immediate future. A first-class idea, but a very tough job! Still, I mean to tackle it, to put in the very last ounce. It will need it.

Have you seen Koestler's 'The Yogi and the Commissar'? I have so far merely heard of it, but enough to make me decide to get it next time I'm in Hastings. It seems to refer to Liber OZ, after a fashion.

*A leaflet or a card*

Grant, who did so well in London, seemed to go phut here. Lost his memory, has sense of responsibility, everything. So he's back in London, and everything here is in worse confusion than ever. Result; I must write to everybody and try to pick up the dropped stitches. Hence, moreover I must cut short with love to Angela and the brood of next war heroes!

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Netherwood 28 June 45

I was very glad to get your letter... I will send you a copy of the "Letter" which I have just now finished, and given this afternoon to be typed.

I am surprised that you do not know Orson Welles; he was an Infant Prodigy, and one ~~the~~ of the regular Wild Men which America occasionally produces. He was behind the terrific stunt of which you must certainly have heard, when they broadcast Well's "War of the Worlds", transferring the place to America, and doing all sorts of things to make it ~~seem~~ sound as real as possible, with the result that the barbarian imbeciles of that country took panic! I believe there were even suicides and all sorts of outrageous performances. He comes in connection with me in this way: One of our people in California has actually worked in his office, and furthermore designed and supervised the decoration of his new house. She is therefore on fairly good terms with him, and is trying to get him interested in our work. He knows quite a little about Magick, as luck would have it, and I hope that one or more of the things of mine which she has submitted to him may be put on the stage or screen.

*Marian Clarke ? think*

Inverary! Do you remember what Burns wrote in the Visitors' Book of the Hotel there?

Who'er he be who sojourns here,  
I pity much his case,  
Unless he come to kneel before  
The Lord their God, His Grace.

There's naething here but Hieland pride  
And Hieland cold and hunger;  
If Providence has sent me here  
'Twas surely in his anger."

What on earth does he want his shrubberies beaten for? Would not he they 'lout them low' before the Macullam Mohr when he condescended to pass them?

I suppose there is no hope of seeing you in this part of the world? I am stuck here at least until Christmas, while my dentist carries out weekly excavations. It is really rather a frightful job, but

I'm bearing up. There is a glimmer of hope too about finding a printer.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 2Aug 45

Thanks for your letter of no date. "You are only one of a number of people" who fail to distinguish between a statement and a demonstration. Your judgement of the Book of the Law is unacceptable; considering that I, who have taken it as my one link, am unable after over 40 years of study to understand a great deal of it, as indeed it says would be the case in the book itself, why should I expect you to pronounce a valid judgement? Incidentally, as far as I know, you have not read the Commentary (I had. G.J.Y.) which I am given to understand by several people is of very great value. I cannot send you a copy (I had one G2J?Y) for I cannot get it printed. I could have a new typescript made, but I am afraid that would cost about a tenner. *Published posthumously*

Many of the omissions of which you complain were to be found in other places. For instance, the "Cairo Working" is given in the minutest detail in the Equinox of the Gods. There is also a great deal of my personal experiences to be found in the Vision and the Voice. In fact, I think that almost every gap of which you complain is to be found in one place or another in my printed works. You are also I think forgetful of my intense dislike of making any personal claims, or indeed any statements which cannot be verified by external and independent evidence.

With regard to Prophecy, one of the 70 odd letters is devoted to establishing the conditions which are necessary both to the promulgation of the Prophecy and its fulfilment: shall I send you one?

It is true that all relevant material is rather scattered, but I do not think I am by any means the person to collect them and edit them. Why not you? The details and exact dates are to be found by mere reference to the date of publication of the Equinox. What I mean by ~~operative~~ operative publication is a little difficult to define. I think the reason was that I did not have the date of that publication in the 3 volumes of the Holy Books *of the Gods*

I took the 'eighties' to refer to those of the 19th century - a period of maximum peace in the world generally; the Boer War was the first symptom of collapse. Yes my friend, you took a special course in history, and you have a nice sceptical mind, just the way I want it, and I think you should undertake the responsibility of getting it done.

I hope that when you have got settled in London you will think it worth while to run down and have lunch with me. Forgive the general messiness of this letter; the dentist makes it almost impossible for me to talk intelligibly, and it even interferes with my thinking that I should be unable to do so.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Netherwood. 20.10.45

A.C. on Hindu Kundalini Centre

Thanks for yours. I do not know who wrote the typescript (a translation and commentary on Ananda Lahari, G.J.Y.) but the style of typing is very familiar to me, and I think it is a Babu of some sort, as you yourself apparently do. I could give you a whole lot of information, but not by writing, the subjects which these MSS treat (the Bhairavi Diksha, G.J.Y.) being unsuitable for that medium. The MS was lent me by Mr David Curwen, but I am not at all sure whether he will be pleased at me having disclosed his name. He is a very curious person. I quite agree with you about the inherent difficulties in the Manuscript. One of the troubles



is that, as you know, the Hindus have got an Anatomy of their own. That, too, you ~~seem~~ to have noticed. It is true that from what he writes it would appear that he is making everything depend almost exclusively upon the physical or physiological basis; but when you go into that with him you find there is a whole lot of ~~stuff~~ additional stuff about mantras and various magical methods, including secret medicines and the like. In a letter I got from him a day or two ago Curwen talks about ~~the~~ their sending him certain Salts from India and speaks of a great deal of magical work having been done in India. It is all very puzzling. Naturally I got in contact with this subject quite a lot while I was in India, and on the whole I was repelled, though I had no moral scruples on the subject. I came to the conclusion that the whole thing was not worth while. They do a sort of Cat and Mouse act with you: they give you the great secret, and then you find there is something left out, and you dig up this and go on for a long while in a rather annoyed condition, and then you find there is yet another snag. And so on apparently for ever. In any case it did not square with my ideas of initiation. I never wanted to do Hatha Yoga. "Seek ye ~~al~~ for the Kingdom of God" etc. I am interested and ~~surpr~~ a little surprised at the extent of your knowledge of all these subjects. You must have put in a great deal of hard work.

I am beginning to feel the good effects of the dentist's excavations. Now that there is very little poison left to soak into ~~the~~ my system I am beginning to get back to my old self again, which I have certainly not been since when he began to unloose the floods of poison. All this summer I have had simply no energy left whatever to do more than the absolutely essential work, and that was done without any dhatu; it even affected my Chess; one hard game made me completely ~~blind~~ tired, and I had quite long spells of being completely Chess blind. Now as I said I am well on the way to restoration. Yesterday I beat H.H. Cole, an international master, 2 games out of 3; and to-day one Mackenzie, nearly as good, 2 games running. But as regards my work, I'm still damnably frustrated. With love to yourself, Angela, and Co

A.C. to G.J.Y. Neterwood. 7 Nov 45

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studies

I cannot agree that Asana and Pranayama are exclusively Hatha Yoga. The point surely lies in the motive. I have never wanted anything but spiritual enlightenment; and, if power, then only the power to ~~conf~~ confer a similar enlightenment on mankind at large.

I think you are wrong about my history. I did practically no Yoga of any kind after my return from my first journey to India. I attempted to resume practices at Boleaskine and elsewhere, and could not force myself to do them. The Samadhi is a sort of bye-product of the operation of Abramelin. ~~His samasamphi circa 1907 was attained by hashish & is subject to query.~~

~~Samasamadi~~ Now about your Newnham lady. She interests me very much. I have no books for sale at all except the Book of Thoth. There are a number I believe in storage in one or two places, but it is impossible to get them out until I have a more or less permanent headquarters, and somebody to do the business part of it. I am hoping to get someone over from America, as far as that is concerned, and then goodness knows where the cash is coming from!

Funny your mentioning Inky (Stephenson G.J.Y.) I wrote a letter to the Sunday Despatch a few weeks ago, and one most unexpected result was a letter from Stuart R Cope, who thinks he can do some

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Prof. Butler

printing for me. I hope to goodness he can. Back to Miss Butler: she could of course have Letters from the series: it is one guinea a letter or 30 letters at her choice for ten guineas. I think you have a list of the subjects. It would certainly save a lot of time and trouble for all of us if she came down here. It is quite easy to get accommodation until Christmas draws nigh...

(Professor Butler contemplated a chapter on A.C. in her Myth of the Magus. She went down to see the old boy, but on second thoughts decided to omit the chapter from her book)

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Netherwood. 21/12/45

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Thanks very much for your letter. I have been half insane with work of one sort or another - mostly another - the kind that doesn't matter, and has to be done.

The thing that sticks out a mile in your letter is the remark about your eyes. Please let me worry you very seriously about that. For goodness sake get the best man; make sure he is the best man. I am eternally grateful to you for steering me to Hudson; his glasses lasted over ten years and then needed only the very slightest change. You remember poor old Bayley; he got cataract a couple of years ago, and he went to somebody, and the last time I wrote to enquire he said the man had 'muffed' it. Of course Bayley is one of those men who has a special gift for coming out ~~the~~ at the little end of the horn; but eyes are too serious to joke about, and I reckon it perhaps as one of my many great blessings that they are still holding out a good deal better than might be expected at my age, though I frequently kick myself because I might have taken a good deal more care than I did, and they might have been a good deal better than they are. But at least I have this in justification: that the abuse of my eyesight to which I plead guilty was part of the purchase price of that "black egg without haggling". (Hudson said: 'Anyhow, you've seen 10 times as well with them as any man alive')

A letter from Prof Butler turned up the day after yours, and I replied immediately by hand. He was suffering from the hallucination that she could get rooms in St Leonards for the summer. In any case she is coming down here to see about it, and proposes to devote the afternoon of New Year's day to me. I think we ought to have a very agreeable and illuminating time.

I am apparently finished with the ancient excavations of my odontological pastures, but have to wait till the Equinox or thereabouts when the old boy is proposing to make me a permanent substitute. I am still waiting with a certain tremor for his account for the past work. It is particularly worrisome, because in my last letter from New York I got a most curious communication to the effect that the monthly arrangement which has worked so long and so well might be in some way modified. Karl has been in partnership of sorts with some Czech Jew; they were trying to put up some kind of Engineer's Journal in America, and they could not get enough advertisements, so the whole thing went more or less phut. So he is coming to England (the Czech, not Karl) with his tail more or less between his legs. What his message can be is rather baffling. After telling me quite brusquely that nothing would arrive in January, he went on without a break "However..." - then all this stuff about this man's visit. But he doesn't say that the message will be an equivalent



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for what it ought to be. You will naturally think I'm a perfect idiot to be nervous about it. I cannot believe that anything is seriously wrong there, as I should have heard of it from other sources; but I am in a nervous state. Rather foolishly I thought I would sing my Swan Song by entering for the Championship of the Hastings Chess Club. I have won the first 2 games, and the third - which I played yesterday against the strongest member of the Club, a famous International - was left rather in my favour. At least I think that although he can get a draw by perpetual check if he wants to, he may be so eager to get a win that he will do something foolish. My hopes in this direction are based on the fact that he lost his game a couple of weeks ago to a man named Winsor, who is certainly very hot stuff. I have only played him 3 or 4 games and I think, if memory serves me, that he won the majority. However it is always very different when you are playing with a clock. Pray for me! In the meantime I will pray for you about your eyes. Do listen to grandfather, and give it more serious attention than you have given anything else in your life.

P.S. Yours of 18th. "Is Saul also among the prophets?" My critical method has never been ex pede Herculem; but I see no harm, nor any special good, in your opening salvo. But why 6 and 6 only? No mention of Tantras? I don't understand your final paragraph. Surely Advaita is the antithesis of 0 equals 2. How did Thou and That come to be? Can't argue this in a letter; it needs a talk. I thought Advaita was Monism.

A.C. to G.J.Y. <sup>60th</sup> 27/3/46

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I was very glad to hear from you the other day. I have not had time to answer your letter earlier, not only have I had to send out all these words; but I have found a printer and I have had to get a copy of Olla ready for the Press. It has in fact gone this afternoon. I think it is a unique publication: I doubt whether anyone else can boast (if it is a boast) of 60 years of Song. Of course I do not count school magazines and the like, but I had a poem printed in a nation-wide periodical in 1887. I have picked out 54 poems, all as different as possible and all written in as many parts of the Northern Hemisphere as possible. I wish to goodness I could get a publisher; there must be someone somewhere who would be interested. But, as you know, I am quite hopeless at dealing with this sort of thing.

I thought the "Occult Theocracy" book might amuse you, as an example of the degree of rubbish that you can get people to believe. Perhaps the finest idiosyncrasy of all is coupling my name with that of Wynn Westcott as the founders of the Stella Matutina. I only saw the old boy once in my life, and then merely on an errand from Mathers to tell him he had incurred a traitor's doom. And I only wrote to him once, and that to demand that he should deposit the famous Cypher manuscripts with the British Museum as their secrecy was being used for purposes of fraud. He of course did not answer, and I of course published the affair in the Equinox. I am sure he had nothing to do with Stella Matutina, I fancy he was dead before it started, and I certainly had hardly heard of it at all till quite recently. [He was not a member]

I am rather surprised that the British Museum lacks copies (of my books). I remember going through the catalogue, many years ago

and finding it almost complete; but with regard to <sup>very</sup> later works I dare say they have not got all that they should have.

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later works I daresay they have not got all that they should have. What is more, there are quite a number published under other names which are hard to dig out.

You ask about my health: I thought I had told you that I had put in about six months ago on a general extraction of roots which ought to have been taken out years ago, but I grudged the money because there was work to be printed. Now I have had it all done, and am just starting on getting a new set, and this is rather a blow. It appears that my mouth is shaped in various ways so as to make it very difficult to do a satisfactory job. I shall have to have gold bases, and it is going to run into a matter of £70 or more; so if you hear a loud shriek coming from this direction you will know what it is all about. One trouble leads to another; taking out all these roots week after week put a great strain on my health, and that has tended to damage my eyes. I went to the oculist last week and he says that he thought it would be no good prescribing new bifocals, I might be disappointed; it was general health and age that was ~~worrying~~ <sup>bothering</sup> me. The result is that he is going to give me reading glasses. This of course is very much less expensive - including his fee a couple of pairs will come to less than £6, as I had old frames which can be used. There is I think some hope that when I am able once again to eat normal food (I have not had a regular meal for pretty nearly a couple of years) the dimness and blurring may more or less disappear. All the same it is not very promising. I should really like to have a second opinion... *dehn and beterson*

I must break off now as there is a lot of trouble (as usual) in America. We must however re-establish the Order in Germany. Martha Kuentzel died in Dec 1941 - apparently of old age, but considering the circumstances I think the brethren have managed extremely well to keep things going the way they have done. They see quite clearly that the Law of Thelema is the only principle by which the world can be put straight. There is also a man in Ontario who appears to be a member of the R.R. et A.C. I am trying to make out whence he derives his authority, but he certainly uses our symbols and our language, and I think it will be a very good plan for him to affiliate.... *Alexander Watt*

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Netherwood Dec 18 (46) <sup>297</sup> *I think not 977*

I was violently reminded of you yesterday - reading Eothen. Kinglake says that the famous Lady Hester Stanhope wrote of Lord Hardwicke as "the most kind-hearted man existing - a most manly firm character. He comes from a good breed - all the Yorkes excellent with ancient French blood in their veins". She contrasted modern French aristocracy - much to their disparagement. Last time I saw you, you said I might ask you to help if I was in a real hole. Well the dentist's bill is over £78, and I don't know and can't even guess what OLLA is going to cost. There have been so many alterations and additions since the original estimate. So if you can possibly manage it, come to the rescue. I'm more or less a permanent invalid these days, and accordingly rather depressed. So in the name of your old friendship----- <sup>298</sup>

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Jan 2 (1947)

So many thanks for your marvellous New Year's Present. What charming personality! And how perfect the sympathy, understanding

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and consideration did she shew to me! These days I am liable to exhaustion, and I had to pull myself together all the time; but I hope I did not disappoint her. (This probably refers to a visit from Professor Butler. G.J.Y.)

One very remarkable discovery. In Cagliostro's "Lettre au peuple anglais" which I have never read, he gives a list of the people that had injured him, and the stickiness of their various finishes. ~~Exact,~~ exactly as in my Thumbs Up!

I am now trying to catch up with my mail after the Xmas outrage; so à rividerci! Happy New Year to yourself, Angela and the offspring.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 10.4.47

You must think me very remiss and ungrateful not to have acknowledged your last two communications. It was twice or even four times what I had hoped; still I know how you and everybody else is situated. At the same time the work is, after all, the most important thing in our lives.

The electricity cuts held up the printer altogether for some weeks but he is now resuming his evil practices and promised me the first proofs of Liber Aleph before the end of May. The date of publication is, I suppose, conditional on his being able to pick up some paper, and that doesn't seem too hopeful.

One of my reasons for not answering you was that I fell ill, and on 8th March I came within an ace of death. All the telephones were down, buses not running, roads deep in snow, but the doctor got to me just in time. If he had arrived 20 minutes later, I should probably have been dead. I am quite well again now, but very nervous and tottery. However it ought to do me good when the proofs of Liber Aleph come in.

I wish you would find a day to run down and see me/ lunch with me. It is years since our last meeting. I have a great deal of work to do this afternoon, and I can only get secretarial help for a couple of hours a week, and I got dreadfully in arrears, naturally enough. You see, I was even too messed up to send out the Word punctually. It is very nice down here now that at last we have got some sunshine, but I am very lonely and should appreciate a visit from you more than I can say. Being busy as well as tired, I will break off here. With hopes that Angela and the children are all well and happy.

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300

A.C. to G.J.Y. Netherwood 15 July 47

I have been ill and overworked and bearing up under heaps of unexpected visitors, ~~also~~ else I should have found time to answer yours of 22 May long before. I know all those calculations, and notice that you have omitted one large half. I am so familiar with all that sort of thing and of the difference between can't and won't. I am also familiar with what happens when you might have done something really worth while, and didn't do it. You will doubtless retort that the beam in my eye is much bigger than the mote in your own, and that, I daresay is true enough; although for the last 20 years anyhow I think it is fair to say that I have not let my eye move from the target. Of course in the present ~~instant~~ instant there is a personal obligation: a matter which I could not do with the best will in the world, and which you could have done easily



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enough, and I am sure you are going to be sorry ~~that~~ when you realise suddenly that it is too late for you to have done what you should have done in all these years. Possibly lack of imagination has a good deal to do with it. Anyhow, I shall take NO as meaning NO and let the matter rest entirely on your shoulders. (I cannot in 1948 recollect what this was all about. G.J.Y.) Forgive me if I do not write further and more clearly, but I am in fact rather knocked down by irremediable circumstance (then a page about two watches, which I was having repaired for him) Please give my love to Angela and the tribe

Letters by A.C. to G.J.Y. dealing with various books by A.C.  
and preserved by G.J.Y. in the various volumes referred to.

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In the Equinox of the Gods.

A.C. - G.J.Y. 56 Welbeck Str. Sept 8

G.F. 93.

Yours of no date, but received last night. I enclose order form covering the 12 copies for which you subscribed. No more to be had: this edition (250 copies) will be more valuable than the EI-I-O one. About 50 of the latter are sold already.

Publication 5.26 a.m. Sept 23. Books to binders on the 14th. I enclose memorandum. There are still two or three one eighth shares for sale.

Your Eqx I, x (for loan of which many thanks) is on the way here: will be sent to 9 in a day or two. But Pearl (Brooke-Smith, T) has the horoscope page which must be pasted in again.

93 93 F.ly 666

93

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A.C. - G.J.Y. II Manor Place W.2.

G.F. V.I. 93

I am struggling desperately to get the Book out by Dec 22 (Sol in 0 degrees Capricornus) I should welcome a little help from any source. One good push and the whole show will go into place. Do lend a stout shoulder! I could see you to-morrow near B(ritish) M(useum) about lunch time. Later I must visit binders and new prospectus printers. Will you ring me early and make an appointment? Too busy to give details now.

93 93 Fly 666

P.S. Horoscope as soon as I can find an hour.

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*Signature of Pearl Brooke-Smith*

Pearl Brooke-Smith to G.J.Y. 28 Whittingham Place. W.I. 25/9/36.  
Gerald dear.

Am still struggling manfully with the book. At the moment things aren't too easy as Simpkin Marshall have just refused to distribute and as Evan Pughe is away I can't find out on what grounds - so shall have to wait till he comes back in 14 days time - I think if I talk to him nicely he may be able to do something - as they have already sent out prospectus and received orders - anyhow will let you know. Privately its doing very well on paper - but naturally I can't expect people to pay till they have the book - and the d-d printers are holding up till I send them another £50. Altogether it has cost nearly £400 so I sincerely hope we get it back. Personally I think its wonderful how we've collected the cash. So if you think can think of any one who would take the last 8th share, I could get it out by Oct 12th. The advanced copy of the guinea edition is really lovely - and quite a few people who have seen it have changed from the II/- Will send yours along as soon as I've got the copies in hand - but these devils in Edinburgh won't let me have anything without cash in advance.

How goes life with you? and when shall we be seeing you - I'm up at this address till I've got this business well going - after that I know not

All the best.

Pearl.



The Book of Thoth.

A.C. - G.J.Y. Bell Hotel Aston Clinton Bucks. 29-4-44

Dear ~~Gerald~~ Gerald.

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

Prospectus at last! Those getting more than one copy have one specially bound -  $\frac{1}{2}$  Morocco instead of  $\frac{1}{4}$ . (Full N.G. can't get skins big enough) be a wise virgin!

This place is working miracles, lifting me out of the dull sanity to which London had ground me down. So here's a lovely lunatic's idea - send the prospectuses by Registered Post! sealed with best wax and signet. If only I had a drink, I should enclose stamped addressed registered envelopes for victims to enclose cash. (That would cost only another £5 or so; but is it good policy? Tricky: what's your advice?)

Love to Angela, Johnny, Vincent, Michael... - I feel like Macbeth watching Bagmio's cavalcade! What! will the line stretch out to the crack of doom?

Love is the law love under will.

Yours ever. A.C.

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A.C. - G.J.Y. 93 Jermyn Street. May 28 1944

Dear Gerald.

93

Yesterday at lunch the Attorney-General happened to ask me if you were a good correspondent - Gold Stick in Waiting broke in with that coarse laugh of his "In a pig's ----!" and Rouge Dragon - a nice fellow enough, but shockingly lax about supporters - sniggered "A hole in his socks!" "What could I say? What? Such a lovely cardless letter card I sent you, too!"

Really I do want to see you. Are there any May races (at Cambridge, where I was. G.J.Y.) this June? I'd like to taste the bitter sorrow of old happiness. Anyway, nearly killing myself in the process I finished the Court and Small cards. They needed what was practically rewriting in parts, as I have found identities between certain cards and (a) the Yi (b) the Geomantic figures. This is exceedingly important from the point of view of official science, as it demonstrates beyond doubt that these independent systems reach the same conclusions, and therefore that they all represent a reality in Nature, not an arbitrary set of artificial conventions. I assure you that one day this will be the corner-stone of the scientific acceptance of the fact of Magic.

Also I got additional evidence of my thesis that Tetragrammaton is a revolving formula, and so that the Universe is self-sustaining, self-renewing and eternal in itself, not a finite extension from a Creator.

To draw attention to the importance of these doctrines, which are the soul of the Book, I want some extra plates in colour. It would be decent of you to consider this, instead of the old "Them 'as asks shan't have 'ave, and them 'as don't ask don't want." It isn't a lot; but U.S.A., though now we have got rid of our trouble, some bad lad, won't recover from the changes for a month or two, perhaps longer. And so

93 93 Ever Yours fraternally

93

Alister.

W.T. Smith

## Book of Thoth, cont.

A.C. - G.J.Y. Bell Inn, Aston Clinton, Bucks. June 1 44.

My dear Gerald.

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

Many thanks for filled form; but no chance of your being forgotten! You get a specially bound copy, with inscription nobly conceived, carefully composed and artistically executed. (Note by G.J.Y. It was not specially bound, but the inscription reads "To my very dear brother in the Great Work V.J. (whether he likes it or not) let this volume bring Full Understanding. T.M.O. 666. With friendship)."

About the other matter, it is the absence of my diary that started the doubts. But your data will help me to check it in another way. The trouble, briefly, is this. I supposed that the Tarot a/c was paid, bar the usual fuss at the end: at the worst, say £60. They always wanted cash in advance for small extras, so how could I imagine there was £373 owing??? A smashing blow! And I still feel sure that some sums paid in were not credited; hence my query. Subs have come in surprisingly well, but there is still over £100 to find before I can get full possession of the books! This means that I may have to sell up Jermyn Street—even to my clothes! And I had so hoped for just one summer full of work and empty of worry, before I passed in my checks. Listen! I often missed lunch because I hadn't the energy to walk the 100 yards to the restaurant!

Here I am rapidly becoming my own man again. I hate to ask you who have already done so much for the Work; but the end must be near in any case. Would you take one of the enclosed, which I am sending to one or two 'possibles'? It would give me my summer, and put me on my honour to get this 50-letter book before I conk out. It will help the world more than any other, in its way.

Love is the law, love under will. Yours ever A.C.

(Note by G.J.Y. I contributed £100 towards the expenses of Thoth, sending the check to the printers. I probably refused the request.)

P.S. Love to Angela and the rising generation!

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 9 August 1939

Care Frater

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

I was sorry to miss you on your way through London, but it doesn't matter very much because things are not ready. I hoped to have finished the explanation and description of the Tarot by the end of this month.

Unfortunately, that only means that there will be a large stack of rather incoherent papers. I feel sure that there will be great lack of consecution, together with redundancies, and possibly serious omissions. On the top of that, the whole thing has to be vetted for in-growing obscurity. Frieda (Harris) is very pleased about it, but she is not a good judge; we want a book intelligible to anyone who has only a smattering of the subject.

As you know, bad as I am at everything connected with writing, I am worst of all at compilation. This is where you might come in (if you cared to) when you get back to town. It would be of immense assistance to me if you would go through the papers with me and bring your orderly brain to work. Until the end of the month I am in a G.M.R. Letters should be addressed G.P. Glasshouse, 57 Petersham Road, Richmond.

Love is the law love under will. Yours fraternally. 666

P.S. G.P. stands for Giant Panda.



Book of Thoth cont.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 93 Jermyn Street. May 6

C.F. 93

I had expected to hear from you-perhaps my prospectus or your reply mis-carried? Kindly reassure a convalescing neurasthenic! Copies should be ready to send out in a month or less. Format-perfect Found perfect Egyptian paper for sides: sample came to-day; it looks superb. And the book seems to read well. Love to Angéla and the procession and yourself.

93 93 A.C.  
93

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 27 Petersham Road, Richmond. 14 August 1939

Care Frater

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

I don't know if you got my last letter; I suppose you are in Scotland. I want to know whether you can help to finish the Tarot book as soon as possible, because my own plans depend very much on it. These plans have been considerably advanced by the death of Spencer Lewis in California. We shall now have no intelligent opposition to taking possession of the organisation (AMORC. G.J.Y.); they cannot carry on because there is no doctrine; all he did was to train his family and friends in the technical details of the swindle, and therefore there is no banner for them to raise.

Louis Wilkinson is going to America on the 3rd September and will take the matter up with Kraemer, Mencken and Gertz. I am also writing to ginger up Smith and Schneider. Please let me know at once what time you expect to be back in London, and whether you feel equal to collaborating with me in the final putting together of my material on the Tarot. It is likely to make from 80,000 to 100,000 words and I think will need about a fortnight's work to lick into final shape.

Love is the law love under will. Yours fraternally. 666.

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Thumbs Up.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 10 Hanover Square. Sept 6. 1941

Dear Gerald or rather Fra. V.I.

93

Thumbs up

Herewith a proof of the reprint. Monday I hope to be able to put an address to it. Printer wants £5.10.0 per 1000 add 10/- for cost of distributing parcels. I need £50 for stationary and postage to write to patriotic blokes, asking them to contribute so many copies apiece. Can you help with this?

So far, good and enthusiastic response. E.g. C E M Joad, John Cowper Powys, Louis Wilkinson, Harold Mortlake, and other more or less prominent people. Navy quite thrilled! If I can get really big success, it will put me in a position to ask for an interview with Winston (Churchill. T) to put up to him the 2nd half of my V plan (This might be the "war-engine" in AL III 7-8) It is immediate, practical, but so terrible that I will not disclose it to anybody else. (Note by G.J.Y. Unless this refers to A.C.'s 241 -two for one- plan, he never revealed to it.)

I wish you had always understood me; I could have worked out the details with you. But there was a time when you distrusted me entirely: a lot of it my own fault. Is it too late to get together heart and soul? "Trust not a stranger: fall not of an heir". I feel so lonely, like a frightened child. So much to do and my physical instrument untrusty!

23 13 93 666 also Alister



# Magick In Theory and Practice.

(Note by G.J.Y. I paid for the production, wrote the prospectus and did some editing. These letters need reading in connection with the others in A.C.'s correspondence with me, which has already been copied.)

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Panoramas, Cassis B.du R. June 2. 1928  
C.F. V.V. 93

Yrs of 30 may. I rejoice exceedingly. Use your own judgement entirely about "Magick": it is your own private G.W. at the moment. Personally, I should be inclined to hand MS to printer to "mak siccar" giving Rider the proofs, or the other MS, if Heinemann fails. On this line of thought: "my job is to secure publication no matter of we don't sell a copy". You do your bit and put it up to the Gods to do theirs. Consider this point of view, but don't let it warp your judgement. I shall be glad to have a few sample prospectuses-but business details appal me.

I note your probability about July 15-31. But let me know definitely as soon as you know yourself.

What with my sun cure-I hope you will be unable to recognize me except by my turban-my vow of Holy Obedience (Note by G.J.Y. presumably to Kasimira Bass) and intense M(agical) work daily, I'm going strong. In a much better M(agical) condition than I have been for some years. All is now moving to a great climax.

93 93 F.ly 666  
93

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A.C - G.J.Y. 55 Avenue de Suffren Paris Nov 20 1928  
Care Frater

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

Thanks for yours of the 17th instant. All along I had the gravest doubts as to whether anything could be done with the serial rights in England. It would be quite different if some really important and powerful person -? Wales? (Note by G.J.Y. presumably the Prince of Wales) - undertook to back the vindication. It is a vicious circle.

Montague Summers appears to know what he is talking about. People generally do want a book on Magick. There never has been an attempt at one, anyhow since the Middle Ages, except Levi's. I don't see why you should expect me to give author titles. I am not one of the scribes. The book is revolutionary. On whose authority did the Buddha base his Work? But this is all confusion. We have the world-famous Mr Arthur Vivian complaining that the book is not original. We have these other world-famous experts saying that it is so entirely original that it is worthless. And then there is that other world-famous expert, Dr Birven, saying that the book has to be read in the light of the authorities from whom I have taken it.

You are quite wrong, by the way, in thinking of it as having been dictated. It is true that the skeleton was dictated about 18 years ago, but the whole thing has been re-written repeatedly, and the original dictated portion does not amount to more than, I imagine, 5% of the work.

I cannot understand Ogden's statement "if any admirer of your work with publishing experience would recommend it".

The opinions of Evans, Earp and Ogden need not be taken seriously; with the possible exception of Ogden, they know practically nothing of Magick. I think I know pretty well what they mean want. A lot of high-faluting stuff with a literary angle to it. They don't understand that it is fundamentally a cold dry text-book. The idea of the 'sole purchasing public' amounting to 150 is ridiculous.



150  
 ludicrous There are many people thousands of people all over the world who know my name, and respect me as the greatest living authority on the subject. This is admitted by my greatest enemies. It is even insisted upon by them. Without exception, students of occultism who have looked at the manuscript accept it as a classical text book. You note that they themselves say that they were anxious to read it; ergo, there would be plenty of other people just as eager, and those people will buy it, which is all we need to worry about at the present moment.

My system is no more traditional than Darwin's. At the same time he relied to some extent on previous authorities, such as Cuvier, Buffon etc, and I have presented the occult tradition faithfully, throwing, at the same time, an entirely new light on it. You cannot answer the criticisms because the criticism is nonsense. Incidentally, it is not even true. There are quite a number of references to people like Frazer, Poincaré, Eddington, Einstein and Levi, and at the same time to the great ancient classics of the East. But the point is, as the book itself explains to some extent, that the whole bulk of magical writing in Europe is either hopelessly obscure or nonsense. Do not forget that the tradition which I represent has always been secret tradition, and that I only publish it to-day because of the impending catastrophe to our present civilisation.

I quite understand the difficulty about the "Three Wishes (A play by A.C.) The ending is quiet in the way that a judge's summing up is quiet. But the criticism would also apply to almost every successful play that has ever been put on the stage. The whole idea of the last act is that the storm and stress of the play is over, and the public is asked to survey the real results. I challenge you to mention either a Greek play or one of Shakespeare's which lacks this quiet ending—this judicial summary.

The question of the two equal female parts is of course I understand a crux, but this should be turned into an asset. You have got to find two actresses good enough to have the guts to play against each other. That is just the psychology which will make the play a tremendous success once it is put on. Don't be discouraged! Remember that W.S. Maughan went begging for ten years with Lady Frederick in one hand and Mrs Dot in the other, and made a couple of millions sterling in a couple of years after. Ethel Irving was jealous of Mary Tempest; and hearing the latter had refused the part, jumped in. The same could happen to us.

Of course the Hag is in need of re-writing. About the Net—some of the names could be changed. That being done, I don't think anybody is coming to court to smash all the dirty linen of the G.D.

It is never any good asking a writer, who is not a publisher's hack, to chop his books about. Self-respecting authors won't do it, especially when they have no clear idea as to what is actually wanted. How can they have? They have already written the book with a certain idea in mind; and you can not expect them to write some book which is not their's at all.

You said that you were getting in touch with Earp. Remember that he is a charming man with a great knowledge of literature, impotent, homosexual, melancholic, and a sot. I hardly know anyone in the world with whom I would rather spend all night talking. Your proper course with Earp is to make a night of it, being very careful not to ask him to pay for any drinks, because you can only get a request of that sort executed by aid of the police. (I am not quite sure whether I should remind him about it, but it was a great night) When you make a night of it with him, get him to write the necessary letter of ~~introduction~~ recommendation then and there.

7  
I have no objections to publishing the whole of the A.A. instructions, preferably in a cheap and popular form. Liber LXV should be printed separately, with the comment.

Cactus was never written. What existed was a large package containing something like 100 records of people who had experimented with Annalium Lewinii; and this package was sunk in the "Mudd". I could however write a short treatise on the subject, if I were commissioned to do so. I think Ogden and Earp might like Liber Aleph, as it is very literary. The Urn is simply a magical diary, Liber CVI is just a brief essay, Liber 265 has not been written. What we have is the material in my diary of my own work on the subject. (What I want is a staff of about six trained people to put all this immense wealth of material into publishable shape.) You might try them with The Voice of The Silence.

Thanks for the five pounds from Smith. Regardie is sending a formal receipt. I rather doubt whether the Serpent wants a job in Mt Hunt's scurry. As far as I know he has no more got an office than any femme de mène.

I will expect you on December 3rd. I believe everything is now coming out all right straight. About the Geomancy Box; Regardie and I will do ourselves; if you will send over the specifications. We will try to have it ready for you by the 3rd of December. I can then easily get a professional model made. There are plenty of people who make stage scenery etc. Then you can offer it to people the proper people in London.

I enclose a note for you to show to Pyke. I also return the original of Ogden's letter. I have made a copy of it to file with yours. The way to get me to complete any given piece of work is to commission me to do it and to have it ready by a certain day. Then I am on my honour, and the thing gets done.

Love is the law love under will. Yours fraternally

666

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A.. to Lecram Press. 55 Avenue de Suffren, Paris. Dec 13th 1928.

Dear Sirs.

I thank you for yours of the 12th instant. Its terms are, however somewhat ambiguous. Is the quotation for the prospectus per thousand copies or per copy? I do not want a simili-japon. I want the prospectus to be on paper similar to that on which the book will ultimately be printed.

I have requested my secretary to call on you with the manuscript. It is not important that you should conform absolutely with this sample, as long as the book is, what I may call, easy to read. I do not want the type too closely set.

There is no objection to your suggested terms of payment. To be precise I should mention that while we are on our side willing to deposit the whole cost of printing the book with you, when placing the order, we would require from you a guarantee that the book will be delivered on a given date. The point is, that in publishing a book by subscription, especially if it is to be issued in parts, would-be buyers have, in consequence of bad experience in the past, become very wary. They do not want to put up money unless delivery is certain on a given date. We shall therefore have to have something like a banker's guarantee in regard to this matter.

If there are any points in this letter which present difficulties, perhaps you will discuss them with Mr Regardie and we could make written agreements according to circumstances. With regard to your estimate, please



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Yours very truly.

A.C. - Lecram Press. 55 $\frac{1}{2}$  Avenue de Suffren. Dec 23rd 1928  
Gentlemen!

We are proposing to issue Magick in 4 parts, each part to appear as it is ready. It is essential that the first part appear not later than the day of the Spring Equinox. I propose to issue each part in a paper wrapper with some simple design from a wood block. I should like a supplementary estimate for this. I think the first edition should consist of 3,000. As the book is to be issued privately to subscribers it is quite essential that you should be willing to receive the money, and arrange for the distribution through the post.

I propose to state on the subscription form, attached to the prospectus, the following notice:-

IMPORTANT

The total cost of the production of this book has been deposited with the printers who are authorised to receive subscriptions and undertake to distribute the books as they come from the Press. The 1st part will be ready not later than the day of the Spring Equinox, and the complete work, not later than the day of the Summer Equinox Solstice.

With regard to the question of payment, our financial arrangements have not quite been completed, and I propose the following provisional agreement. During the first week in January, the sum of 1,500.00 dollars in cash to be paid to you, the balance--the amount of which must be first ascertained by careful estimates, especially with regard to supplementary matters of binding and colour reproduction etc--to be paid for by a traite due on the day of the Summer Solstice.

Yours truly

A.C. to G.J.Y. 55 Avenue de Suffren Jan 22nd 1928  
Care Frater.

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

Lecram is waiting for your cheque for £200 before beginning the composition of "Magick". His full name and address is as follows:- The Lecram Press, 26 rue d'Hautpoul, Paris, XIX.

Love is the law love under will

Yours fraternally. 666.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel de Cadran Bleu, Fontainebleau. 12/2/29  
C.F. 93

Got rid of most of the rheumatism, but acquired a chill instead. Expect get back to Paris Tuesday. Thursday. Serpent comes out Wednesday and we can get to work. Mme de M. (Iramar) came here Sunday to help look for a place here. N.G. so far; Americans have sent 'em all insane about prices. Hopes of one house at 8000 fr for 6 months. Possibility for March 21. Serpent won't be able to get about much for 2 months, the quack says. By issuing Magick in 4 parts we save 12% luxury tax! One more hard-to-believe. I wrote out a wire this A.M.--as always, in capitals, with dots to



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divide the words. And the man said the dots counted as words!!! Yes, Horatio  
And inquire for yourself Thomas!

93 93 Fly. 666  
93

A.C. - G.J.Y. 13/4/29

Chairrett nikomen (In Greek. T) Advance copy received. Nothing else matters.  
However, further news should reach you Monday morning.

93 93 Fly. 66 6  
93

A.C. - G.J.Y. Undated. Hotel Metropole Brussels.

C.F. 93

Just got back to find v satisfactory letter from Estieu (of Lecram  
Press. T)

1. They are sending proofs up to end text

2. Total cost should be £450 (They have £300 and seven subscriptions)  
With U.S.A. sales we have already enough in hand to cover the whole. (In  
fact I had to pay the £150. G.J.Y.) I'll send your letter and copy my  
reply as soon as I get in touch with Regardie. Further on Marriage Problem  
(A.C. with Mme de Miramar. T) after these damned holidays.

93 93 Fly 666  
93 ----

Lecram Press

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Astoria Leipzig. Aug ' (1929)  
Gentlemen.

Please deliver Sections I and II of Magick to the order of the  
Mandrake Press 41 Museum Street London W.C.I; with whom I have made  
arrangements to distribute them.

Yrs faithfully. Aleister Crowley.

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