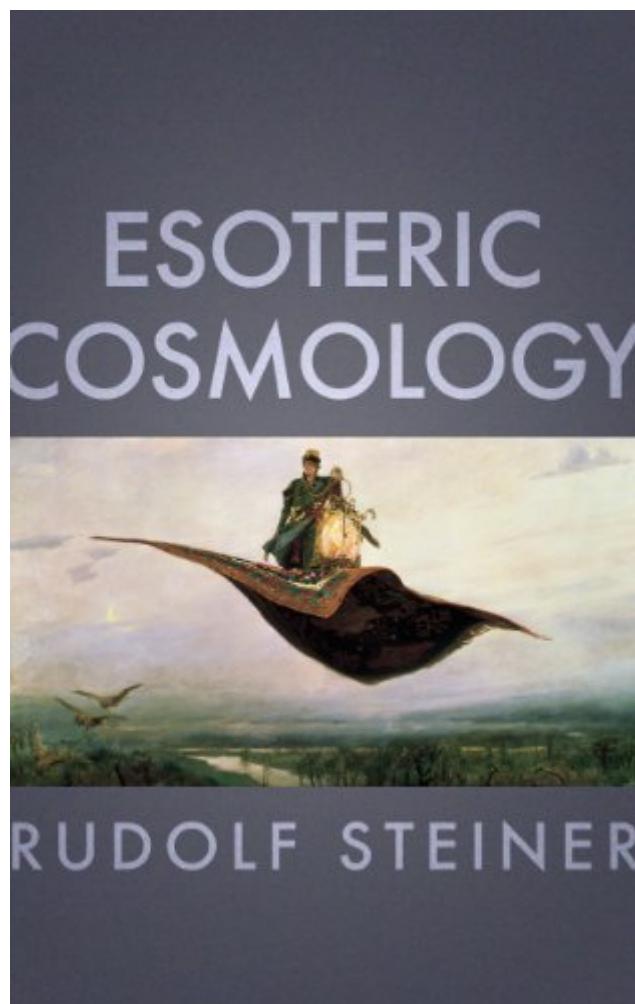


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# Esoteric Cosmology



## **Synopsis**

A collection of 18 of Steiner's lectures, here the student will find concise expositions which comprise the spectrum of esoteric wisdom. Topics include astral sight, higher dimensions, involution and evolution, yoga in East and West, the Logos, cosmic evolution, the apocalypse, and more. This text has been custom formatted for Kindle and checked for typos. It includes an interactive table of contents.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Unfortunately the previous reviewer has not read the publication info page at the beginning of the book, nor the back cover, nor the forward or preface...since each of these sections details, explains and tells the story of these 18 lectures that took place in Paris between May 25 and June 14 1906, and were based on the inspired note taking of the French esoterist/playwright Edouard Schure. In order to show the previous reviewer's ignorance and scepticism, this group of lectures are indeed part of the Rudolf Steiner Verlag and is listed as GA 94 in the German catalogue. They mark a historic point in Rudolf Steiner's biography since it was the very moment when his "Anthroposophy" came as a fully realized form while he was still within the Theosophical institution. They are inspired lectures that speak the whole of Anthroposophy in condensed form. These lectures were what

would become his book called "Occult Science". And, like any of Steiner's lectures, one really must review the content of each lecture in meditation to fully grasp its meaning, because casual browsing is useless. This was a momentous time in history, and how Schure describes his personal encounter and relationship with Steiner during this time (in the introduction of the book) is as equally as inspired!

I have read many, many books by Steiner and find this one of his easier reads and right on point. In my mind a must read for anyone with a hunger for knowledge in a time when it is all to easy to see the world as cold and empty. Those conditions are a result of our own lack of spiritual development. That said, Steiner is always a challenge and requires a strong mind and discipline to enable one to obtain the maximum outcome from this truly astounding material. I must say that I found some of the negative reviews to be rather small minded and off the wall.

Even for one fairly well versed in the occult and esoteric philosophies, this book reads like science fiction and requires an expansion of one's mind to be open to radical, alien concepts. Best to just take it in, unjudged, and let it ferment, to be the foundation for other Steiner books and subsequent rereading of this particular title. It makes one feel small in the grand scheme of human evolution, yet as important as your next thought in directing humankind's spiritual development toward its higher destiny.

I've read hundreds of Steiner lectures, and hope to read many more. This book, among the best distillations of Anthroposophy available, succinct and stunning, has some issues. Odd ones. Steiner lectures always, and I mean always, begin with a page or two of "throat clearing" -- a little rehash of what went before, a summary of what's to come, a few remarks to settle everyone in. There is none of that here. This reads as a well-considered, perfectly formulated book. Not a lecture. If they are lectures by Steiner (and whatever they are, they are surely by Steiner), it is a series of many more parts than usual, and some of the parts are not full-length. One of the hallmarks of Steiner lectures is that they all ring in about the same time and length. This is not the case here. Also, if these are lectures by Steiner, they have been carefully trimmed and edited. In the totally inadequate prefatory material, I found the disclaimer of Steiner's view on race to be offensive and unnecessary. This is a great book, but there is something fishy going on here regarding presentation. Be wary. REVISED REVIEW: The preview of the book gives no prefatory material, but that material does indeed exist in the printed book. It is fascinating. But not reassuring. A fellow, Edouard Schuré, heard these

lectures (in German), and when he got home, transcribed them in his notebook (in French). When he got home. Not while Steiner was speaking. He wrote what he recalled as he recalled it. I think that's a problem.

What the previous reviewer (Ryan Kouroukis) wrote may be true for the volume he holds in his hands. However, 's "Look Inside!" feature reveals none of that information. The text is indeed from Rudolf Steiner's Collected Works (in German) number 94. But the 's info reveals nothing about the translator. It must be a translation that is out of print and so old that the copyright has expired so that now, not needing permission from any copyright owner, former publisher or translator, Wilder Books can reprint the book. For profit of course; its (as far as I know) their legal right. But there is no coordination with Rudolf Steiner Press, or Steiner Books or any publishing house working to promulgate anthroposophy. As to the quality of the translation I can say nothing. There appears to be no mention of the fact that this book consists of lectures and is not a written work by Steiner, a distinction that is really crucial. Apparently the publisher does not care in the least about the content of the book (nothing illegal about that), but Wilder's reprints without sufficient introductory material does a disservice to the legacy of Rudolf Steiner.

I gave it a four instead of a five because of the solution Steiner provided for an old mystic riddle at the end of one of the chapters. I may be looking at the answer provided from an incorrect perspective, but my view is still that the Holy Spirit withdrew her inspiration from Steiner right before he attempted to answer the question, which was what walks on four legs, then two, then three. He did answer the question of specialized identity as any of us would, i.e., the human being, but while his cosmic "big picture" solution, was one that could conceivably be correct, I felt it was hackneyed and contrived shortsighted guesswork. So in the one instance in the whole if the dissertation, where he tried to show that he was brilliant and knew so much more than anyone else I have ever heard of on the subject his "solution" was to my thinking completely inadequate.

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