

THE CONFESSIONS OF ALEISTER CROWLEY



"FOUR RED MONKS CARRYING A BLACK GOAT ACROSS THE SNOW TO NOWHERE"
(reproduction of a painting by Aleister Crowley).

of a Magus, illustrated historically. ☉ The Cat-Goddess and the Serpent-Goddess contend for my Soul. ☉ The Beatific Vision, and the visions of Pure Love and of Wonder. ☉ I beget a Magical son, fulfilling the prophecies, then and thereafter I accept the Grade of Magus, and proclaim my Word before men.

The Great Magical Retirement by Lake Pasquaney. I prepare the Elixir of Life: excess thereof renews my youth too fiercely. ☉ In a marvellous tempest I am struck by globular lightning. ☉ I crucify a toad and exorcise from Mankind the Ancient Evil. ☉ I am thrust forth into the darkness to assume the curse of my Grade. ☉ I despair and waver, but am constrained to obedience by the Secret Chiefs. ☉ I translate the Tao Teh King: I become a corpse save in eye and hand to write Liber Aleph. The Ape of Thoth is given me, as is due to a Magus. I leave for Europe to construct a Magical Image of a new Social Order.

Treachery in London: the Order robbed by its officers. At Fontainebleau with Soror Cypris and the Ape of Thoth. ☉ An astounding Magical Diary. ☉ Birth of a daughter.

Cefalu. I establish an Abbey of Thelema at Cefalu. ☉ The children of the Abbey: principles of education ☉ The training of adults: Education and Initiation: Sex-freedom: a policy of kill or cure. ☉ Items from my case book: (1) Soror Cypris. (2) Soror Estai. (3) Frater Genesthai. (4) Frater Progradior. Strange reactions of casual visitors to the Abbey discipline: a comedy of hennaed hair; uncommon aquatic feats; mathematics versus sex.

A campaign in London and Paris. I am arrested as "Bevan." My stock worth £20,000 is held up by a crook and crank. ☉ Writings for the English Review: centenary article on Shelley: Vagaries of a famous editor. ☉ I write "*The Diary of a Drug Fiend*" in 27 days 12½ hours. *Return to Italy.* The Fascisti: estimate of Mussolini's position. Renewed magical work at the Abbey. Humanising the Karma of a cat; the theory of the "bloody sacrifice." Publication of "*The Diary of a Drug Fiend*": insane attacks by the pornographic gutter-press: my policy of silence. ☉ Sickness and privation. Renewed attacks on the Abbey. I am expelled from Italian territory by the Fascisti. The programme for the future.