

OPALS FROM A MEXICAN MINE

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Opals from a Mexican mine by George De Valliere

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GEORGE DE VALLIERE

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MEXICAN MINE**

OPALS

FROM A MEXICAN MINE

BY

GEORGE DE VALLIÈRE *pseud*



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" Now, opals are the tears shed by Tonatiuh, the Sun God, many ages ago, and which fell upon the earth and have lodged in its bosom, turning into jewels. It was prophesied by our forefathers that men would labor wearily for them and kings would pay great price of gold therefor. Hence it is well to know the virtues and portents of these stones, and may wise men ponder deeply upon what I, Chinapopotl, a descendant of the high priest, will say. Now, some [of these stones] are white, though veined with red when held to the light, and these portend love and death . . . and there are some that shimmer with the blue of Heaven, and these speak of love . . . passion rings loud in those that are of the hue of gold. . . . If a man take into his hand one that is yellow changing into cloud-like gray, and sleep, he will have strange dreams . . . and it is also true that one may find a handful of divers hues which may mean anything or nothing, as one will."—*Extract from an ancient Nahuatl manuscript in Queretaro.*

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The Greatest of the Gods is Quetzalcoatl