SEX WORSHIP: AN EXPOSITION OF THE PHALLIC ORIGIN OF RELIGION

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Sex Worship: An Exposition of the Phallic Origin of Religion by Clifford Howard

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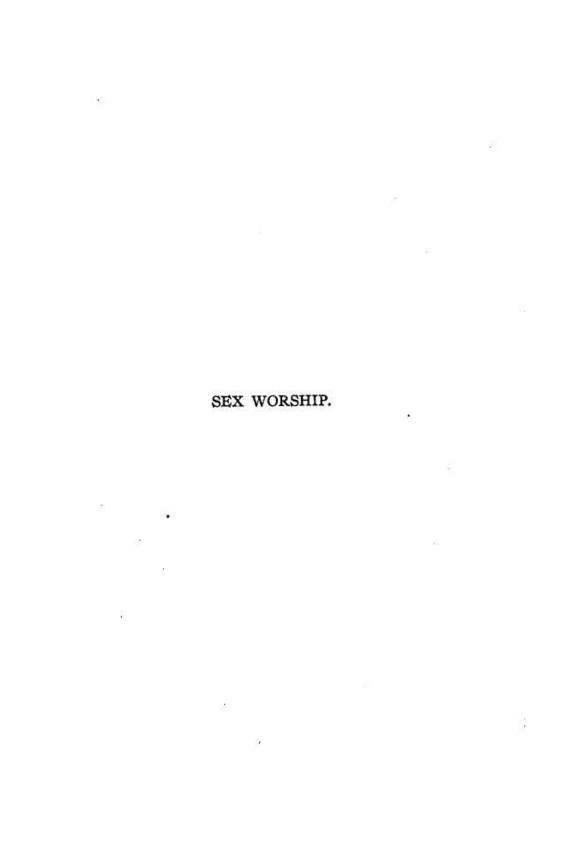
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CLIFFORD HOWARD

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PREFACE.

THIS work has for its object a general presentation of sex worship, or phallicism (the worship of the generative powers of nature), for the purpose of demonstrating that the various religious faiths of the world have had a common origin, and are founded upon a natural, material basis—the adoration of life in its phenomena of creation and reproduction.

A thorough and exhaustive treatment of the subject is, of course, beyond the scope of the present work, which is limited solely to an exposition of the principal and more salient features of phallicism, in its direct and obvious relation to theology and to the religious beliefs and symbols of the present day. No attempt has, therefore, been made to treat any of the particular or more complex phases of the subject, r

nor to discuss its social and physiological aspects, which, although of great value and interest, could not appropriately be treated within the limits of this volume.

The work here presented embodies a large amount of original research, as well as the investigations of leading authorities on the subject, all of whose works have been carefully studied. The author has avoided making any foot-note references to these authorities, for not only do such notes fail to serve any practical purposeexcept to satisfy the critical reader that the writer has not drawn upon his own imagination,-but in the present instance the data at the command of the author have been gathered from such a variety of sources, and the evidence presented by them is so largely cumulative, while at the same time they are so closely interwoven with the facts derived from the author's individual investigations and discoveries, that it would be a difficult matter to classify his statements in accordance with their primary source.

It has, therefore, been deemed sufficient to append hereto a list of the principal books on phallicism consulted by the author in the preparation of this work. While this list does not pretend to be a complete bibliography, it probably represents the most important English works on phallic worship, and will, it is hoped, be of service to such students as may desire to investigate the subject more fully.

All of these books, however, are exceedingly rare and difficult to obtain, for up to this time the study of sex worship has been confined to a small class of scholars and investigators, who have been careful to withhold from the public the comparatively few works on the subject; so that the general student has had little or no opportunity for acquainting himself with the revelations of this important branch of knowledge.

It is hoped, therefore, that the present work may prove of interest to the thoughtful and intelligent public, for whom it is designed, and that it will be received and

PREFACE.

appreciated in the spirit that its importance and significance deserve.

THE AUTHOR.

Washington, 1897.

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