



The Key of Solomon the King: Clavicula Salomonis

S.L. MacGregor Mathers , R.A. Gilbert (Foreword by)

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This most celebrated of all magical textbooks, believed to be written by King Solomon himself, details the processes for summoning and mastering the spirits. Demonstrates that the usual theoretical distinction between black magic and white, evil magic and good, is not so simply drawn. Text: English (translation)
Original Language: French, Hebrew, Italian, Latin

The Key of Solomon the King: Clavicula Salomonis Details

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From Reader Review The Key of Solomon the King: Clavicula Salomonis for online ebook

May Ling says

Summary: This is a great translation book that is very approachable.

I was aware of some of this, but did not know the ins and outs. I think with this book, you're going to want to likely memorize a lot of the names. But wow. This book is dense for its size. It must have been so crazy to have found this work in the original form for the first time and then actually to have seen what it was the book was saying.

I had no idea that each of the names really meant something very precisely different. I am excited to read more about this topic and better understand how some of my friends are using this as a part of their spiritual practice.

Dr. Barrett Dylan Brown, Phd says

read when I was a Child... this is one of the Five (5) "Books of King Solomon" that are so Famous in the Occult Community because book number two (2) "The Lesser Key of Solomon" is about k-r@d "DEMONS," whereas This Book of Solomon, number One (1) I believe is Focused Solely on Angels...

Must re-read for any Serious, Academic, Anthropology-Oriented Scientist.

Scottsdale Public Library says

Shrouded in mystery, The Key of Solomon is a late medieval to early renaissance grimoire where one can find powerful incantations that summon angels and spirits, astrological information, and directions on how to create magical talismans. Ever wonder why magical practitioners cast a protective circle? The magic circle, although more elaborate of a procedure in this book, is still used by many practitioners today of Wicca, Thelema, and the Golden Dawn. For someone interested in magical practices and grimoire magic, this book will be fascinating. Lore states that the Key of Solomon was written by King Solomon himself. Historically it has been found that the author is unknown. Whoever the author is, they have become a huge impact on western esoteric traditions. I read this for the historical aspects and was fascinated to find so many connections to magical practices today. This is heavy reading and definitely for the academic who is interested in learning the mysteries and history of magic. --Colleen M.

Colin Hinze says

Better Translation

I have one physical copy and 2 digital of the Key of Solomon. This is by far the best translation. It has fewer diagrams but that is the only issue

Lodane says

The 1-5 Star Review is the total of what I have to say about this book, *specifically*.

Caveat: This review is historical/archival in nature. 'Date read' is speculative.

This book is one of many books I have read about the occult/paganism/witchcraft. This was the readily available faith in my household as a child. Additionally, I worked for a company in this field, 2015-2016, and had to read an ocean of this stuff to do my job.

Like televangelists, and snake-oil salesman, these publishers prey on the vulnerable. The authors are mentally ill: suffering from 'magical thinking' and delusions. Worst of all, most of them can't write worth a damn.

Llewellyn Worldwide is the absolute worst on both counts. I wouldn't even trust their overpriced CALENDARS to be accurate.

These books are also big offenders on the the 'cultural appropriation' front. In fact, they're in the running for worst case ever. So-called 'eclectic witches' steal aspects of other religions and mythology. They make it clear that they don't understand them, or feel the need to, before shitting in someone else's bed. The publishers/authors then profit off this, leaving the reader less smart and more broke.

The living Venn diagram of demographics for these books would look like this:

She's a white, American woman. She dropped out of college to attend massage/cosmetology school.

Growing up, her strict parents took her to church every Sunday. She kissed a girl 10 years ago, and likes Katy Perry. To quote Holden from Chasing Amy, "Over- or underweight [people] who don't get laid - they're our bread and butter."

Though a cypasta of it, these books never tell you about hermeticism. They don't prime you to understand hermeticism. Hermeticism, by the way, is also total bullshit. It is, at least, historic -- and seminal in almost all spooky fiction involving rituals or alchemy.

If I give one of these books anything above 2 stars, it's a decent example of this type of book. It might have a redeeming feature, like reference material for fictional world-building. Having worked in this field, including sales of these exact books, I can tell you... the fix is in, they know it, don't buy this stuff.

Susan Prout says

I have had one of the medallions for years, now I know why I found it so fascinating.

Erika says

Alright, lets cut to the chase: this is an archaic prayer book, nothing more. If you expect detailed tutorials on how to call out for some demon friends, this is not the book for you. I wanted to read it 'cause I've seen it referenced in other books and media, so I decided I should give it a try and see what was what.

Throughout the whole time I spent reading this I kept wondering if people really attempted to perform these crazy rituals and, damn, I'm pretty sure it must have happened, which is sad 'cause these are the most tiresome, complex, boring rituals I've read about, and thinking someone made such a big effort to get it right and then get bupkis in return...

First half of the book was enough interesting, talking about the Planets, Days and Hours, but the second part was too tiresome, going on and on about how to properly prepare certain materials (paper, cloth, ink,etc.) for rituals I got what I wanted from this book, I guess. I ain't recommending it to anyone I know, though.

Liam O'nade says

This most celebrated of all magical textbooks, believed to be written by King Solomon himself, details the processes for summoning and mastering the spirits. Demonstrates that the usual theoretical distinction between black magic and white, evil magic and good, is not so simply drawn. Text: English (translation)Original Language: French, Hebrew, Italian, Latin

Luis says

It was interesting, that's for sure. I have been having trouble getting to the full Goetia, but it was a great start to the journey. Let's see what the future brings...

Marsha Altman says

If you are familiar with halacha in early Judaism this book can be hilarious. Otherwise it's just boring nonsense.

Van says

This book has some beautiful magickal seals and circles, especially the grand pentacle of Solomon, which was referenced in the Arabian Nights as the seal that he put on the djinn's vase.

Dan Quigley says

Whatever you do, don't pay for this crap! If you're curious, purview it on-line here:
<http://www.esotericarchives.com/solom...>

Claviculae of Solomon is an early "grimoire", the technical term for a spell book. Mathers wrote a reportedly fairly accurate translation (from Latin and Hebrew) of a Renaissance work. There is a flimsy fictional structure sewn into the narrative in that this book is supposedly the lore ancient Solomon passed on to his Hebrew-sounding son Roboam. In actuality, the book is a how-to book for performing magic, complete with tables and charts.

I read something similar to it once when I picked up a book on the "science" of chiropractic. This nerve connects to this vertebra, ends in this location, and affects this organ, etc. So, says the chiroquacker, when he clicks his little hand device and touches such-and-such x-rayed nerve-ending in order to magically ("scientifically") cure ("adjust") the mark ("patient"). I have no doubt this Renaissance grimoire suckered people in its time at about the same rate chiropractors' grimoires sucker the blissfully ignorant in ours.

The book, of course, has no value unless one is an author wanting to do research for fictional uses. I presume this was the use Lovecraft made of it when he says in his work, *Supernatural Horror in Literature*, that the book contained "traditions whose echoes extend obscurely even to the present time." Even then, for all that, it is a surprisingly dull read.

inoel says

At last~! I've got the e-book of *Clavicula Salomonis*~! Yaay~! Okay, before people get me wrong, I'm not a occult fan boy, I'm not a satanic worshiper *gulp*& I don't even practice magick or any other mumbo jumbo stuff.

The only reason I really want to read this book is: I regard this book as a astonishing art book~! The symbols (especially the symbol of those legions) that were used on this book rather appear to me as a beautiful art form; it's somewhat inspiring me on creating my own artwork ; just like those crop circle, I also adore them so much~!)

Bob Schweiger says

This is a premer for the study of King Soloman's teachings in the occult world. Not easy to ready but packed with valuable information.

Äsruþr Cyneapsson says

Although lacking the depth of analysis and corrections offered by the like of Joseph Peterson, in his edition

of the Lemegeton, there is a certain charm to the translation of Mathers. There are sufficient footnotes to detail the MSS sources for each section, providing sufficient insight into the selections made by Mathers when editing the work, as well as justifying his inclusion of aspects which are absent from some of the MSS.

The work itself, the Key of Solomon, is useful in framing any study of the goetic arts or the other grimoires. For the keen observer, there is also some guidance here which undermines some of the errors made by other magical systems and popular conceptions of spirits.
