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Secrets of the Grail

What hidden keys did she hold?

The recent best-selling novel, Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*, has brought massive attention to a number of topics seldom considered by the general public. To the extent that may constitute sorely needed education, we, of course, applaud. It is well past the day when some of the most crucial parts of the suppressed history of western civilization should be shouted from the housetops. Any secret agenda of Leonardo da Vinci is certainly well worth unraveling. However, to the extent that Brown has, in our view, misrepresented many of the matters which he covers, we are not so happy. It seems unfortunate, that the multitudes who are discovering the esoteric realm for the first time are, in our opinion, being poorly served.

One of Brown's more significant errors is discussed elsewhere in these pages (see Jeff Nisbet's piece on page 42), but I felt the obligation to make a few more points here.

To suggest that the Holy Grail is a specific person or a bloodline is, it seems to me, an inadequate and shallow interpretation of a truly profound mystery. It is, to say the least, reductionist and materialistic, if not idolatrous—missing the sublime point made by great sages and saints of East and West that "the kingdom of Heaven is within you (read, 'all of us')." Certainly Parsifal and his fellow knights were required to learn that lesson well or fall short in their quest for the Grail. The Buddhists have a saying "If you meet the Buddha on the road, kill him,"—the point being: don't identify your liberation with any external physical being: look within.

I have no doubt that, in the pursuit of power, the corrupted institutions of this planet have indeed played the games which Brown describes, but theirs, fortunately, is not the ultimate game, and that—for those who have ears to hear and eyes to see—is written between the lines of all the sacred texts.

Realizing that, in the development of our civilization, the divine feminine has been rejected and trampled underfoot is essential, but, it seems to me, equally important to understand that the keys to her rescue are within us all (not just a secret elite). The divine feminine within indeed needs to be brought into harmony with our masculine elements where it can be raised well beyond the beginning stage. When such elevation is ardently and honestly pursued, say the ancient wisdom teachings, the life energies will rise, like sap in spring, up the spinal stalk (uniting masculine and feminine polarities at every level) causing all of the chakras to blossom, eventually culminating in the unfolding of the thousand-petaled lotus in the crown and a new birth in the new earth of infinity.

That, I suspect, is true enlightenment and the goal of evolution. There's a lot more to uniting and raising the father and mother energies within us than fertility rites. Like the seven blind men and the elephant, though—where each attempts to use his own inadequate experience to describe something virtually indescribable—we usually interpret according to our lights, and if we've lost sight of our own immortality, procreation may look like the best thing we have.

Publisher

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