

CONTENTS

FROM THE AUTHOR

xv

1 WHAT IS TANTRA?

1

Some Definitions of Tantra 2

Tantra Is Systematic and Scientific 4

In Tantra, Each Activity Can Be an Aid to Liberation 5

Sex as a Sacrament 5

Tantra: The "Mother" of Spiritual Belief 6

Why Tantra? 7

Tantra: The Science and Art of Realization 8

Different Manifestations of Tantra 10

TANTRA: A MYSTICAL YOGA THAT MAKES US MORE COMPLETE 10

TANTRA AND TIBETAN BUDDHISM 10

HINDU TANTRA AND THE WEST 12

NEO-TANTRIC CULTS 13

TANTRA IN THE NEW AGE 17

TANTRA IN THE DECADENT ERA 17

TANTRA AT THE PRESENT TIME 19

TANTRA: THE OLDEST AND MOST NATURAL RELIGION 19

2 THE ORIGINS OF TANTRA

21

<i>The Evolutionary Journey</i>	21
<i>In the Beginning</i>	22
<i>Female Figurines and Sexual Depictions</i>	23
<i>Sexual Symbols and Magical Language</i>	25
<i>Witches in the Batcave: A Neolithic Coven</i>	26
<i>Magical Farming Communities</i>	27
<i>Hearth Triangles and a Vulva Stone</i>	28
<i>An Archaic Matriarchal Tantric Community</i>	29
<i>Magical Communities in the Neolithic Period</i>	32
<i>Three Civilizations, One Common Spiritual Belief</i>	33
EGYPT	34
Interwoven Realms and Sacred Sexual Beings	34
Sacred Bulls and Transcendental Gods	35
MESOPOTAMIA	38
Fertility Goddesses and Virility Gods	38
Sumeria and the Origins of Tantra	38
Vulva-Shaped Temples and a Cult of Cattle	39
Mesopotamian Deities and Religious Rites	40
The Queen of Heaven: A Holy Harlot?	40
THE INDUS VALLEY AND BEYOND	47
Tantra in Ancient India	47
The Ancient Indus Valley or Harappan Culture	48
The Mystery of the Seals and Indian Tantra	49
Other Seals of Shiva	51
Virility Rites and the Seal of the Seven Maidens	54
The Mohenjodaro Dancing Girls	56
An Archaic Tantric Matriarchal Figure	57
Other Matriarchs in Tribal India	59
The Temple of the Sacred Vulva	61
<i>The Changing Face of Tantra in Early Europe</i>	66
PAGANISM AND ITS RELATION TO TANTRA	66
EXPLORATIONS INTO THE NATURAL SPIRITUALITY OF SEX	67
ALEXANDER THE GREAT'S ENCOUNTER WITH A TANTRIC YOGI	69
THE MYSTERIES OF ELEUSIS AND LSD	70
ZARATHUSHTRA, THE MAGI, AND THE CULT OF MITHRA	71
ARYAN INTERACTION	73

3 THE NATURE OF TANTRA 75

- The Difference Between Hindu and Buddhist Tantras* 76
The Fivefold Structure of the Tantric Universe 78
The Five Primary Races 79
Five Principal Chakras 81
Tantra, Mantra, Yantra, and the Activation of the Chakras 86
The Five Conflicting Emotions, Faculties, and Sentiments 92
Traditional Fivefold Tantra 93
The Five Families of Buddhas and Their Consorts 93
The Five Faces of Shiva 98
Shiva: The Power of the Penis 108
Lingam and Yoni: Shiva and Shakti 108
The Goddess Kali 109
The Dark Goddess and Tantric Magic 110
Forms and Meanings of Kali 114
Kundalini, the Goddess Power 124
Graveyard Goddesses and the Dakini Tradition 128
Trinities of Gods and Goddesses 133

4 TANTRA AND JUDEO-CHRISTIAN TRADITION 135

- Tantra: The Interface Between Sexuality and Spirituality* 135
Women's Rights and Tantra 137
Sex and the Church 139
Gnosticism, Free Love, and the Bridal Chamber Mystery 141
Simon Magus and Helena the Prostitute 143
The "Daughters of Satan" and "Original Sin" 144
Lilith, Adam, and Eve 145
Bishop Methodius and Spiritual Marriage 147
Carpocrates, Epiphanes, and the Sacrament of Lust 148
Manichaeism, the New Religion 149
Nicolaitians and Phibionites 149

The Adamites: Tantric Nudists? 151
The Paulicians and Bogomiles 152
Brethren of the Free Spirit, Khylisti, and the “Mad Monk” 153
Spiritual Love, Dianism, and Tantra 154
Sacred Sex in European Secret Societies 155
Traces of Tantra in Medieval Jewish Mysticism 156
The Letter of Holiness: A Jewish Kama Sutra 156
The Book of Splendor and Sex on the Sabbath 157
The Hasidic View of Sex 157
European Alchemy and Tantra 158
Sir Isaac Newton: Scientist and Mystic in the Tantric Tradition 161
Alchemy and Bisexuality 163
The View of Sacred Sex in the West 166

5 TANTRA IN THE WEST

167

Tantric Communities 167
 THE TRANSCENDENTALISTS AND OTHER SPIRITUAL RADICALS 167
 RADICAL CHRISTIANS AND THEIR SEARCH FOR GUIDANCE 169
 THE CATHARS AND SPIRITUAL SEX 170
 QUAKERS, SHAKERS, MORMONS, AND CHARISMATIC PREACHERS 171
 REVIVALISTS, PERFECTIONISTS, UTOPIANS, AND FREE LOVERS 174
 THE SOCIETY OF PERFECTIONISTS: THE ONEIDA COMMUNITY 177
Tantric Pioneers 180
 MARCO POLO’S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN YOGIS AND TANTRICS 181
 AN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY SEXUAL “HOW-TO” 182
 SIR RICHARD FRANCIS BURTON AND THE KAMA SUTRA 183
 THE OLIPHANTS, “SEXUAL MISSIONARIES” 184
 PASCHAL BEVERLY RANDOLPH AND THE “WOMANHOOD OF GOD” 184
 THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY AND A TANTRIC PUBLICATION 186
 THE GOLDEN DAWN AND NATURE’S FINER FORCES 186
 SUPERSTAR SWAMI VIVEKANANDA 187
 THE TANTRIK ORDER IN AMERICA 189
 DR. BERNARD, THE FATHER OF TANTRA IN AMERICA 191
 ALEISTER CROWLEY, NEO-TANTRIC 212
 GEORGE GURDJIEFF, ARCH-TANTRIC 215

<i>The Science of Sexology</i>	216
PIONEERS IN THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SEX	218
HAVELOCK ELLIS'S VIEW OF THE SPIRITUAL FUNCTION OF SEX	218
SIGMUND FREUD AND HIS RENEGADE DISCIPLES	219
THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILHELM REICH AND CARL JUNG	221
BRONISLAW MALINOWSKI, MARGARET MEAD, AND SEX IN TRIBAL CULTURES	224
<i>Tantra in American Culture</i>	226
TANTRA IN AMERICA IN THE LATE 1950S	226
DRUGS AND THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION	226
TANTRA IN THE PSYCHEDELIC SIXTIES: A YOGA OF SEX	228
TANTRA AS A SPIRITUAL ART FORM AND SCIENTIFIC METHOD	228
TANTRA: THE PHILOSOPHY OF SEX AND CULT OF ECSTASY	230
ALEX COMFORT AND THE JOY OF SEX	232
TIBETAN TANTRIC TEACHERS IN THE WEST	233
AN OVERVIEW OF THE NEO-TANTRIC PHENOMENON IN THE WEST	234

6 TECHNIQUES FOR MASTERING TANTRIC SEX

237

<i>Sexual Potency</i>	238
<i>Marriages and Sexual Contracts</i>	240
<i>Self-Liberation and the Yoga of Sex</i>	242
<i>The Kama Sutra and Tantra</i>	243
<i>Five Principal and Five Evolved Sexual Positions</i>	245
<i>Alice Bunker Stockham and the Karezza Technique</i>	252
<i>Sacraments and Siddhis</i>	253
<i>The Worship of Woman</i>	254
<i>Spiritual Sex in the Moon-Elixir Tantra</i>	256
<i>To Come or Not to Come: The Supreme Sacrifice</i>	258
<i>Oral Pleasure: A Path to Enlightenment</i>	261
<i>The Five Tantric Nectars: The Sacraments of Sex</i>	263
<i>The Baul Rites and Sex at Menstruation</i>	270
<i>The Meaning of Sacrifice in Tantric Tradition</i>	272

7 THE MAGIC OF SPIRITUAL SEX 276

- The Magical Myriam Cult and Its Tantric Secret* 276
- Supernatural Acts and Magical Powers* 279
- Tantric Sex Rites in the Emperor's Palace* 280
- An Early European Account of Tantric Sexual Rites* 280
- Virgin Worship and Goddess Worship* 282
- An English Churchman's Account of Tantric Sex* 284
- Fivefold Sexual Rites* 285
- The Cult of the Sexual Circle* 288
- "Right-" and "Left-Handed" Tantric Rites* 289
- The Witches' Sabbath, Dakinis, and Sky-Flyers* 291
- Magical Methods in the Tantric Tradition* 300
- The Tantric Great Rite of the Five Essentials* 305
- Tribal Gatherings and the Magical Atmosphere* 310

8 TANTRA IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY 312

- The Human Biocomputer and the Science of Tantra* 314
- True Genius in the Tantric Tradition* 315
- New Versions of Old Discoveries Will Shape Our Future* 316
- Brain Plasticity* 323
- The New Buddhism, Meditation and tantric Teachings* 326
- Diety Yoga* 327
- Tantra as a Sensual and Spiritual "Software" System* 330
- Tantra Will Help Human Rights Flourish* 333
- Tantra: The Engine of Political Change* 335
- Tantric Health Care and Medicine* 339
- Tantra, Sex, and the Information Network* 341
- Sexual Psychology and Tantra* 323
- Temples of Tantra in the Twenty-First Century* 347
- Tantric Initiation in Cyberspace* 356

<i>The New Tantric Sexual Paradigm</i>	358
<i>The Future of Sex, Love, and Marriage</i>	362
<i>Tantra and the New Spiritual Reality</i>	365
<i>The Future of Tantra Is Like Woman's Best Orgasm</i>	367

9 THE UPDATE, DATABASE AND SPIRITUAL SOFTWARE

370

<i>Today, Where is All this Leading Us?</i>	373
<i>The Brain/Computer Analogy</i>	377
<i>John Lilly and Metaprogramming</i>	378
<i>Timothy Leary and Proposed "Eight Circuits"</i>	382
<i>Metaprogramming our Spiritual Software System</i>	385
<i>Spiritual Software: Human Operating Systems and the Mystic Evolutionary Journey</i>	387

CHRONOLOGY: People and Events Pertinent to Tantra, in a Historical Context	394
I GIVE THANKS!	409
BIBLIOGRAPHY	411
ILLUSTRATIONS	445