

## GLOSSARY

1.I **Arachne** - In Greek mythology (and later Roman mythology), Arachne was a talented mortal weaver who challenged Athena, goddess of wisdom and crafts, to a weaving contest; this hubris resulted in her being transformed into a spider

1.I **Tourbillion** - A whirlwind; a vortex, as of a whirlwind or whirlpool.

1.I **Abomination** - that which is exceptionally loathsome, hateful, sinful, wicked, or vile.

1.III **The Pilgrim Way** - the historical route taken by pilgrims from Winchester in Hampshire, England, to the shrine of Thomas Becket at Canterbury in Kent. This name, of comparatively recent coinage, is applied to a pre-existing ancient trackway dated by archaeological finds to 600–450 BC, but probably in existence since the stone age.

1.III **The Abyss** - An immeasurably deep chasm, depth, or void. The primeval chaos out of which it was believed that the earth and sky were formed. The abode of evil spirits; hell.

2.I **the Four Faculties** - the individual characteristics of a soul; here related to the four powers - air, water, earth and fire

2.I **Putti** - plural of putto, a figure in a work of art depicted as a chubby male child, usually naked and sometimes winged. A putto is often called a cherub (plural cherubs) although unlike the Biblical cherub (plural cherubim) in form and symbolism: putti represent a non-religious passion. In the Baroque period of art, a putto came to represent the omnipresence of God.

4.I **Soma** - a female name in Hindi, meaning Moon. It's derived from Soma the Moon God in Indo-Aryan mythology, where Soma is both a God and the plant (or mushroom according to some scientists) of which an intoxicating elixir is made.

"... in the Puranas regarding the War in Heaven. When Soma (moon) elopes with Tara, wife of Brihaspati (Jupiter), it causes a War in Heaven—a war between gods and demons. Usanas (Venus) or Shukracharya (leader of the danavas) is on the side of Soma, Brihaspati or Jupiter is the symbol of exoteric or dead-letter form of worship, or ritualistic worship. Soma is the mystery god and presides over the mystic and spiritual nature in man and universe. He is concerned with rebirth of man as a spiritual being."

4.I **The Star of the Nativity** - appears only in the nativity story of the Gospel of Matthew, where "wise men from the East" (Magi or astrologers) are inspired by the star to travel to Jerusalem. There they meet King Herod of Judea, and ask where the king of the Jews had been born. Herod, following a verse from the Book of Micah interpreted as a prophecy, directs them to Bethlehem, to the south of Jerusalem.

4.I **Suphrosyne** - an ancient Greek concept of an ideal of excellence of character and soundness of mind, which when combined in one well-balanced individual leads to other qualities, such as temperance, moderation, prudence, purity, and self-control.

4.I **Ascesis** – self discipline

4.I **Tribulation** - the great tribulation is a period mentioned by Jesus in the Olivet discourse as a sign that would occur in the time of the end.

**4.III Transcendentals** - the properties of being and are connected with three main human abilities; to think, wish and feel. They correspond to three aspects of the human field of interest and are their ideals; science (truth), the arts (beauty) and religion (goodness). Philosophical disciplines that study them are logic, aesthetics and ethics. In mathematics, a transcendental number is a real or complex number that is not algebraic—that is, it is not a root of a nonzero polynomial equation with integer (or, equivalently, rational) coefficients. The best-known transcendental numbers are  $\pi$  and  $e$ .

**7.I Simeon** - (Simeon the God-receiver) at the Temple is the "just and devout" man of Jerusalem who, according to Luke 2:25–35, met Mary, Joseph, and Jesus as they entered the Temple to fulfill the requirements of the Law of Moses on the 40th day from Jesus' birth at the presentation of Jesus at the Temple.

**7.I Roland** - was a Frankish military leader under Charlemagne who became one of the principal figures in the literary cycle known as the Matter of France. The historical Roland was military governor of the Breton March, responsible for defending Francia's frontier against the Bretons. His only historical attestation is in Einhard's *Vita Karoli Magni*, which notes he was part of the Frankish rearguard killed by rebellious Basques in Iberia at the Battle of Roncevaux Pass. The story of Roland's death at Roncevaux Pass was embellished in later medieval and Renaissance literature. He became the chief paladin of the emperor Charlemagne and a central figure in the legendary material surrounding him ...

**7.I Brunnhilde** - is a shieldmaiden and a valkyrie in Germanic mythology, where she appears as a main character in the *Völsunga* saga and some Eddic poems treating the same events. Under the name Brünnhild she appears in the *Nibelungenlied* and therefore also in Richard Wagner's opera cycle *Der Ring des Nibelungen*. She may be inspired by the Visigothic princess Brunhilda of Austrasia. The history of Brynhildr includes fratricide, a long battle between brothers, and dealings with the Huns.

**8.I Priapus** - In Greek mythology, Priapus was a minor rustic fertility god, protector of livestock, fruit plants, gardens and male genitalia. Priapus is marked by his oversized, permanent erection, which gave rise to the medical term priapism.

**8.I Eros** - is one of the four ancient Greco-Christian terms which can be rendered into English as "love". The other three are storge, philia, and agape. Eros refers to "passionate love" or romantic love; storge to familial love; philia to friendship as a kind of love; and agape refers to "selfless love", or "charity" as it is translated in the Christian scriptures (from the Latin *caritas*, dearness). The term erotic is derived from *eros*. *Eros* has also been used in philosophy and psychology in a much wider sense, almost as an equivalent to "life energy".