

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910458618203321
Autore	Asprem Egil
Titolo	The problem of disenchantment : scientific naturalism and esoteric discourse, 1900-1939 // Egil Asprem
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden, Netherlands : , : Brill, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	90-04-25494-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (643 p.)
Collana	Numen Book Series, , 0169-8834 ; ; Volume 147
Disciplina	001.9
Soggetti	Religion Science Occultism Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- Introduction: The Limits of Reason -- 1 From Process to Problem -- 2 Science as Worldview -- 3 Brave New World: An Introduction to Part Two -- 4 Physical Science in a Modern Mode -- 5 The Meaning of Life: Mechanism and Purpose in the Sciences of Life and Mind -- 6 Five Schools of Natural Theology: Reconciling Science and Religion -- 7 Against Agnosticism: Psychical Research and the Naturalisation of the Supernatural -- 8 Laboratories of Enchantment: Parapsychology in Search of a Paradigm -- 9 Professionals Out of the Ordinary: How Parapsychology Became a University Discipline -- 10 Esoteric Epistemologies -- 11 The Problems of a Gnostic Science: The Case of Theosophy's Occult Chemistry -- 12 Perceiving Higher Worlds: Two Perspectives -- Conclusion: Implications for the Study of Science, Religion, and Esotericism -- Bibliography -- Index of Names -- Index of Subjects.
Sommario/riassunto	The Problem of Disenchantment offers a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach to the intellectual history of science, religion, and "the occult" in the early 20th century. By developing a new approach to Max Weber's famous idea of a "disenchantment of the world", and drawing on an impressively diverse set of sources, Egil

Asprem opens up a broad field of inquiry that connects the histories of science, religion, philosophy, and Western esotericism. Parapsychology, occultism, and the modern natural sciences are usually viewed as distinct cultural phenomena with highly variable intellectual credentials. In spite of this view, Asprem demonstrates that all three have met with similar intellectual problems related to the intelligibility of nature, the relation of facts to values, and the dynamic of immanence and transcendence, and solved them in comparable terms.
