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Politics and Political Esotericism: The Adaptation of Esoteric Discourse within the Radical Right
13 New Age Spirituality and Islamic Jihad: Paulo Coelho's Manual of the Warrior of Light and Shamil Basayev's Manual of the Mujahid
14 Deep Ecology and the Study of Western Esotericism; Part IV: Leaving the Margins;
15 The Secular, the Post-Secular and the Esoteric in the Public Sphere;
16 Psychic Enchantments of the Educated Classes: The Paranormal and the Ambiguities of Disenchantment;
17 The New Kids: Indigo Children and New Age Discourse;
18 A Small-Town Health Centre in Sweden: Perspectives on the Western Esotericism Debate;
19 Entheogenic Esotericism
20 A Deliciously Troubling Duo: Gender and Esotericism
Bibliography, Discography and Filmography; Index

Sommario/riassunto

The study of contemporary esoteric discourse has hitherto been a largely neglected part of the new academic field of Western esotericism. Contemporary Esotericism provides a broad overview and assessment of the complex world of Western esoteric thought today. Combining historiographical analysis with theories and methodologies from the social sciences, the volume explores new problems and offers new possibilities for the study of esoterica. Contemporary Esotericism studies the period since the 1950s but focuses on the last two decades. The wide range of essays are divided into four thematic sections: the intricacies of esoteric appeals to tradition; the role of popular culture, modern communication technologies, and new media in contemporary esotericism; the impact and influence of esotericism on both religious and secular arenas; and the recent 'de-marginalization' of the esoteric in both scholarship and society.
