

A SURVEY OF THE MYSTICAL

The Experience	Supposed Source or Content	The Deliberate Practice
<p>The primitive root of the whole: Automatic experiences interpreted as possession</p> <p>Spiritism, ancient and modern: Spirits seen, heard, "felt," etc.; spiritism proper shading into clairvoyance, premonitions etc.</p> <p>Inspirations: The experience of the seer; sense of guidance or of illumination; assurance or witness of the Spirit; sense of divine communion; "sense of presence"; "aesthetic revelation"; "cosmic consciousness"</p> <p>Form: Partial abeyance of self-control in mental functions; occasional loss of muscular control</p> <p>Content: somewhat specific ideas which seem to be self-evidently true</p> <p>The supreme mystical state: Ecstasy Supposed form: complete absorption or loss of personality</p> <p>Supposed content: either zero or infinity</p>	<p>Spirits</p> <p>God or gods generally conceived as transcendent</p> <p>God - tendency toward pantheistic conception</p>	<p>Attempts to control spirits or to communicate with them Shamanism Mediumship of various kinds</p> <p>Attempts to realize the god on special occasions or for special ends: Oracles Some forms of revivalism Holiness movements and allied practices Divine Healing Transsubstantiation</p> <p>Method: surrender or quiescence of will, suggestion (largely social)</p> <p>Attempts to realize God as the All: Yoga practices The Christian <u>via negativa</u> Christian Science and New Thought</p> <p>Method: narrowing of attention and autosuggestion</p>