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TG **W**. The 23rd letter. Has no equivalent in Hebrew. In Western Occultism some take it as the symbol for celestial water, whereas M stands for terrestrial water.

VS **Walker of the Sky** (I 25, p. 9) *Khechara* or “sky-walker” or “goer.” As explained in the 6th. *Adhyaya* of that king of mystic works the *Jnanesvari* the body of the Yogi becomes as one *formed of the wind*; as “a cloud from which limbs have sprouted out,” after which “he (the Yogi) beholds the things beyond the seas and stars; he hears the language of the Devas and comprehends it, and perceives what is passing in the mind of the ant.”

TG **Wara** (*Scandinavian*) One of the maidens of Northern Freya; “the wise Wara,” who watches the desires of each human heart, and avenges every breach of faith.

TG **Water** The first principle of things, according to Thales and other ancient philosophers. Of course this is not water on the material plane, but in a figurative sense for the potential fluid contained in boundless space. This was symbolised in ancient Egypt by *Kneph*, the “unrevealed” god, who was represented as the serpent – the emblem of eternity – encircling a *water-urn*, with his head hovering over the waters, which he incubates with his breath. “And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.” (*Genesis* i.) The honey-dew, the food of the gods and of the *creative bees* on the Yggdrasil, falls during the night upon the tree of life from the “divine waters, the birth-place of the gods.” Alchemists claim that when pre-Adamic earth is reduced by the Alkahest to its first substance, it is *like clear water*. The Alkahest is “the one and the *invisible*, the water, the first principle, in the *second* transformation.”

TG **Werdandi** (*Scandinavian*) See *Norns*, the three sister-goddesses who represent the Past, the Present and the Future. Werdandi represents the ever-present time.

WGa **Wheel of Samsara** Being reborn on earth over and over again; reincarnation; called a wheel because we whirl about from one life to another so long as we are overcome by desire.

TG **Whip of Osiris** The scourge which symbolises Osiris as the “judge of the dead.” It is called the *nekhekh*, in the papyri, or the flagellum. Dr. Pritchard sees in it a fan or *van*, the winnowing instrument. Osiris, “whose fan is in his hand and who purges the Amenti of sinful hearts as a winnower sweeps his floor of the fallen grains and locks the good wheat into his garner.” (Compare *Matthew*, iii. 12.)

TG **White Fire** (*Kabalistic*) The *Zohar* treating of the “Long Face” and “Short Face,” the symbols of *Macrocosm* and *Microcosm*, speaks of the hidden White Fire, radiating from these night and day and yet never seen. It answers to vital force (beyond luminiferous ether), and electricity on the higher and lower planes. But the mystic “White Fire” is a name given to Ain-Soph. And this is the difference between the Aryan and the Semitic philosophies. The Occultists of the former speak of the Black Fire, which is the symbol of the unknown and unthinkable Brahman, and declare any speculation on the “Black Fire” impossible. But the Kabbalists who, owing to a subtle permutation of meaning, endow even Ain-Soph with a kind of indirect will and attributes, call its “fire” *white*, thus dragging the Absolute into the world of relation and finiteness.

TG **White Head** In Hebrew *Resha Hivra*, an epithet given to Sephira, the highest of the Sephiroth, whose cranium “distils the dew which will call the dead again to life.”

OG **White Magicians** See *Brothers of the Shadow*

WS **White Magician** Advanced human being, follower of the righthand path, who works impersonally for the benefit of all.

TG **White Stone** The sign of initiation mentioned in St. John’s *Revelation*. It had the word *prize* engraved on it, and was the symbol of that word given to the neophyte who, in his initiation, had successfully passed through all the trials in the MYSTERIES. It was the potent white cornelian of the mediaeval Rosicrucians, who took it from the Gnostics. “To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the *hidden* manna (the occult knowledge which descends as *divine* wisdom from heaven), and will give him a *white stone*, and in the stone a new name written (the ‘mystery name’ of the *inner* man or the EGO of the new Initiate), which no man knoweth saving him that receiveth it.” (*Revelation*, ii. 17.)

TG **Widow’s Son** A name given to the French Masons, because the Masonic ceremonies are principally based on the adventures and death of Hiram Abif, “the widow’s son,” who is supposed to have helped to build the mythical Solomon’s Temple.

TG **Will** In metaphysics and occult philosophy, Will is that which governs the manifested universes in eternity. *Will* is the one and sole principle of abstract eternal MOTION, or its ensouling essence. “The will,” says Van Helmont, “is the first of all powers.... The will is the property of all spiritual beings and displays itself in them the more actively the more they are freed from matter.” And Paracelsus teaches that “determined will is the beginning of all magical operations. It is because men do not perfectly imagine and believe the result, that the (occult) arts are so uncertain, while they might be perfectly certain.” Like all the rest, the Will is *septenary* in its degrees of manifestation.

Emanating from the one, eternal, abstract and purely quiescent Will (Atma in Layam), it becomes Buddhi in its Alaya state, descends lower as Mahat (Manas), and runs down the ladder of degrees until the divine Eros becomes, in its lower, animal manifestation, *erotic* desire. Will as an eternal principle is neither spirit nor substance but everlasting ideation. As well expressed by Schopenhauer in his *Parerga*, “in sober reality there is neither *matter* nor *spirit*. The tendency to gravitation in a stone is as unexplainable as thought in the human brain... If matter can – no one knows why – fall to the ground, then it can also – no one knows why – think.... As soon, even in mechanics, as we trespass beyond the purely mathematical, as soon as we reach the inscrutable adhesion, gravitation, and so on, we are faced by phenomena which are to our senses as mysterious as the WILL.”

TG Wisdom The “very essence of wisdom is contained in the Non-Being,” say the Kabbalists; but they also apply the term to the WORD or Logos, the Demiurge, by which the universe was called into existence. “The one Wisdom is in the Sound,” say the Occultists; the Logos again being meant by Sound, which is the substratum of Akasa. Says the *Zohar*, the “Book of Splendour:” “It is the Principle of all the Principles, the mysterious Wisdom, the crown of all that which there is of the most High” (*Zohar*, iii., fol. 288, Myer’s *Qabbalah*.) And it is explained, “Above Kether is the Ayin, or Ens, i.e., Ain, the NOTHING.” “It is so named because we do not know, and it is impossible to know, *that which there is in that Principle*, because...*it is above Wisdom itself*.” (iii., fol. 288.) This shows that the real Kabbalists agree with the Occultists that the essence, or that which *is* in the principle of Wisdom, is still above that highest Wisdom.

TG Wisdom Religion The one religion which underlies all the now-existing creeds. That “faith” which, being primordial, and revealed directly to human kind by their *progenitors* and informing EGOS (though the Church regards them as the “fallen angels”), required no “grace,” nor *blind* faith to believe, for it was *knowledge*. (See *Gupta Vidya*, Hidden Knowledge.) It is on this Wisdom Religion that *Theosophy is based*.

KT Wisdom-Religion The same as Theosophy. The name given to the secret doctrine which underlies every exoteric scripture and religion.

WGa Wisdom-Religion The one religion which underlies all creeds, and which is to be found hidden under the text of all holy books in all nations.

TG Witch From the Anglo-Saxon word *wicce*, German *wissen*, “to know,” and *wikken*, “to divine.” The witches were at first called “wise women,” until the day when the Church took it unto herself to follow the law of Moses, which put every “witch” or enchantress to death.

TG Witchcraft Sorcery, enchantment, the art of throwing spells and using black magic.

TG Witches’ Sabbath The supposed festival and gathering of witches in some lonely spot, where the witches were accused of conferring directly with the Devil. Every race and people believed in it, and some believe in it still. Thus the chief headquarters and place of meeting of all the witches in Russia is said to be the Bald Mountain (*Lyssaya Gora*), near Kief, and in Germany the Brocken, in the Harz Mountains. In old Boston, U.S.A., they met near the “Devil’s Pond,” in a large forest which has now disappeared. At Salem, they were put to death almost at the will of the Church Elders, and in South Carolina a witch was burnt as late as 1865. In Germany and England they were murdered by Church and State in thousands, being forced to lie and confess under torture their participation in the “Witches’ Sabbath.”

TG Wittoba (*Sanskrit*) A form of Vishnu. Moor gives in his *Hindu Pantheon* the picture of Wittoba *crucified in Space*: and the Rev. Dr. Lundy maintains (*Monumental Christianity*) that this engraving is *anterior to Christianity* and is the crucified Krishna, a Saviour, hence a concrete prophecy of Christ. (See *Isis Unveiled*, II., 557, 558.)

TG Wizard A wise man. An enchanter, or sorcerer.

TG Wodan (*Saxon*) The Scandinavian Odin, Votan, or Wuotan.

VS A harsh word uttered in past lives, is not destroyed but ever comes again. (p. 34) Precepts of the Prasanga School.

TG World As a prefix to mountains, trees, and so on, it denotes a universal belief. Thus the “World-Mountain” of the Hindus was Meru. As said in *Isis Unveiled*: “All the world-mountains and mundane eggs, the mundane trees, and the mundane snakes and pillars, may be shown to embody scientifically demonstrated truths of natural philosophy. All of these mountains contain, with very trifling variations, the allegorically-expressed description of primal cosmogony; the mundane trees, that of subsequent evolution of spirit and matter; the mundane snakes and pillars, symbolical memorials of the various attributes of this double evolution in its endless correlation of cosmic forces. Within the mysterious recesses of the mountain – the matrix of the universe – the gods (powers) prepare the atomic germs of organic life, and at the same time the life-drink, which, when tasted, awakens in man-matter the man-*spirit*. The Soma, the sacrificial drink of the Hindus, is that sacred beverage. For, at the creation of the *prima materia*, while the grossest portions of it were used for the physical embryo-world, its more divine essence pervaded the universe, invisibly permeating and enclosing within its ethereal waves the newly-born infant, developing and stimulating it to activity as it slowly evolved out of the eternal chaos. From the poetry of abstract conception, these

mundane myths gradually passed into the concrete images of cosmic symbols, as archaeology now finds them.” Another and still more usual prefix to all these objects is “Mundane.” See *Mundane Egg, Mundane Tree, Yggdrasil* WW **World** (pp. 75-77) ...in proceeding to consider...these four words: World, Kosmos, Universe, Space, we must be careful that we are not led astray by false analogical reasoning....

Now *World* comes from two Anglo-Saxon words: *wer*, man and *yldo*, age, generation. *World*, therefore, would mean a generation of man; not a globe, not a sphere. But, as you will remember, in our first study we pointed out that in philosophy there is a close relationship between time, which is the mayavic extension or flower of duration, and matter, which is the flower or extension of substance. Hence, as the extension of time was conceived in a physical sense as something huge, spatial, so the name was applied – that is the name *world* was applied – to the extension of matter, substance, and hence came to mean, by a natural progress of thought, the physical globe, as for instance, our planet, Terra, the planet Mars, or any other sphere. So it is proper to apply the term *world*, according to present usage, to a globe, a physical sphere, a planet. But we should remember that the signification of the word itself was originally an epoch of time, and therefore the term *world* is not applicable to the close reasoning which we shall be obliged to follow in the future, as the word *sphere*, or any other equivalent term that you may care to employ. Still, the word *world* is perfectly proper at the present time in popular parlance; and the definitions, as I think will be obvious to all of us, which we are now considering, are for the purpose of having terms among ourselves, when we are studying together, which by their accuracy and point, form a kind of mental shorthand, mental stenography, a mental cipher. It is the same as in mathematics in solving intricate equations, it would be a most tedious and endless process to explain the derivation of every mathematical formula if we had to stop at each word and obtain an exact definition of what it meant. For instance, take: $\cos a = \cos b + \cos c + \sin b + \sin c + \cos a$. This is perfectly clear. But suppose that we had to stop and explain what cosine meant, and what a spherical triangle was, and what the cosine of – and the sin of – meant, you will realize that we would have to cover several blackboards in explaining what is clearly set forth in that formula to anyone who has studied spherical trigonometry. In that same way, by pursuing our studies along exact lines, by laying down definitions, when the words defined come up, he who hears understands immediately that a certain definite thing is meant: there is no vagueness.

TG Worlds, the Four The Kabbalists recognise Four Worlds of Existence: viz., Atziluth or archetypal; Briah or creative, the first reflection of the highest; Yetzirah or formative; and Assiah, the World of Shells or Klippoth, and the material universe. The essence of Deity concentrating into the Sephiroth is first manifested in the Atziluthic World, and their reflections are produced in succession in each of the four planes, with gradually lessening radiance and purity, until the material universe is arrived at. Some authors call these four planes the Intellectual, Moral, Sensuous, and Material Worlds.

TG Worlds, Inferior and Superior The Occultists and the Kabbalists agree in dividing the universe into superior and inferior worlds, the worlds of *Idea* and the worlds of *Matter*. “As above, so below,” states the Hermetic philosophy. This lower world is formed on its prototype – the higher world; and “everything in the lower is but an image (a reflection) of the higher” (*Zohar*, ii., fol. 20a.)

VS World’s Mother (I 24, p. 9) The “Power” and the “World-mother” are names given to *Kundalini* – one of the mystic “Yogi powers.” It is *Buddhi* considered as an active instead of a passive principle (which it is generally, when regarded only as the vehicle, or casket of the Supreme Spirit ATMA). It is an electro-spiritual force, a creative power which when aroused into action can as easily kill as it can create.

VS seven worlds (I 16, p. 5) worlds of Rest Eternal. Some Sanskrit mystics locate seven planes of being, the seven spiritual *lokas* or worlds within the body of *Kala Hamsa*, the Swan out of Time and Space, convertible into the Swan *in Time*, when it becomes Brahm/a instead of Brahma (neuter).

VS three worlds (III 27, p. 66) These three worlds are the three planes of being, the terrestrial, astral and the spiritual.