THE SECOND DEATH

**by**

**Marguerite dar Boggia**

 The second death is when the last spiritual thought or image has been drawn upwards into the reincarnating ego, and there remains nothing more to keep it attached to the kama-rupa, the latter then is dropped as a kama-rupic corpse or shell. Henceforth the kama-rupa begins to disintegrate rapidly in the case of men whose lives have been of spiritual type, less so in the case of the ordinary men, and still less quickly with those who were strongly attracted to things of matter. This is the reason why after the second death the kama-rupa is called an astral shell. Moreover, if the shell is still more or less impregnated with the automatic passional impulses of a grossly materialistic or bad man, it is even an elementary of a sort; but the true elementary is the kama-rupa of a desperately evil man or of a sorcerer who cannot rise into the devachan.

 The kama-rupa is the desire, emotional body. When it is joined to lower mind then it is what we are, the ordinary individual, while the reincarnating ego is our higher spiritual mind.

 For a certain period of brief duration, which depends in every instance upon the individual, kama-rupas retain a wavering shadowy kind of quasi-animal consciousness because of the fact that they imbody manasic (mental) life-atoms of low type whose thought impulses and emotional activity have not yet run down, . As these low-grade manasic (mental) life-atoms leave the kama-rupa, it disintegrates and thereafter is as the shell of an egg from which the contents have been removed. Such kama-rupic shells are no longer even elementaries of a feeble type, but are completely emptied of consciousness and gradually dissipate as does a cloud. Some kama-rupas disintegrate in a few months, those of average humanity may take eight, ten, fifteen, possibly twenty years; while those of extremely materialistic or bad men, but who still had spiritual good in them, may endure for several score of years.

 Now the term elementaries generally signifies two things: (a) the phantoms or spooks i.e., the kama-rupas of all excarnate persons whose habitation is the kama-loka or kama-world; and (b) what Helena Petrovna Blavatsky calls the "disembodied souls of the depraved," that is, the depraved souls of those who after they die have a long and difficult time in the kama loka before their upper triad or collective monad can free itself for its devachanic rest.

 An especial application of the word elementaries is made again in the case of lost souls on the one hand, and inveterate sorcerers on the other, neither of which have any second death and consequently no devachan.

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