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ROSE AND ALEISTER CROWLEY'S STAY IN EGYPT IN 1904
A STUDY OF THE CAIRO WORKING
AND WHAT IT LED TO

BY
PERDURABO ST



FRATER PERDURABO, to whom this revelation was made with so many signs and wonders, was himself unconvinced. He struggled against it for years. Not until the completion of His own initiation at the end of 1909 did He understand how perfectly He was bound to carry out this work. (Indeed, it was not until his word became conterminous with Himself and His Universe that all alien ideas lost their meaning for him). Again and again He turned away from it, took it up for a few days or hours, then laid it aside. He even attempted to destroy its value, to nullify the result. Again and again the unsleeping might of the Watchers drove Him back to the work; and it was at the very moment when He thought Himself to have escaped that He found Himself fixed for ever with no possibility of again turning aside for the fraction of a second from the path.

The history of this must one day be told by a more vivid voice. Properly considered, it is a history of continuous miracle.

THE EQUINOX OF THE GODS, 1936 E.V.

Concerning the commissioned replica of the ‘stélé of revealing’, we know from EG that W. & Fra. P. had dined with É. Brugsch Bey of what Fra. P. called the Boulak Museum: “to discuss the Stélé in his charge, and to arrange for its “abstraction.””⁷⁷⁰ This is written in a way – by using the term “abstraction” – that gives the impression that this meeting took place after the writing of *Liber L vel Legis* was finished.⁷⁷¹ Crowley wrote in his commentary to *Liber Legis* published in TSK1912:

“Abstraction.” It was thought that this meant to combine abstraction and construction, i.e. the preparation of a replica, which was done.

Of course the original is in “locked glass.”⁷⁷²

Fra. P. could also if he had wanted have commissioned some photographs of the stele. Émile Brugsch Bey was a skilful photographer who made the plates of the museum’s series of the *Catalogue Général* and also had caused a number of objects to be photographed and sold at the museum.⁷⁷³ It seems likely that the idea of a replica originally was put forward by Émile Brugsch Bey, however, perhaps Fra. P., although not mentioning it later, first had tried to buy the stele instead of obtaining a replica of it. Duplicates of antiquities were in fact sold at the museum at that time, but the “Stèle 666” was not a duplicate, but a rare, unique, item!⁷⁷⁴ In *Confessions* Crowley later writes concerning their return to Boleskine and the preparation of a certain magical operation in which the replica – being the image of the God – was used:

When Rose and I first arrived at Boleskine, we had made a sort of sporadic effort to carry out some of the injunctions of Aiwass. We had arranged before leaving Egypt for the ‘abstraction’ of the Stele of Revealing. I did not understand the word or the context, and contented myself with having a replica made by

⁷⁷⁰ EG, p. 114. • In *Confessions* we also find Crowley saying: “March 23rd to April 7th. I made inquiries about the Stèle, and had the inscriptions translated into French by the assistant curator at Būlāq.” ♦ See: Magick.I-IV., p. 695. (Appendix IX. On the Reception of the Book of the Law, pp. 693-708.)

⁷⁷¹ Since the lines as found in the third chapter of *Liber L vel Legis* written on April 10th say: “Get the stélé of revealing itself; set it in thy secret temple – and that temple is already aright disposed – & it shall be your Kiblah for ever. It shall not fade, but miraculous colour shall come back to it day after day. Close it in locked glass for a proof to the world. This shall be your only proof. I forbid argument. Conquer! That is enough. I will make easy to you the abstraction from the ill-ordered house in the Victorious City. Thou shalt thyself convey it with worship, o prophet, though thou likest it not. [...]” *Liber L vel Legis*, III, 10-11.

⁷⁷² TSK1912, p. 399. (*LIBER LEGIS; THE COMMENT*, III, 11.)

⁷⁷³ For this, see: *Dia’ Abou-Ghazi*. The Eighty Anniversary of the Museum’s Building. Personalities that Developed the Egyptian Museum. ♦ *Annales du Service des Antiquités de l’Égypte*. Le Caire : Organisme Général des Imprimeries Gouvernementales, 1988, Tome LXVII, pp. 20-1. (pp. 1-78, + plates) (*Personalities that developed the Egyptian Museum*, pp. 19-58.) ♦ “E. Brugsch-Bey, the conservator of the Gizeh Museum (p. 78), has caused a number of objects in the museum to be photographed. The photographs may be purchased at the museum and at Diemer’s [Bookseller at Sheppard’s Hotel]” ♦ *Karl Baedeker*. Egypt. Handbook for Travellers. Fifth Remodelled Edition. Leipsic: Karl Baedeker, Publisher, 1902, p. 29. • A collection of 231 of [Émile] Brugsch Bey’s photographs is in the British Library. They were bought by the British Museum in 1888. • See also note⁴⁶³¹ below.

⁷⁷⁴ In: *Baedeker*. Egypt and the Sudan. Handbook for Travellers. Leipzig: Karl Baedeker, 1908, p. 76, we find the following: “(The Egyptian Museum) Students of special subjects should apply to the director or to one of the conservators. – There is no restriction on Copying, Sketching, or Photographing the exhibits, except that permissions of the director is required for setting up an easel or tripod-stand. – In the Sale Room duplicates, etc., of the antiquities may be purchased, at moderate prices fixed by the Museum authorities.” • On trade with antiquities in the Museum, see also note¹¹⁷⁵ below.

one of the artists attached to the museum. We now proceeded to prepare the 'perfume' and the 'cakes' according to the prescription given in chapter III, verse 23-9 [of *Liber L vel Legis*].⁷⁷⁵

Perhaps the replica was in their possession when they left Egypt, perhaps it was sent to them in Scotland. Rose was pregnant and they seem after the writing of *Liber L vel Legis* was completed to have wished for their home in Scotland where Rose gave birth to a daughter on July 28, 1904 E.V.⁷⁷⁶ Crowley named the girl Nuith Ma Ahathoor Hecate Sappho Jezebel Lilith (to be called by the last name). The girl was according to her birth record born at Boleskine House at 11:30 a.m. as daughter of "Aleister St. Edward MacGregor Crowley (Boleskine Khan commonly known as Lord Boleskine Author)" and "Rose Edith Crowley previously Skerrett Kelly".⁷⁷⁷ The naming of the girl recalls at first sight the Cairo Working and Crowley's paraphrasing of the Stélé of Revealing where both Nuit (meaning 'the sky, heaven') and Ahathoor (meaning 'house of Horus') appear – Nuit is depicted on the Stélé of Revealing but her name is not written. However, Crowley had, as discussed above, used "Nuit" in *The Soul of Osiris* in 1901, and here appeared also "Hathoor", which later was spelt as "Hathor" in *Ahab and other Poems* in 1903, and as "Ahathor" in *Oracles: The Biography of an Art* in 1905 E.V. – a book which consisted of unpublished poems dating from 1886-1903.⁷⁷⁸ The spelling "Ahathoor" is used in the paraphrase, however, it is a spelling not found in Egyptological literature, a spelling, which seems to have originated in the Golden Dawn.⁷⁷⁹ Jean-François Champollion called her "ATHOR ou HATHOR (ATHOR, ATHYR, ATAR, APHRODITE, VÉNUS)" in his 1823 *Panthéon égyptien, collection des personnages mythologiques de l'ancienne Égypte* (Egyptian Pantheon, Collection of the Mythological Figures of Ancient Egypt).⁷⁸⁰ "Ahathoor" and "Hathor" appear side by side in *The Equinox* and in the Holy Books. Crowley wrote in *Confessions* about the naming of his daughter:

Nuit [spelled Nuith on her birth certificate] was given in homage to our Lady of the Stars; Ma, goddess of Justice, because the sign of Libra was rising; Ahathoor, goddess of Love and Beauty, because Venus rules Libra; I'm not sure about the name Hecate, but it may have been as a compliment to the infernal gods; a poet could hardly do less than commemorate the only lady who ever wrote poetry, Sappho; Jezebel

⁷⁷⁵ *Confessions*, p. 408. • See note⁸⁰⁹ below.

⁷⁷⁶ On this, see: *Ibid.*, chapter 50. • See also note¹⁹⁵ above.

⁷⁷⁷ Record of her birth – National Records of Scotland. ♦ 1904. BIRTHS in the District of Boleskine in the County of Inverness, No. 20, p. 7.

⁷⁷⁸ For "Nuit" in *The Soul of Osiris. A History*, see note³²⁷ above. • For "Hathoor" in *The Soul of Osiris. A History*, see: Aleister Crowley. *The Soul of Osiris. A History*. London, UK: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner and Company, Ltd., 1901, p. 127. (*The Holy of Holies: A Litany*, pp. 125-9.) ♦ For *The Soul of Osiris*, see note¹⁷⁸⁰ below. • For "Hathor" in *Ahab and other Poems*, see: Aleister Crowley. *The Collected Works of Aleister Crowley*. Foyers, Inverness, Scotland: Society for the Propagation of Religious Truth, Volume II, 1906, p. 128. (*Ahab and other Poems* – "Melusine. To M. M. M.", pp. 127-8.) ♦ For *Ahab and Other Poems*, see note¹⁷²⁰ below. • For "Ahathor" in *Oracles: The Biography of an Art*, see: Aleister Crowley. *The Collected Works of Aleister Crowley*. Foyers, Inverness, Scotland: Society for the Propagation of Religious Truth, Volume II, 1906, p. 31. (*Oracles* – "A Litany", pp. 30-1.) ♦ For *Oracles: The Biography of an Art*, see note¹⁷⁶⁵ below.

⁷⁷⁹ TSK1912 ♦ 5th verse of "A Paraphrase of the Inscriptions Upon the Obverse of the Stélé of Revelling [sic]" printed on the back of "The Stélé of Revealing (Obverse)", facing p. 368.

⁷⁸⁰ Jean-François Champollion. *Panthéon égyptien, collection des personnages mythologiques de l'ancienne Égypte*. Livrais 1-15. A Paris, de l'imprimerie de Firmin Didot, MDCCCXXIII-XXV (1823-25), [sine paginarum numeris], *ATHOR ou HATHOR*.



Aleister Crowley's first wife, Rose Edith Crowley, née Kelly (1874-1932). At the time when Rose met Aleister, she was a widow who had been married to a British Surgeon-Captain from the Army Medical Staff, Frederick Thomas Skerrett, LRCPI, FRCSI (1858-1899). The two had been married in August 1897 at a time when F. T. Skerrett served in Cape of Good Hope, South Africa. He died in 1899.

MARRIAGE.

MACGREGOR-SKERRETT. — On the 12th inst., at Dingwall, Edward Aleister Crowley MacGregor, of Boleskine House, Foyers, Inverness-shire, to Rose Edith, daughter, of the Rev. F. F. Kelly, vicar of Camberwell, and widow of the late Major F. T. Skerrett, R.A.M.C.

Aleister Crowley's marriage on August 12, 1903, mentioned in the Scottish newspaper *The Ross-Shire Journal*, Friday, August 21, 1903 (p. 4.)

WANTED, Thoroughly Experienced NURSE
for Baby. Apply, with references, and stating wages expected, to Lady Boleskine, Boleskine House, Foyers.

Advertisement which appeared in the *Inverness Courier*, Friday, August 5, 1904 E.V. (p. 8.) — Rose and Aleister Crowley's daughter Nuith Ma Ahathoor Hecate Sappho Jezebel Lilith had been born at Boleskine House on July 28, 1904 E.V.

SALMON FISHING (Loch Ness).—To
LET, for fishing season, or as may be arranged, BOLESKINE HOUSE, Foyers, with right of rod fishing in Loch Ness. The House is beautifully situated on the eastern shore of the loch. It contains four public rooms, seven bed and dressing rooms, four servants' rooms, &c., also billiard room and fine library, all freshly painted and re-finished, and heated by a new hot water installation; stalls, horse box, kennels, large garden, good boat, and services of ghillie; post and telegraph office one mile.—Apply to JAMES ROSS and BOYD, Solicitors, Inverness.

"SALMON FISHING (Loch Ness)." Advertisement, which appeared in *The Field, The Country Gentleman's Newspaper*, Saturday, January 21, 1905 E.V. (p. IV.)

still held her place as my favourite character in Scripture; and Lilith, of course, holds undisputed possession of my affections in the realm of demons.⁷⁸¹

Sappho (born c. 610 – died c. 570 B.C.) was the outstanding Greek lyric poetess from Lesbos whose ancient title was the “Tenth Muse”, the mortal Muse, and Crowley probably felt like her when she wrote about her daughter:

*I have a child; so fair
As golden flowers is she,
My Cleïs, all my care.
I'd not give her away
For Lydia's wide sway
Nor lands men long to see.*⁷⁸²

Despite Crowley's words in *Confessions* Nuit was not the most natural choice for a name in the light of *Liber L vel Legis* but was probably chosen with background in the teachings of the Golden Dawn – but the year was 1904 E.V. and it was only 111 days since the writing of the first chapter had taken place and it was clearly not a book much studied!⁷⁸³ The ancient Egyptians themselves did not use Nuit as a personal name like they did with Hathor (*hwt*) and Maat (*m³t*) – Maat (Justice), which was spelt as “Ma” in the Golden Dawn.⁷⁸⁴ Nuith Ma Ahathoor Hecate Sappho Jezebel Lilith Crowley (1904-1906), sadly died in 1906 E.V.

As to Boleskine (pronounced Boll-ess-kinn), Crowley's huge one-story lodge on Loch Ness in Scotland, one mile north of Foyers and 17 miles south-west of Inverness, so was the house named Boleskine House, as we are informed in *MTP*:

*Boleskine House is on Loch Ness, 17 miles from Inverness, latitude 57.14 N. Longitude 4.28 W.*⁷⁸⁵

The Rev. William Fraser, Minister of Boleskine and Abertarff, wrote in the 1830s about the name Boleskine and its Gaelic etymology:

*The name appears [...] to be compounded of these three words, “Boile-eas-ceann,” “ceann” signifying height, summit, “eas” a cataract, and “boile” fury, rage, madness. Hence Boleskine appears to signify the summit of the furious cascade. The cascade here in view is now extensively known under the name of the Fall of Foyers.*⁷⁸⁶

⁷⁸¹ *Confessions*, p. 409.

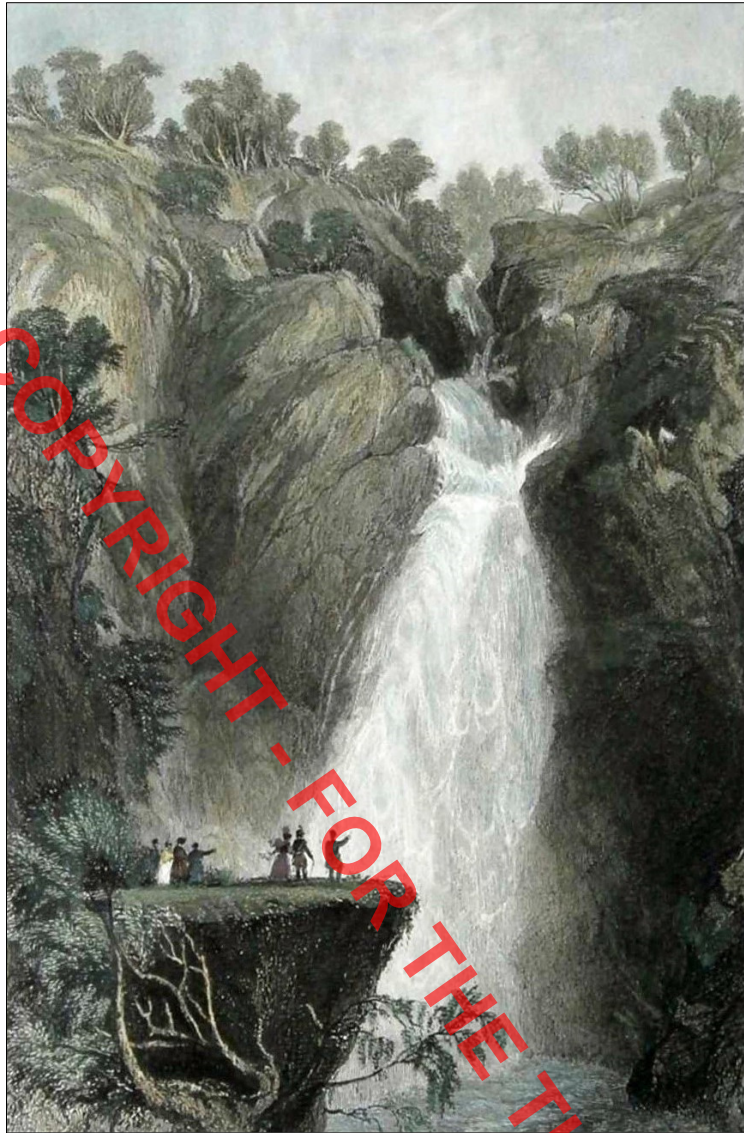
⁷⁸² Cecil Maurice Bowra's translation. • From the Greek. Edited by T. F. Higham and C. M. Bowra. Oxford, UK: At the Clarendon Press, 1942, p. 61-2. (64 *A Girl*, pp. 61-2.)

⁷⁸³ The duration between April 8, 1904 E.V. and July 28, 1904 E.V. is 111 days. (Including April 8 but not July 28.)

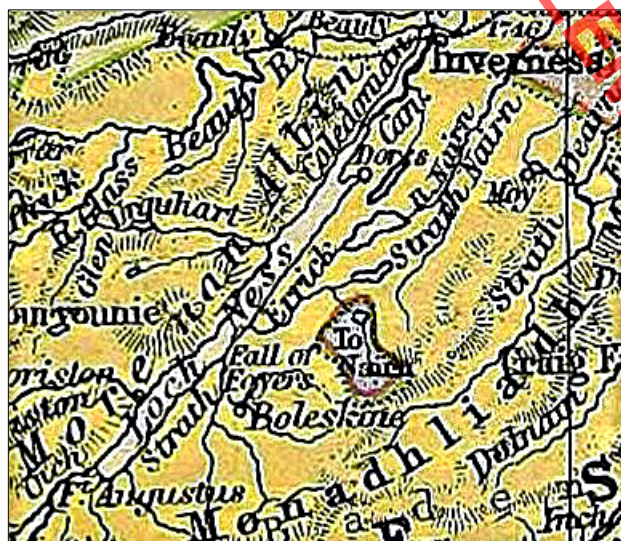
⁷⁸⁴ See: Hermann Ranke. *Die ägyptischen Personennamen*. Bd. I-III. Glückstadt: Verlag von J. J. Augustin, 1935-77.

⁷⁸⁵ *The Master Therion [Aleister Crowley]*. *Magick in Theory and Practice* (Being Part III of Book 4); By The Master Therion. 4 vols. (Sections). Printed: Paris, France: Privately printed at The Lecram Press, nd [1929/30]. Distributed in wrappers: [London, UK: Mandrake Press Ltd., 1930]. • Section 3 [Vol. 3.], p. 331, Note 1. (*Appendix VI – Liber V vel Reguli*, pp. 331-44.) • For some photographs of Boleskine House and its formal garden, etc, see: [*Baphomet X°* (Aleister Crowley)] *MANIFESTO OF THE M. : M. : M. :*; Issued by Order L. Bathurst; Grand Secretary General. London, UK: M. : M. : M. : [Printed at The Ballantyne Press, London], n.d. [c. 1912/1913 E.V.].

⁷⁸⁶ The New Statistical Account of Scotland. Vol. XIV. Inverness – Ross and Cromarty. Edinburgh and London: William



The Fall of Foyers. 1800s engraving.



Section from a Scottish map from the 1890s showing Boleskine and the Fall of Foyers.

Another source says that it comes from:

poll eas cumhan (pron. kuin), 'pool of the narrow waterfall,' i.e., *Fall of Foyers*.⁷⁸⁷

Of Boleskine House and its location *Nelson's Handbook to Scotland for Tourists* from 1860 states:

*The steamer stops about an hour near the shore, [of Loch Ness] to give passengers an opportunity of visiting the lower fall. Foyers House, the seat of Fountain Walker, Esq., stands at the left side of the river's mouth. An inn called the General's Hut, and Boleskine House, a property of Lord Lovat, stands a little north-east of the right side.*⁷⁸⁸



Boleskine House on Loch Ness

Lord Lovat was the Scottish peer Thomas Alexander Fraser, 12th Lord Lovat (1802-1875), who died in Crowley's birth year. Crowley purchased Boleskine House, his sacred house, from the Scottish figure and landscape painter, and conservationist Mary Rose Hill Burton (1857-1900), and he moved there in November 1899.⁷⁸⁹ I have examined the *Inverness County Directory for 1901* and not found any Aleister Crowley nor any Boleskine House in its pages, however, I have found the following:

*Macgregor, Alistair [sic], Boleskine, Inverness*⁷⁹⁰

– and recalling Crowley's statement in *Confessions*:

*I had called myself Count Svareff and Aleister MacGregor for quite definite and legitimate reasons;*⁷⁹¹

Blackwood and Sons, MDCCCXLV (1845), pp. 51-2. (*United Parishes of Boleskine and Abertarff. Presbytery of Abertarff, Synod of Glenelg. The Rev. William Fraser, Minister; I. – Topography and Natural History*, pp. 51-5.)

⁷⁸⁷ James Brown Johnston. *Place-names of Scotland*. Second Edition. Edinburgh, Scotland: David Douglas, 1903, p. 44. (*BOLÉSKINE (Foyers)*, p. 44.)

⁷⁸⁸ *Nelson's Hand-book to Scotland for Tourists*. By the Rev. John M. Wilson. London: T. Nelson and Sons, MDCCCLX (1860), p. 429. (*1275 Foyers Water*, p. 429.)

⁷⁸⁹ For Crowley's description of Boleskine, see: *Confessions*, pp. 184-6. • *The County Directory of Scotland (For 1901-1904)*. Edinburgh, Scotland: R. Grant & Son, p. 68. ("*Boleskine House: Foyers (0), Inverness: Miss Mary R. Burton*") (*THE COUNTY DIRECTORY OF SCOTLAND; Section I. Residences and Names of Occupants, with their Postal and Telegraphic Addresses*, p. 68) • *The County Directory of Scotland (For 1901-1904)* was not up to date since Mary Rose Hill Burton had died at the age of 42 on June 5, 1900, during a visit to Rome. • For painter and conservationist Mary Rose Hill Burton and her paintings at Boleskine and Foyers Falls, see: *Janice Helland. Professional Woman Painters in Nineteenth-century Scotland: Commitment, Friendship, Pleasure*. Aldershot, UK: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2000, p. 143f. (5; *Friends and Colleagues*, pp. 123-50.) • Mary Rose Hill Burton was a daughter of the Scottish advocate, historian, and economist John Hill Burton (1809-1881), and Katherine Burton, née Innes (1829-1898).

⁷⁹⁰ *Inverness County Directory For 1901*. Inverness, Scotland: *Inverness County Directory*, p. 76. • For 'MacGregor', see note⁴²⁶³ and note⁷⁹¹ below.

⁷⁹¹ *Confessions*, p. 387. • For 'MacGregor', see note⁴²⁶³ below and note⁷⁹⁰ above.

And I also found him, for instance, in the 1907 E.V. issue of the *Royal National Directory of Scotland* as:

*McGregor Aleister, Boleskine lodge.*⁷⁹²

I notice that five month before Crowley's purchase of Boleskine House the property was advertised for rent in *The Inverness Courier*⁷⁹³, and back in March 1897 the following advertisement had appeared in *The Scotsman*:

INVERNESS-SHIRE – BOLESKINE HOUSE. – TO LET.

FURNISHED, either by month or for the year, BOLESKINE HOUSE, beautifully situated on the banks of Lochness, together with about 50 Acres Shooting Ground, and the right of Fishing on Lochness. Accommodation – 4 sitting-rooms, 6 bed-rooms and 3 dressing-rooms, together with ample servants accommodation, stabling, &c., hot and cold water, and all other modern conveniences. For further particulars, terms of let, &c., apply to Fraser & MacCalium, Solicitors, Queensgate, Inverness.

*Inverness, 16th March 1897.*⁷⁹⁴

"Aleister Macgregor" and Boleskine House turn up a few times in *The Inverness Courier*, as for instance in March 1900 where Crowley had attended an angling match in Loch-Ness:

*FOYERS, LOCH-NESS. – Fishing Loch-Ness, from Foyers Hotel, [...] On Wednesday [March 14], Mr. Alister [sic] Macgregor, Boleskine, had one [salmon] of 10 lbs.*⁷⁹⁵

And on September 5, 1903, three weeks after Rose and Aleister's marriage, Boleskine House exhibited crops from its garden at the Foyers Flower Show.⁷⁹⁶ The gardener of Boleskine House was named Kenneth Kennedy, a man in his fifties, married, and he and his wife Kate and their two teenaged children, a boy and a girl, were apparently living on the property.⁷⁹⁷ There was also a gamekeeper named Hugh Gillies, a bachelor in his thirties, but he was not living on the property.⁷⁹⁸

⁷⁹² Royal National Directory of Scotland (With new Maps). 1907. Manchester, UK: Slater's Directory Ltd, 1907, p. 863. (*BOLESKINE with ABERTARFF; PRIVATE RESIDENTS*, p. 863.)

⁷⁹³ The Inverness Courier, And General Advertiser. Inverness-shire, Scotland: The Inverness Courier. ♦ Tuesday, May 23, 1899, p. 1. (Advertisement: "*TO LET, Furnished, BOLESKINE HOUSE, Foyers, Inverness. Splendid Situation on Loch-Ness; Boat, Pony, Fishing, &c.*", p. 1.)

⁷⁹⁴ The Scotsman. Midlothian, Scotland: The Scotsman. ♦ Saturday, March 20, 1897, p. 14. (*TO LET – MISCELLANEOUS*, p. 14.)

⁷⁹⁵ The Inverness Courier, And General Advertiser. Inverness-shire, Scotland: The Inverness Courier. ♦ Tuesday, March 20, 1900, p. 7. (*ANGLING, &c.*, p. 7.)

⁷⁹⁶ Ibid. ♦ Tuesday, September 8, 1903, p. 6. ("*A highly successful flower, vegetable, and root show was held in the Foyers Club Hall on Saturday [September 5], [...] A special feature of the show were the exhibition tables from the gardens of Mr Eccles, manager; Mr D Macgregor, cashier, and Boleskine House, [...]*") (*FOYERS FLOWER SHOW*, p. 6.)

⁷⁹⁷ National Records of Scotland. ♦ Valuation Roll for the County of Inverness – Year 1904-1905 – Parish Boleskine, No. 136, p. 90. (Boleskine ... Proprietor: "*Lord Boleskine*" ... Inhabitant Occupier: "*Kenneth Kennedy, gardener, &c.*") • National Records of Scotland. ♦ Census 1901. Civil Parish of Boleskine; School Board District of Boleskine, No. of Schedule: 29, p. 5.

⁷⁹⁸ Ibid. • No. of Schedule: 19, p. 3.

We know, as a matter of fact, that Crowley in May 1907 E.V., around the time when the S.P.R.T. re-issued *Orpheus: A Lyrical Legend*⁷⁹⁹, had tried to find a tenant or purchaser for Boleskine House. He had contacted the firm of Messrs. Philip & George Geen, London, who on May 25, 1907 E.V., had the following advertisement printed in the London weekly journal *The Fishing Gazette*:

BOLESKINE HOUSE, FOYERS, INVERNESS-SHIRE, N.B.

MESSRS. PHILIP & GEORGE GEEN have been instructed to find a tenant or purchaser for the above Highland Residence, with all-round sporting opportunities. Salmon and Trout Fishing rights in Loch Ness; fair mixed shooting; excellent accommodation; fine gardens. Exactly the thing for the man who wants such a thing. Rent very moderate; furnished or unfurnished. Price low. – For further particulars apply, 57, Waterloo Road, London, S.E.⁸⁰⁰

This advertisement appeared two and a half years before Rose and Aleister's divorce in November 1909 E.V. The American Crowley biographer, writer, and lecturer Richard Kaczynski, Ph.D. (1963-), writes in *Perdurabo: The Life of Aleister Crowley* (2010 E.V.) about Crowley's selling of Boleskine to the M.M.M. in May 1914 E.V.:

*Finding his finances more and more overextended, Crowley protected himself from creditors by selling Boleskine and its thirty-four-acre parcel to the trustees of MMM (namely, himself, Leila, and Cowie). On May 5, the MMM paid £500 to Crowley and assumed £900 in debts and bills on the property. In order to protect his intellectual property, Crowley transferred the copyrights of all his works to OTO as well. In theory (but not, as it turns out, in practice), all of Crowley's possessions and works were now owned by OTO, and hence inaccessible to creditors.*⁸⁰¹

Boleskine was sold by the O.T.O. on July 12, 1918 E.V.⁸⁰² Section I of the central ritual of the O.T.O. *Liber XV; Ecclesiae Gnosticae Catholicae*, the Gnostic Catholic Mass, which "Represents the original and true pre-Christian Christianity"⁸⁰³, states:

⁷⁹⁹ See note¹⁷⁶² below.

⁸⁰⁰ The Fishing Gazette. London, UK: The Fishing Gazette. ♦ Saturday, May 25, 1907, p. 406. (*ESTATES TO LET*, p. 406.)

⁸⁰¹ Richard Kaczynski. *PERDURABO: THE LIFE OF ALEISTER CROWLEY*. Berkeley, CA: North Atlantic Books, 2010, p. 274. (*CHAPTER ELEVEN. Ordo Templi Orientis*, pp. 249-76.)

⁸⁰² Richard Kaczynski writes that the Boleskine property was sold by the O.T.O. on July 12, 1918 E.V., to Dorothy C. Brook for £2,500. • Ibid., p. 319. (*CHAPTER TWELVE. Chokmah Days*, pp. 277-319.) • I notice that Captain John Robert Rankin Fullerton (1894-1966), and his wife Evelyn May Fullerton, née Palmer (1891-1966), are recorded living in Boleskine House in 1924 E.V. • See: Burke's Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Peerage; Baronetage and Knightage. 99th Edition. London, UK: Burke's Peerage Limited, 1949, p. 1551. (*PALMER OF GRINKLE PARK*, p. 1551.) • Boleskine House for sale in *Country Life*, April 15, 1954 E.V.: "Beautiful Old Highland Residence; Boleskine House, Foyers, Inverness; Overlooking Loch Ness" (Illustrated advertisement from John Speir, Land Agents, Surveyors and Valuers, 81, Hope Street, Glasgow.) • *Country Life*. London, UK: Country Life. ♦ Vol. CXV, No. 2987, April 15, 1954, p. 1106. • The English musician, songwriter, and record producer Jimmy Page (1944-) purchased the property in 1970 E.V. and sold it again in 1992 E.V.

⁸⁰³ *The Master Therion [Aleister Crowley]. Magick in Theory and Practice (Being Part III of Book 4); By The Master Therion. 4 vols. (Sections). Printed: Paris, France: Privately printed at The Lecram Press, nd [1929/30]. Distributed in wrappers: [London, UK: Mandrake Press Ltd., 1930]. ♦ Section 3 [Vol. 3.], p. 216. ("Liber XV. Ecclesiae Gnosticae Catholicae Canon Missae.") (Appendix I. Curriculum of A.:.A.:, pp. 207-28.)*

In the East, that is, in the direction of Boleskine, which is situated on the South-Eastern shore of Loch Ness in Scotland, two miles east of Foyers, is a shrine or High Altar. Its dimensions should be 7 feet in length, 3 feet in breadth, 44 inches in height. It should be covered with a crimson altar-cloth, on which may be embroidered fleur-de-lys in gold, or a sunblaze, or other suitable emblem.

On each side of it should be a pillar or Obelisk, with countercharges in black and white.

Below it should be the dais of three steps, in black and white squares.

Above it is the super-altar, at whose top is the Stélé og Revealing in reproduction, with four candles on each side of it. Below the stélé is a place for the Book of the Law, with six candles on each side of it. Below this again is The Holy Grail, with roses on each side of it. There is room in front of the Cup for the Paten. On each side beyond the roses, are two great candles.

All this is enclosed within a great Veil.

Forming the apex of an equilateral triangle whose base is a line drawn between the pillars, is a small black square altar, of superposed cubes.

Taking this altar as the middle of the base of a similar and equal triangle, at the apex of this second triangle is a small circular font.

Repeating, the apex of a third triangle is an upright Tomb.⁸⁰⁴

Boleskine House was destroyed by a fire on December 23, 2015 E.V., a fire that reduced the house to a burnt-out shell.⁸⁰⁵

⁸⁰⁴ [Aleister Crowley, et al.] *The Equinox*. Vol. III., No. I. Detroit, Michigan: Universal Publishing Company, March MCMXIX E.V. (1919 E.V.), pp. 249-50. (*LIBER XV | O.T.O. | ECCLESIAE GNOSTICAE CATHOLICAE | CANON MISSAE. I; OF THE FURNISHING OF THE TEMPLE*, pp. 249-50.) • The Gnostic Catholic Mass was published three times by Aleister Crowley. • *The International: A Review of Two Worlds*. New York City, NY: International Monthly, Inc. ♦ Vol. XII, No. 3, March 1918, pp. 70-4. (*ECCLESIAE GNOSTICAE CATHOLICAE CANON MISSAE. Edited from the Ancient Documents in Assyrian and Greek by The Master Therion*, pp. [70]-4.) • [Aleister Crowley, et al.] *The Equinox*. Vol. III., No. I. Detroit, Michigan: Universal Publishing Company, March MCMXIX E.V. (1919 E.V.), pp. [247]-70. (*LIBER XV | O.T.O. | ECCLESIAE GNOSTICAE CATHOLICAE | CANON MISSAE*, pp. [247]-70.) • *The Master Therion* [Aleister Crowley]. *Magick in Theory and Practice* (Being Part III of Book 4); By The Master Therion. 4 vols. (Sections). Printed: Paris, France: Privately printed at The Lecram Press, nd [1929/30]. Distributed in wrappers: [London, UK: Mandrake Press Ltd., 1930]. ♦ Section 4 [Vol. 4.], pp. 345-61. ("*Liber XV. Ecclesiæ Gnosticæ Catholicæ Canon Missæ.*") (APPENDIX VI. A FEW RITUALS, pp. 325-61.) • For *ECCLESIAE GNOSTICAE CATHOLICAE CANON MISSAE* published in *The International*, 1918 E.V., see also note²⁷⁴² below.

⁸⁰⁵ See: <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-35171061> (December 23, 2015 E.V.) • And: <http://stv.tv/news/highlands-islands/1338633-blaze-at-house-formerly-owned-by-aleister-crowley-not-suspicious/> (January 11, 2016 E.V.)

Appendix.

THE MAGICIAN OF LOCH NESS

Uncanny Happenings at Manor of Boleskine

EVIL INFLUENCE : : By ALEISTER CROWLEY

In November 1933 E.V. Crowley wrote a nearly 1500-word piece for the Manchester Sunday paper *Empire News* headed "The Magician of Loch Ness – Uncanny Happenings at Manor of Boleskine – Evil Influence":

I have been very intrigued by the recent stories concerning the appearance of some fearsome monster, about 30 feet long, with eyes reported to be "like the headlights of a motor-car," which is alleged to lurk in the depths of Loch Ness. Interested because at my investigations into magic I owned the notorious old manor of Boleskine and Abertarff, situate on the south-east side of Loch Ness half-way between Inverfarigaig and Foyers.

I say notorious because long before I purchased the Manor it was already the place around which a score of legends had been woven. All of them of a mysterious nature.

Thus the head of old Lord Lovat, who was beheaded after the '45, was believed to roll up and down the corridors of the rambling old place.

There was another legend that a lunatic had murdered his mother by smashing her brains out against the wall, and that she returned at times to pick them up again.

These alone had sufficed to give Boleskine an evil reputation, and my own experiences there by no means diminished that evil reputation.

"NEVER GIVES UP"

So you will appreciate my interest in the latest story of Loch Ness, about which there have been so many speculations.

I notice that the monster has been seen by a number of reputable people, who speak in awed tones, some suggesting that it may be a survival of some prehistoric creature released from some fastness in the earth by recent blasting operations in the district.

Other that it is some mysterious monster from the deep which has made its way to the loch from which it cannot now escape.

I know not. I only know that all the time I have known Loch Ness it has always been regarded by those living in the vicinity as "the loch which never gives up its dead."

Divers who have gone down as far as 200 feet have told of huge fissures and holes in the bottom at the lake, whilst the deepest sounding have yielded over 700 feet as its depth in places.

I have no knowledge of this monster, but I have knowledge of the Manor of Boleskine, where many uncanny events happened during the time I lived there.

SECRET MASTER

Outside this door I had to construct a terrace covered with fine river sand, and at the end of the terrace I was to construct a lodge where the spirits might congregate.

All these instructions I had gleaned from my secret Master of the Lodge of which I was an initiate.

At that time I was a young man with a fortune of £40,000 prepared to spend every penny of it on the achievement of my purpose, but I had scoured the country for a suitable residence in vain before I lighted upon Boleskine, which fulfilled all my requirements.

The great "Operation" was to be commenced at Easter. I set aside the south-western part of the long, low building for my work, constructing my terrace and lodge outside the largest room there, in which I set my "Oratory" proper.

This was a large wooden structure, lined with mirrors, which I had brought with me from my temple in London.

The work would take me at least six months, and in view of certain dangers and interference which I had already experienced from a rival magician, I invited another initiate to stay with me by way of company.

"PRESENCES"

He had not been there a month before he felt the strain unendurable. One morning I came down to breakfast to find him gone.

The butler was surprised that I did not know that he was going away by the early boat that morning. He had come down in a rush and simply vanished, and it was years before I saw him again.

One day I returned from a wander over the hills to find a priest in my study. He had come to tell me that my lodge-keeper, a life abstainer from any form of alcoholic liquor, had been raving drunk for three days, and had tried to kill his wife and children.

I got an old Cambridge friend to come down and stay with me, but within a few weeks he began to display symptoms of panic and strange fears, stating that there were "presences" in the place of an evil nature. At length he left me, and I carried on alone.

I devoted myself to the task of preparing certain talismans, squares of vellum inscribed in Indian ink, and in order to make my task easier I did this work in the sunniest room of the house.

Yet even on the brightest days I had to use artificial light on account of the eerie darkness which filled the room. It was a darkness which could be felt.

It was as if the faculty of vision suffered from some interference. But I complete my talismans and then sent to the Chiefs of the Second Order in London for certain documents to which an initiation in Paris entitled me.

These were refused, and I made a special journey over to Paris. It was at this time that there occurred a revolt among certain members of the Order, and as a result my "Operation" was delayed, as it meant waiting for the following Easter before I could continue with it.

KISSED THE DIRK

I travelled for a time, climbing mountains in Mexico with that great climber Eckenstein.

At length I returned to Boleskine, to find it a place with a greater reputation for evil than ever. The natives would not pass the house after dark.

Yet for myself I shall always feel a little grateful to Boleskine for giving to me my wife, although in latter years this union which held so much for both of us whilst it lasted became a domestic tragedy.

I was invited to go over from Boleskine to stay with a friend, and it was then that I met Rose. She was engaged to marry a wealthy American whom she did not love, at that time being enamoured of a flabby sort of individual over here.

The American was coming over in a few weeks and she confided to me that she hated the thought of marrying him whilst in love with the other man.

"We can soon remedy that," I said: "Marry me – that will put an end to the American romance – and you can settle down with your lover."

A crazy suggestion, but Rose jumped at the idea. We were married at a lawyer's in Dingwall by simple process of declaring that we regarded ourselves as man and wife.

To add a touch of romance to the commonplace, I took out my dirk and kissed it as a pledge.

I did not kiss Rose. It was at this moment that my bride's brother burst in upon us to stop the folly, but Rose suddenly took command of affairs, and told him to go to the devil, as she was going off with me.

I don't know whether it was my indifference to her and a sort of gratitude for getting her out of a hole which purged her heart of any infatuation for her lover, but the fact is that Rose fell in love with me.

What is more, the fine flight of her rapture evoked my love in return. She was a beautiful and fascinating woman of high intelligence, and the honeymoon which followed was an uninterrupted beatitude.

We travelled. From Cairo we went out and spent a night sleeping in the King's Chamber of the Great Pyramid, and thence up country for some big game shooting.

EVIL INFLUENCE

Rose was deeply interested in my magical work, and on my return to Boleskine I started to prepare once more for the great "Operation."

Suddenly I knew that the rival magician to whom I have referred was attacking me.

At this time I kept a pack of bloodhounds, and he succeeded in killing them off one after another. There was absolutely no sign of any sort of disease. They simply died. The servants, too, were continually becoming ill, one with this complaint, one with the other. Action was necessary.

One morning we heard screams and oaths from the direction of the kitchen. One of the workmen had become suddenly maniacal and attacked my wife, who was making her usual morning inspection.

We overpowered him and shut him in the coal-cellar until the police arrived.

Maybe the lake of Loch Ness is suffering from the same phenomena as the Manor of Boleskine. I do not know. But I am extremely interested in the ultimate end of the investigations into the existence of the monster which has created such excitement.*

* Empire News. Manchester, Greater Manchester, England: Allied Newspapers. ♦ Sunday, November 12, 1933, p. 11. (THE MAGICIAN OF LOCH NESS; UNCANNY HAPPENINGS AT MANOR OF BOLESKINE. EVIL INFLUENCE; By ALEISTER CROWLEY, p. 11.)



Rose had died the year before the article appeared, on February 11, 1932 E.V. (An Iv; Year 27 in the Aeon of Hoor.)