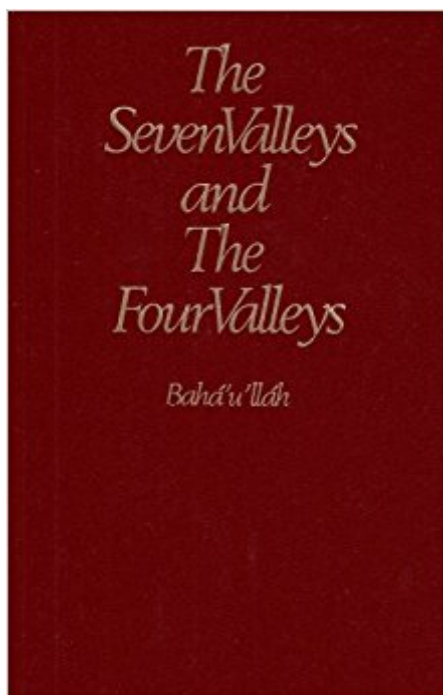


The book was found

The Seven Valleys And The Four Valleys



Synopsis

A mystical account of the odyssey of the human soul.

Book Information

Paperback: 103 pages

Publisher: Baha'i Publishing Trust US; 4 edition (January 1, 1945)

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Customer Reviews

This little book by Baha'u'llah is a very big statement about the nature of existence and the various conditions of the human soul as it attempts to unravel its mysteries and discover The Ultimate Unknown--God. While the book is written in the early ministry of the Prophet of the Baha'i religion, it is couched in the language of the Islamic-Sufi-mystic. For the reader new to this style, some of the concepts may at first be unclear or foreign, yet at the same time to the heart it all seems somehow familiar, as the valleys unfold in their mysterious--yet universal and familiar--landscape. For the Baha'i, this is a basic requirement for the personal library. For the investigator of truth, religious scholar, or mystic, it is the key to a whole new world ideas and insights, full of paradoxical wonder, and yet always simple in its truths. This is one of the most powerful spiritual works you will likely ever read, and is one of the yet undiscovered classics to be placed among the likes of Rumi, Hafez, Saadi, and Khayyam. While it is undoubtedly one of the great classics, make no mistake, it is both unique and peerless, among its contemporaries. No small wonder the the Revelations of Baha'u'llah have given birth to one of the fastest growing, and second most wide spread, religious movements--since its inception in 1844--in the world today.

This little book contains an entire journey. As you grow, the meanings in the text will change for you.

It is a book to return to, many times, as your outlook on life changes. It was written in response to a Sufi mystic during the 19th century. As such, it uses language and references that may be quite uncommon to a 21st century western reader. For a little background, readers should consider the Sufi poem "Conference of the Birds", wherein thirty birds set out to find their Ideal King. At the end of this journey, they are told they must pass through seven valleys, at the end of which they will find their goal. Baha'u'llah comments on these seven stages, and relates them to similar Baha'i concepts of God and spiritual development.

I am not of the Baha'i faith, but the passages contained in this book are inspiring and beautiful. I was surprised at how small the book is, and I wish there had been more to read. It's a great addition to any religious collection.

Baha'u'llah takes us through a tour of Seven Valleys and Four Valleys of spiritual attainment with classical Sufi imagery. In this book, I have found many multi-faceted gems. For example, the explanation of the origin of conflict in creation found in the Valley of Contentment.

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