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Story Of Alchemy

Cathy Cobb, Harold Goldwhite



Story Of Alchemy:

The Story of Alchemy and Early Chemistry (The Story of Early Chemistry) John Maxson Stillman, 1960 Originally published under the title *The Story of Early Chemistry* Tells the story of the development of chemical knowledge and science from the beginning of time to the end of the 18th century

The Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of Chemistry, 2004

Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of Chemistry Matthew Moncrieff Pattison Muir, 1918 *The Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of Chemistry* M. M. Pattison Muir, 2017-06-03

CHAPTER I THE EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL CHANGES GIVEN BY THE GREEK THINKERS

For thousands of years before men had any accurate and exact knowledge of the changes of material things they had thought about these changes regarded them as revelations of spiritual truths built on them theories of things in heaven and earth and a good many things in neither and used them in manufactures arts and handicrafts especially in one very curious manufacture wherein not the thousandth fragment of a grain of the finished article was ever produced The accurate and systematic study of the changes which material things undergo is called chemistry we may perhaps describe alchemy as the superficial and what may be called subjective examination of these changes and the speculative systems and imaginary arts and manufactures founded on that examination We are assured by many old writers that Adam was the first alchemist and we are told by one of the initiated that Adam was created on the sixth day being the 15th of March of the first year of the world certainly alchemy had a long life for chemistry did not begin until about the middle of the 18th century No branch of science has had so long a period of incubation as chemistry There must be some extraordinary difficulty in the way of disentangling the steps of those changes wherein substances of one kind are produced from substances totally unlike them To inquire how those of acute intellects and much learning regarded such occurrences in the times when man's outlook on the world was very different from what it is now ought to be interesting and the results of that inquiry must surely be instructive If the reader turns to a modern book on chemistry for instance *The Story of the Chemical Elements* in this series he will find at first superficial descriptions of special instances of those occurrences which are the subject of the chemist's study he will learn that only certain parts of such events are dealt with in chemistry more accurate descriptions will then be given of changes which occur in nature or can be produced by altering the ordinary conditions and the reader will be taught to see certain points of likeness between these changes he will be shown how to disentangle chemical occurrences to find their similarities and differences and gradually he will feel his way to general statements which are more or less rigorous and accurate expressions of what holds good in a large number of chemical processes finally he will discover that some generalisations have been made which are exact and completely accurate descriptions applicable to every case of chemical change But if we turn to the writings of the alchemists we are in a different world There is nothing even remotely resembling what one finds in a modern book on chemistry Here are a few quotations from alchemical writings It is necessary to deprive matter of its qualities in order to draw out its soul Copper is like a man it

has a soul and a body the soul is the most subtile part that is to say the tinctorial spirit The body is the ponderable material terrestrial thing endowed with a shadow After a series of suitable treatments copper becomes without shadow and better than gold The elements grow and are transmuted because it is their qualities not their substances which are contrary

Stephanus of Alexandria about 620 A D The Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of Chemistry Matthew Moncrieff Pattison Muir,1903 *The Story of Alchemy and Early Chemistry* John Maxson Stillman,1924 **The Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of Chemistry** Matthew Moncrieff Pattison Muir,1913 **The Amazing Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of Chemistry** M. M. Pattison Muir,2014-03 This Is A New Release Of The Original 1903 Edition **Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of C** M. Muir,2005-05-01 Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of Chemistry Matthew Muir,1991-12-01 The Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of Chemistry M. M. Pattison Muir,2018-08-14

The Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of Chemistry by M M Pattison Muir For thousands of years before men had any accurate and exact knowledge of the changes of material things they had thought about these changes regarded them as revelations of spiritual truths built on them theories of things in heaven and earth and a good many things in neither and used them in manufactures arts and handicrafts especially in one very curious manufacture wherein not the thousandth fragment of a grain of the finished article was ever produced The accurate and systematic study of the changes which material things undergo is called chemistry we may perhaps describe alchemy as the superficial and what may be called subjective examination of these changes and the speculative systems and imaginary arts and manufactures founded on that examination We are assured by many old writers that Adam was the first alchemist and we are told by one of the initiated that Adam was created on the sixth day being the 15th of March of the first year of the world certainly alchemy had a long life for chemistry did not begin until about the middle of the 18th century No branch of science has had so long a period of incubation as chemistry There must be some extraordinary difficulty in the way of disentangling the steps of those changes wherein substances of one kind are produced from substances totally unlike them To inquire how those of acute intellects and much learning regarded such occurrences in the times when man s outlook on the world was very different from what it is now ought to be interesting and the results of that inquiry must surely be instructive If the reader turns to a modern book on chemistry for instance *The Story of the Chemical Elements* in this series he will find at first superficial descriptions of special instances of those occurrences which are the subject of the chemist s study he will learn that only certain parts of such events are dealt with in chemistry more accurate descriptions will then be given of changes which occur in nature or can be produced by altering the ordinary conditions and the reader will be taught to see certain points of likeness between these changes he will be shown how to disentangle chemical occurrences to find their similarities and differences and gradually he will feel his way to general statements which are more or less rigorous and accurate expressions of what holds good in a large number of chemical processes finally he will discover that some generalisations have been made which are exact and

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that are true to the original work **The Chemical Choir** P. G. Maxwell-Stuart, 2008-05-15 Beginning in China in the search for the secret of immortality and appearing independently in Egypt as an attempt to produce gold through the arts of smelting and alloying metals alchemy received a great boost in Europe from studies by Islamic and Jewish alchemists Translated into Latin and then combined with what was known of Greek natural science these accounts provoked an outburst of attempts to manipulate matter and to change it into transformative substances known as the Philosopher's Stone or the Elixir of Life Alchemy's heyday in Europe was the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries Demonstrations of the art were performed in royal courts and specimens of the gold so transmuted can be seen in various museums today During the nineteenth century attempts were made to amalgamate alchemy with the religious and occult philosophies then growing in popularity and in the twentieth century psychologists principally Carl Jung perceived in alchemy a powerful vehicle for aspects of their theories about human nature Story of Alchemy Beginning of Chemistry Matthew Moncrieff Pattison Muir, 1903 **Creations of Fire** Cathy Cobb, Harold Goldwhite, 2013-11-11 The history of chemistry is a story of human endeavor and as erratic as human nature itself Progress has been made in fits and starts and it has come from all parts of the globe Because the scope of this history is considerable some 100 000 years it is necessary to impose some order and we have organized the text around three discernible albeit gross divisions of time Part 1 Chaps 1-7 covers 100 000 BCE Before Common Era to the late 1700s and presents the background of the Chemical Revolution Part 2 Chaps 8-14 covers the late 1700s to World War I and presents the Chemical Revolution and its consequences Part 3 Chaps 15-20 covers World War I to 1950 and presents the Quantum Revolution and its consequences and hints at revolutions to come There have always been two tributaries to the chemical stream experiment and theory But systematic experimental methods were not routinely employed until the 1600s and quantitative theories did not evolve until the 1700s and it can be argued that modern chemistry as a science did not begin until the Chemical Revolution in the 1700s xi xii PREFACE We argue however that the first experiments were performed by artisans and the first theories proposed by philosophers and that a revolution can be understood only in terms of what is being revolted against The Story of Alchemy and the Beginnings of Chemistry M. M. Pattison Muir, 2020-08-22 For thousands of years before men had any accurate and exact knowledge of the changes of material things they had thought about these changes regarded them as revelations of spiritual truths built on their theories of things in heaven and earth and a good many things in neither and used them in manufactures arts and handicrafts especially in one very curious manufacture wherein not the thousandth fragment of a grain of the finished article was ever produced The accurate and systematic study of the changes which material things undergo is called chemistry we may perhaps describe alchemy as the superficial and what may be called subjective examination of these changes and the speculative systems and imaginary arts and manufactures founded on that examination

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