

A Chave do Abismo : Escritos Ctônicos

[The Key of the Abyss : Chtonic Writings]

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Abstract

From Mesopotamia's Gilgamesh to Dante's Inferno and the lyrics of the Brazilian Drummond (Mário de Andrade goes down to Hell), heroes, men, poets and saints have related their physical or mystic descent to the abysses of the earth, sea and soul – thus leading us to partake of their aims, anguish and doubts, but also of their eternity in finally understanding Beauty – the transcendence of matter-(as in the crystal roses of caves) and ascending with them from the pathos of the depths to the inner exultation in the discovery of the vision of truth and Light (Plato's Allegory of the cavern; Ulysses victorious return from the Hades to Ithaca; the intimacy of extasis with Saint John of the Cross; the glorious Hymn to the Sun', by Akhenaton, and many other chtonic writings throughout the ages.