

# **MYTHS AND DREAMS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649654390

Myths and Dreams by Edward Clodd

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**EDWARD CLODD**

**MYTHS  
AND DREAMS**



MYTHS AND DREAMS

Hnt  
C6434my

# MYTHS AND DREAMS

BY

EDWARD CLODD

AUTHOR OF

'THE CHILDHOOD OF THE WORLD,' 'THE STORY OF CREATION,' ETC.



539001  
18-4-52

*SECOND EDITION, REVISED*

London

CHATTO & WINDUS, PICCADILLY

1891

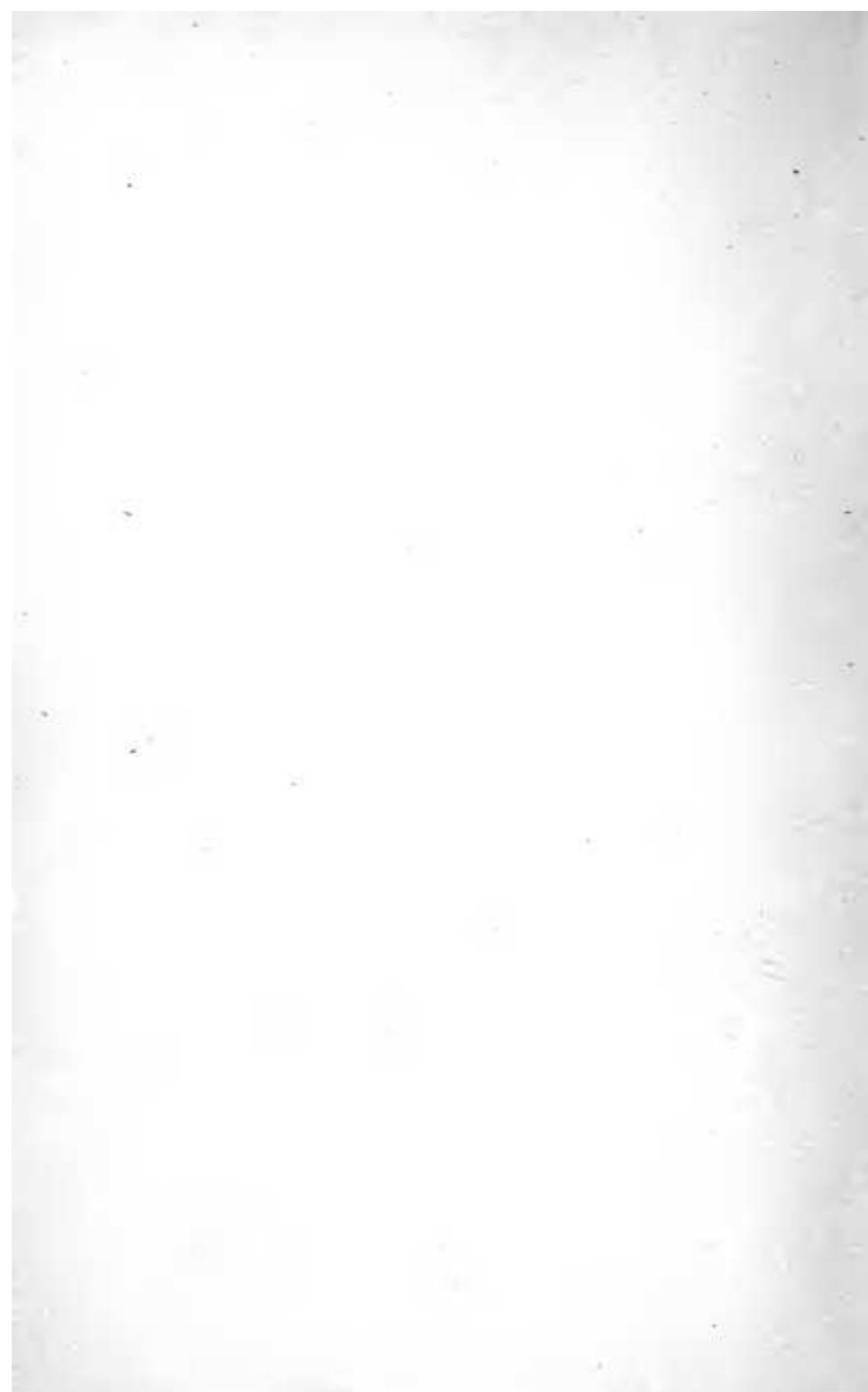
TO  
RICHARD A. PROCTOR, B.A.,

AUTHOR OF 'THE SON,' 'OTHER WORLDS,' ETC.,  
EDITOR OF 'KNOWLEDGE.'

MY DEAR PROCTOR—The best gifts of life are its friendships, and to you, with whom friendship has ripened into fellowship, and under whose editorial wing some of the chapters of this book had temporary shelter, I inscribe them in their enlarged and independent form.

Yours sincerely,

EDWARD CLODD.





## P R E F A C E.

THE object of this book is to present in compendious form the evidence which myths and dreams supply as to primitive man's interpretation of his own nature and of the external world, and more especially to indicate how such evidence carries within itself the history of the origin and growth of beliefs in the supernatural.

The examples are selected chiefly from barbaric races, as furnishing the nearest correspondences to the working of the mind in what may be called its "eocene" stage, but examples are also cited from civilised races, as witnessing to that continuity of ideas which is obscured by familiarity or ignored by prejudice.

Had more illustrations been drawn from sources alike prolific, the evidence would have been swollen to undue dimensions without increasing its significance; as it is, repetition has been found needful here and there, under the difficulty of entirely de-

taching the arguments advanced in the two parts of this work.

Man's development, physical and psychical, has been fully treated by Mr. Herbert Spencer, Dr. Tylor, and other authorities, to whom students of the subject are permanent debtors, but that subject is so many-sided, so far-reaching, whether in retrospect or prospect, that its subdivision is of advantage so long as we do not permit our sense of interrelation to be dulled thereby.

My own line of argument will be found to run for the most part parallel with that of the above-named writers ; there are divergences along the route, but we reach a common terminus.

The footnotes indicate the principal works which have been consulted in preparing this book, but I desire to express my special thanks to Mr. Andrew Lang for his kindness in reading the proofs, and for suggestions which, in the main, I have been glad to adopt.

E. C.

ROSEMONT, TUFNELL PARK,  
LONDON, *March* 1885.

# CONTENTS.

## PART I.

### MYTH: ITS BIRTH AND GROWTH.

SECTION	PAGE
I. ITS PRIMITIVE MEANING . . . . .	3
II. CONFUSION OF EARLY THOUGHT BETWEEN THE LIVING AND THE NOT LIVING . . . . .	12
III. PERSONIFICATION OF THE POWERS OF NATURE	19
(a.) The Sun and Moon . . . . .	19
(b.) The Stars . . . . .	29
(c.) The Earth and Sky . . . . .	34
(d.) Storm and Lightning, etc. . . . .	41
(e.) Light and Darkness . . . . .	48
(f.) The Devil . . . . .	53
IV. THE SOLAR THEORY OF MYTH . . . . .	61
V. BELIEF IN METAMORPHOSIS INTO ANIMALS . . . . .	81
VI. TOTEMISM: BELIEF IN DESCENT FROM ANIMAL OR PLANT . . . . .	99
VII. SURVIVAL OF MYTH IN HISTORY . . . . .	114
VIII. MYTH AMONG THE HEBREWS . . . . .	131
IX. CONCLUSION . . . . .	137