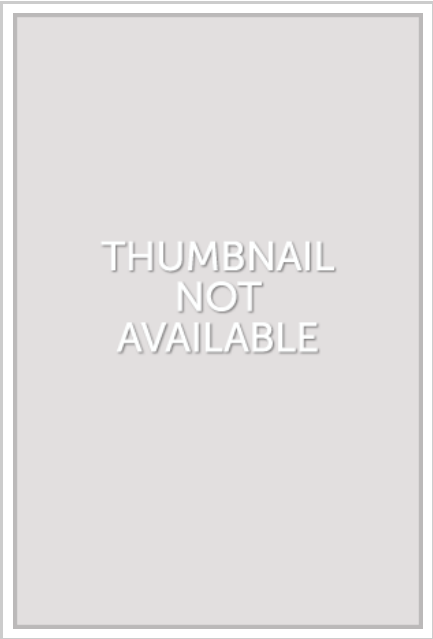


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Of Natural and Supernatural Things: (Large Print) (Paperback)

By Basilius Valentinus

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. large type edition. 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The Basil Valentine writings provide twelve keys, a widely reproduced sequence of alchemical operations encoded allegorically, in words to which images have been added. The first Basil Valentine book to discuss the keys is Ein kurtz summarischer Tractat, von dem grossen Stein der Uralten (A Short Summary Tract: Of the great stone of the ancients), 1599. The first part of the book is a discussion of general alchemical principles and advice about the philosopher s stone. The second half of Ein kurtz summarischer Tractat, under the subtitle The Twelve Keys, contains twelve short chapters. Each chapter, or key, is an allegorical description of one step in the process by which the philosopher s stone may be created. With each step, the symbolic names (Deckname, or code name) used to indicate the critical ingredients are changed, just as the ingredients themselves are transformed. The keys are written in such a fashion as to conceal as well as to illuminate: only a knowledgeable reader or alchemical adept was expected to correctly interpret...

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