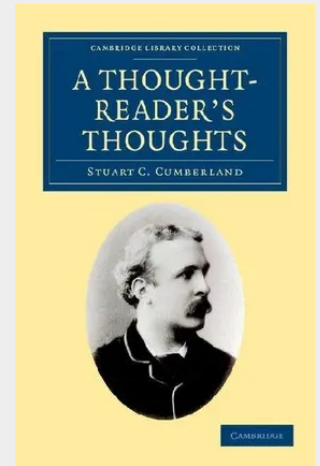


A Thought-Reader's Thoughts

Although famous throughout Europe for his mind-reading skills, Stuart C. Cumberland (1857-1922) was a staunch critic of the 'rascality' of some spiritualist practices and their practitioners. He claimed that many of the séances and other events which he had experienced were merely fraudulent money-making impostures. He wrote several books on his life as a thought-reader, in which he also revealed the techniques of fake mediums and psychics. (His *That Other World*, of 1918, is also reissued in this series.) In this 1888 work, Cumberland narrates his own history and career and describes some of his most memorable séances. One of these took place in the House of Commons, where Cumberland subjected none other than the prime minister at the time, W. E. Gladstone, to having his thoughts read. Their encounter made a great impression on the author, who found Gladstone one of his most remarkable subjects.

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51,60 €

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Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9781108044394

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-1-108-04439-4

Verlag: Cambridge University Press

Erscheinungstermin: 06.01.2012

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: 1. Auflage 2012

Serie: Cambridge Library Collection - Spiritualism and Esoteric Knowledge

Produktform: Kartoniert

Gewicht: 486 g

Seiten: 344

Format (B x H): 140 x 216 mm

