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ceremony remain unchanged. I am fully aware of the value of professional advice and assistance with continuity and polished book presentations, and therefore, open to your expert recommendations. Soon after, LaVey sent out an updated outline as Smith requested, and included a letter detailing his thought process and expressing some concerns: The section about the Black Mass is almost complete and will be sent to you as soon as I finish it. It will be rather short, because it has been written a lot about it in the books I will cover some little known historical points and will include Contemporary Black Mass as practiced in the Church of Satan. The reason I don't want to dwell on this subject, is that most people have a misconception that all Satanic rituals are Black Masses, and this is, of course, not at all true. We practice the traditional Black Mass only occasionally, and on this occasion it is done only as a catharsis for members who feel he needs it, or as an illustration of what has been done in the past. The Enochian Keys that went to my agent were, I'm afraid, poorly reproduced with a lot of typos. I had one of my members type it for me, because my secretary was very busy at the time, and I didn't find until after they were sent that the young woman was not the typist she claimed to be. Therefore, I will have my secretary retype them and send them to you maybe in a week or so. I'm sure you haven't been able to make sense of them, but in the right form they're really quite strong. He overcame his difficulties in writing chapters about the Church of Satan. It's kind of hard to write because to write it in the first person, it would sound very selfish. Therefore, with the help of other members, it is written on the second person; but thus doing so is in no way in keeping with the continuity of the book. Do you feel it should be included in the body of the book under the existing chapter title?... I am a little confused about this chapter, and just wrote it to cooperate with my agent's advice... In mid-January, LaVey wrote to Silva Romano at the Hamilburg Agency to prod them about his contract. Before we go any further, I want the contract taken care of. Romano's letter with the contracts crossed out this letter in the mail, and soon arrived, but there was little concern. Until now, I took the title, 'The Bible of Satan', acceptable to Peter, but the contract stated the tentative title 'The Bible of the Church of Satan.' I can see the reason for one of the appropriate titles, but I feel very strongly about emphasizing the biblical image. Is it possible that if I sign avon contract it may be able to put whatever title they choose on it, as I have not yet determined a specific title in the contract? I just want to protect myself from the possibility of them choosing titles like, (I give ludicrous examples) 'Inside the Church of Satan', or 'Handbook for Satan'. In February, editor Carol Sturm Smith's response to LaVey's updated outline arrived along with the reason for the delay: her entire family, herself, her husband and her baby, had Hong Kong Flu. As a resident of New York City at the time, I clearly remember a little history this, only the third pandemic flu reached the United States in the 20th century. Although not not deadly, it's highly contagious. Smith agrees that the chapter on the Church of Satan does not work in the book at all, since the passage essentially remains the first-person view of the Church of Satan. He suggested that it would be better to have others expand it as a mini biography of the author because it is this information – which may be well known and therefore considered 'inseparable' to members of the Church – that the general public you hope will buy the Bible is interested in... and it is this information that will help humanize the Church for those who are unaware of its existence or who will write it as a conglomeration of 'nuts. [Satan's Bible must be packed] in a plain and hard black jacket with the letter and symbol Baphomet in silver as the only ornament. In analyzing the structure of the Bible, its division into four books, he emphasized that overall it would serve the dual purpose of providing liturgy for Church members and explanations for the public. He suggested that LaVey look at Timothy Leary's new book, 'The High Priest', because it has a title page for each section that might serve as a model for how each Book will be presented. It is also important to Smith that whatever home literature the Church of Satan uses among its members, and which will be incorporated into the Bible, is entirely consistent in spelling and punctuation, and therefore at this time he requests a copy of the mimeos that members have designated as part of their membership material. To add to the burden of his current writing, and increase his sense of urgency, LaVey received an interesting proposition from Michael Resnick, editor of National Insider. Resnick recently completed a five-part series at the Church of Satan. Does LaVey want to write a WEEKLY column for the paper, answering letters from his constituents? The money involved, and the offer was accepted, turned into a column we all know today as 'The Letter of the Devil. After a few weeks back to his typewriter, LaVey answered Carol Sturm Smith in late February with a solution to the Satanic Church chapter problem. After reading his last letter to his friend Burton Wolfe, Burton offered to write it, and so LaVey's biographical details eventually became part of Introductions, written by Wolfe, and LaVey's own Introduction became a Foreword. The chapter of the Church of Satan itself is crossed out. [In listing many of Wolfe's publishing credits for Smith, LaVey also mentioned that for a while, Wolfe was a ghost writer for Hugh Hefner's Playboy Philosophy column. If you've ever admired how Satanic Playboy's principles of sexual freedom and indulgence seem, well, this may hint.] The Enochian key continues to grow, and in the same letter, LaVey gives us some interesting insight into how they do it: I revised the English translation of the [Enochian] Key very ... when they were translated during a period when Satan was much more of an underground soul than he needs now. So, of course, they have a somewhat inferior tone. I omit this feeling and return it to its original meaning as stated in the camouflage provided by the Enochian. This would be a freely translated version, rather than word for word, because the Key is very esoteric and tends to be a little overt because of that esotericism. The new version that has not been exposed that I will send is much more plausible, will be easy to understand by most, and, therefore, will serve its intended purpose... emotionally stimulating and diabolically correcting mantras for various purposes. I will also add a notation to each one that indicates the situation they will be using. I would like to state clearly that this translation is, 'an unexposed version, translated by Anton LaVey.' I have two reasons for this: first, I want my followers to realize that this, and only this, is truly Satan's and gives the original meaning of the Key, rather than the shrouded, white light, sterilized meaning that has been given by some conscience-stricken interpreter, and the fearful interpreter who has offered it to supernatural scholars, in the past. Secondly, I would take the wicked joy in imagining the reaction of so-called witches and witches when they discover that I have had the 'courage' to present their 'forbidden' odes in their original blasphemous form. Not even the 'most evil' of the messiahs they have dared it! I'll find this funniest. At the same time, LaVey wrote to Peter Mayer, as he had been ordered to keep her up-to-date on her media appearances. LaVey told him that the March 1969 issue of Playboy had an article, Cultville USA, in part, in Satan's Church. These are parts that are written snidely throughout, and bump us with all the white light, mystical groups, but reach a wide market and they spell the correct name... Caravel Films, an Italian film company that performs 'Mondo Cane' has just completed a segment of the film on us that will be part of a documentary about magic. It will be released in Europe on Sept. under the name 'Magic Report', and here in the US in December it may be titled 'The Power of Magic'. The title of the film evolved into Angeli Bianchi... Angeli Neri, or White Angel, Black Angel, and then Magic '70. The director, Luigi Scattini, lost control of the film was before its release and edited into sensational and snarkily narrated shock-schlock pieces that you can buy today on DVD. LaVey goes on to again express his concern over the title (And the book that tersa Apparently, Carol Sturm Smith did not like the Bible of Satan or the Bible of the Church of Satan as a title. He went to bat once again for the Satanic Bible... for several reasons. First, I think it's more outrageous than any other title, and secondly, it's the name we founded for the book. For example: the record refers to it as Satan's Bible', as does countless articles. Many people in the media waited and watched my 'Satanic Bible', as well as all the members had heard prospective texts about Satanism for some time under that title... Also... Dignified presentation will be achieved best by packing the book in a plain and hard black jacket with letters and symbols Baphomet in silver as the only ornament. On March 6, 1969, LaVey wrote to Carol Sturm Smith informing her that she had sent Enochian Keys and The Black Mass by air mail under a separate cover, and was working on a copy for the book's fourth title page. He also instructed her to change the word Shamad to Saitan in the section on Infernal Names. And he asked, again, if anyone could confirm his earnest hope, that his book would be titled, the Devil's Bible. LaVey wrote to Peter Mayer a few weeks later, with the news that Murgenstrumm Records was planning a national distribution of The Satanic Mass album to coincide with the book's release. He wondered if it was possible for two items to be cross-promoted – was Avon willing to include a mention of the album somewhere in satan's Bible? He also told Mayer that Playboy had requested two letters of response from LaVey, one as a follow-up to the cultville U.S.A. article mentioned above, and another to a piece by the former Rev. Harvey Cox, Religion and Morality. Mayer sent a letter on March 24, telling LaVey not to worry about the book's title: 'We'll get it done together... As for the publication date, it is not possible until the fall. For us to manage April 1 will mean having the manuscript completed on January 15. Sorry, but the date you like is an outside shot over the order of impossibility. On April 11, Mayer again wrote a letter to LaVey, telling him that it would not be appropriate to promote the Satanic Mass in the pages of the Bible: ... sounds hucksterish. Please send all mentions of The Church of Satan to our file. Carol said that the book would come good, but not as fast as she or you or I wanted. In fact, Carol also wrote to LaVey today, singling out her for answers to a series of questions she sent, plus a church chapter of Satan and a title page for the Books. He was referring to the earthquake recently in California: We in the east are all relieved that California is still clinging tightly to its the rest of the land, and this must have been the Mount Borrego Earthquake of April 8, 1969. LaVey immediately wrote back and assured him that he would get a chapter of The Church of Satan in the letter that night. Let me know what you think about it – I love it. He also assured her he would be working on the title page and would try to have it in the mail within a week. The query page he mentioned, however, is a mystery - he never received it. I don't know if it's the San Francisco or New York Police Department, but I hope you have a copy so you don't have to go into trouble putting it together a second time. Two weeks later, he wrote to Smith again, responding to some of the corrections he received. His reference is rather tempting, since he did not specify what the correction was. I think most of the corrections you make are in order and even the one I ask you to leave because I have them is reasonable advice. I can see your reasons for suggesting they be changed, but have a definite purpose to want them left as is. He told her that he covered the introduction by Burton Wolfe. It is unclear now how he refers to the chapter on the Church of Satan. He also sent a copy of the title page to one of the four Books and promised three others sometime this week. At this point, Carol Sturm Smith must have gotten used to taking these promises with a grain of salt. It took another three weeks for LaVey to write to Smith again, sending more promised material. He mentions getting side-tracked by other things. Well, one of the other things is a letter from Thomas Lipscomb of Prentice-Hall, expressing interest in publishing LaVey's next book as a hardcover. In the midst of trying to get his last writing done on the Satanic Bible, LaVey began collecting books that we now know as the Devil's Witch. He wrote to his agent, Mike Hamilburg, immediately with concerns over the exclusivity clause in his contract with Avon - does this have to do with hardcovers as well? Every future book I do I prefer in hardcover, first. She went on to ask Hamilburg if she knew any lecture bureaus she could approach about the many requests she received for public talks about Satanism. Of the many letters I received from college, there seemed to be a lot of interest for me to speak at various universities and colleges around the country. For some time now I have been putting off looking into this issue, but every time I receive another question about my tuition fees and booking date, it brings it to mind again, the same time, LaVey was approached by William Targ, an editor at Putnam's who had been referred to LaVey by Burton Wolfe. He's interested in publishing a book about the occult aspect where you're worried. Worry, respond with respect, send a copy of Satan's Mass and poster Satan Wants You. He referred it to Avon Books about the possibility of producing a hardcover edition of The Satanic Bible, as Avon was the publisher of paperback. Targ was happy to receive the album and promised he would... played the album when I got home tonight and was sure I'd enjoy it. When my friend Ira Levin visits me next, I will of course play it for him too! Returning to the Satanic Bible, it was funny to see him employ a little Lesser Magic with his apology to Smith, observing that this delay gave him the opportunity to spend more time with his baby. Children can of course be a wonderful buffer for a fast-paced existence – my five-year-old son is a constant source of entertainment for me! His letter goes on to talk about the appearance of the book itself. Regarding illustrations, the only thing available are the widely used carvings of old devils, etc. Avon has come to me to use artwork far superior to other paperback houses for their covers. In this case I prefer an almost scary cover in its formality - a black background with silver and silver cloister text or perhaps a red symbol of Baphomet (the reverse pentagram held by the dragon in this letterhead) directly below the text in the middle of the cover. Using this cover format may allow the cost of art typically incurred on cover design to be transferred to deep black and white artwork, which will surely distinguish the Bible from other paperbacks. Nymphs, satyrs, demons, bat-winged figures, flames hovering over and/or surrounding courtyards will, I am sure, pay off in the long run. In the end, all that was used was some drawings of The Church of Satan stationery, which we believe was sketched by LaVey himself. He finished by instructing Smith about another item: At the beginning of the entire Bible I wanted a solitary page reading: 'For Diane. At the end of the Bible I want one blank last page except the words, 'Yankee Rose'. For those hoping for one, I am sorry to tell you that no explanation was given. In mid-June, LaVey sent another copy of The Satanic Mass album to Avon; they will use the Baphomet symbol graphic on the jacket for the cover of the Satanic Bible. As editing progressed on the Bible, LaVey's agent got in touch with other publishers about bringing the book out in hardcover. Silva Romano wrote to LaVey to confirm for him that Peter Mayer at Avon could be praised for the idea and thought that Putnam might be a good place for the book. Unfortunately, before the end of June, Putnam gave the Satanic Bible a quick and hard pass, William Targ cited the house's policy of not issuing hardcover after the paperback edition has been released. As we all know, this is exactly what finally ended and that's just one more way LaVey's little black book breaks every print. [Satan's Bible] is the only published paper on the subject of Satanism, by a demon. When July came along, LaVey felt compelled to re-bring up the subject with its editor, Peter Mayer. It became quite clear that the Avon team had delayed answering LaVey in any final context on the issue, and one could easily feel and share his frustration. Ever since Burton Wolfe's book, The Satanists, now goes into final editing and mentions my book in its context, I want to clear up the indecision regarding the title for my Bible. As you know, I still prefer my original title, the Satanic Bible, for some reason. First, because it has become 'popular knowledge' that it will be that name ... Also, I just think it's more hand-held and hard-hitting than any other alternative that has been suggested. You haven't specifically said that you oppose that title, but since there are some differences about it, I would assume you have some reservations... If you feel strongly about the title you are proposing, the Church of Satan Bible, I can only follow it if the cover format emphasizes 'Bible' (probably three times larger than the other titles). Perhaps it was the lack of feedback of all kinds on this issue that frustrates LaVey the most, but we may all be grateful to the infernal god of our choice, that the right decision was made. It is impossible to imagine this book with another title, and it can be said that LaVey had a future in mind when he chose it - I believe many ages of satan's Bible can be attributed to the powerful important message conveyed by that title. Moreover, it is somewhat ironic that Wolfe's book, The Satanists, is being put on hold for confirmation of LaVey's title - in the end, The Satanists became The Devil's Avenger. LaVey continued. I have one small change I want to make on my confession page if I can. Directly by name, Mark Twain, I want George Bernard Shaw inserted - with brackets between Twain and Shaw and instead of 'a very brave man' after Twain, 'a very brave man' following the brackets - in other words, a statement for both men. They never made this correction. However, Avon managed to fix Logaro Bernardino Nogaro - with the 7th printing. Better late than never! LaVey then asked Mayer about the possibility of several copies of the book that were not bound to be sent to her for a special binding, for herself and some elected Church members. Staying up to date with the latest publicity reports, LaVey mentioned the review of The Satanic Mass album in the July 1969 issue of Playboy, and four pages about the Church in supplement to the Detroit Free Press Sunday for June 15. At this time LaVey also to Nancy Coffey, an Managing Editor at Avon, who has requested a photo of the author. LaVey has done photo sessions for professional photographer John Hendricks, who, in lieu of payment, has offered LaVey a selection of his photos to use as he wishes. I thought this one would be the best, as I pointed out in the clerical collar. However, I have each other that I consider, which shows me with my lion. The composition is very good and the picture is good from the lion and myself. Nancy was happy and reassured her, the photo will reproduce very well and we will return it to you when we are done with it. He can confirm that the book will come out in December and that the Church will receive 500 copies directly from the bindery, but that Avon will not be able to provide an unbound copy. In August 1969, LaVey heard directly from Avon's publicity department for the first time. Judy Weber sent her a questionnaire asking for standard biographical details. Under 'The Occupation of the Past, he reported the same list of jobs we are all familiar with: oboist symphonies (age 16), carnival workers (sideshows, 'giri!' performances, fortune tellers, 'spooky' performances), circus wild animal trainers, concert organizers, calliope players, music teachers, pianists for house banter, clinical hypnotists, psychic researchers or 'ghost hunters', architectural designers, criminologists, painters (oil), lecturers. His interests and hobbies are also consistent with what LaVey has always talked about, with some interesting details... magic and the supernatural, obviously - classical music and wild animals love it. Owned and kept 500 lb., the male African lion in his San Francisco townhouse for more than three years. Lion name: 'Togare.' The lion is now at the S.F. Zoo, and the father of four boys is named: Satan, Lucifer, Belial, Leviathan. The announcement of my name and the Church of Satan was given in reference to the lion donator, on all tours of the Zoo. Unfortunately, this questionnaire has arrived with its name and the title of the book has been filled out: the Bible of the Church of Satan. LaVey headed to his typewriter and dogged another mashed up letter to Avon, this one addressed to Managing Editor Nancy Coffey, informing him of all the sales questions they received at Central, and presenting his case once again: I was under the assumption that the question of the title had been resolved and that it was to be the Devil's Bible, but when I received my 'author's questionnaire', the title is given as: The Bible of the Church of Satan. Is this because the publicity department hasn't been informed of the correct name, or is there still some difference? I would definitely like to be published under my original title, and feel it would be foolish to negate the advance publicity that has been do, by throwing prospective buyers from with different titles. In mid-September, LaVey heard from Silva Romano at Hamilburg's agency, informing him that the kitchen would be delivered in about three weeks, and that he and Peter Mayer hoped to have it at that year's Frankfurt Book Fair, one of the biggest events in the publishing world. Before long, a letter arrives that inevitably leaves LaVey twitching her prickly tail in joy and contentment: Nancy Coffey sends a proof of the cover, full of its title that shines o't oats from its all-black cover: the Satanic Bible. It's not a dream; This is really happening. In October, she wrote back to Coffey expressing her excitement at the cover and conveying how impressed everyone was when she showed it off. He planned a Halloween press tour to Detroit, Michigan and then to New York, and explained with wicked glee what he planned with the proof of the cover he received: Lou Gordon's show in Detroit had asked me several times in the last six months to appear... I told [the producer] I wouldn't have a Bible before December 1, but would have proof of the cover... I can't see any reason why I can't just put the cover on another paperback and use a tried and true magic formula – misdeed – and go ahead and promote the book. He was always trying to convey new publicity, so he reported that the secret November 1969 issue brought a new article about Sharon Tate that included her quote, and she mentioned Hans Holzer: The Truth About Magic, by Hans Holzer – published by Doubleday has close to a chapter about myself and the Church, which is good enough if you can ignore the glaring inaccuracies in spelling and other fields. After receiving a question from Judy Weber, her publicity representative at Avon, she wrote confirming the date she would be in New York City and expressing her desire to meet her and other contacts in Avon. While in New York, he stayed at the Barbizon Plaza Hotel, a respectable old place built just a month after Anton LaVey was born. It's across the street from Central Park, and close to Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. If Guy Woodhouse was around, he might have observed that he could walk into all the movies from there. The publicity trip went well, and the LaVeys were able to meet with Coffey and Weber while they were in New York. Judy Weber tried to contact LaVey with reporters from a major news service, who made a mistake on the call at 9:00 a.m.m on Sunday morning after LaVey worked through the night, and got a forced and entitled mite in need of an interview. He may never make that mistake again. What LaVey did, now the Satanic Bible Go to sleep? Why, the Compleat Witch, of course. Negotiations with Tom Lipscomb at Prentice-Hall have been completed and a contract is being sent. But it is is for another day. In late November, LaVey updated his agency again, and said he was waiting for a copy of the Bible promotion to arrive so he could start promoting it. I realize that paperback books are usually harder to review than hardcover books, but I have more opportunities to reach the public than most authors. Silva Romano responded a few weeks later assuring him that Avon had confirmed that the shipment of 500 copies had just come out, and covered the rest of his down payment from the Avon Commission minus: a check for \$1,012.50. Sometime during the last week of November 1969 (just in time for Thanksgiving), the first Satanic Bible arrived at the Black House. Personalized copies of signatures dated November 27, 1969 and November 29, 1969 have been identified for our records. There is no direct evidence or observation of Anton LaVey's reaction to receiving his first copy of the Satanic Bible. We can work from the assumption that it is very, very satisfying. I saw him holding it, passing his hand over the cover, sitting down to flip it over at length - then walking into his ritual room and putting it on the altar. Perhaps a nice dinner with friends is quickly arranged; Of course, I hope some bottles aren't corroded. One of the questions on the author's survey from Avon was, 'What reaction to your book did you anticipate?' He replied: 'Nothing else is expected in presenting the most blasphemous and controversial religion in the 'civilized' world... My book is a Bible written by a self-confessed devil for satan (or would be satan), and those who seek the truth about the same thing. This is the only volume of its kind in the history of religion. This is the only published work on the subject of Satanism, by a Satan. In previous articles, I have detailed the painstaking process of submitting parts of the book, piece by piece, for weeks and months, of deadlines he missed, and corrections and changes he would not accept. The editors encouraged him; the market encouraged it; many letters flowed to the Church of Satan encouraging him to get the manuscript to be. He listened, but he never rushed. He wrote the book he wanted to write. There are people who have tried to tell you that he always plans to rewrite someday. I think there's enough evidence here - and tonight, in this room - to convince us that he's taking the time he needs. For fifty years the Bible of Satan! Long live the devil! Read Magistra Nadramia's Addendum to Be Written: The History of Satan's Bible

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