



adelma von vay



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## THE DOPPELGANGER OR DOUBLE

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Prispevki k odkrivanju zgodovine ezoteričnih tradicij - v izvorniku

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THE question of the appearance of doubles being at present frequently discussed in spiritual circles, we should like to give you our views on the subject. When a spirit becomes incarnated, and lives on the earth as man, a so-called guardian spirit accompanies him, who becomes likewise, to a certain extent, incarnated with him. The child is born into the flesh, the guardian spirit dwells in the perispirit or nerve-aura, and takes a form exactly similar to that of its medium, or foster-child. This guardian is the double or twin-spirit of the incarnated spirit of the man. In this way every man has with him a living, ever-abiding *facsimile*, a protecting spirit, who is inseparable from him. This double stands on a higher spiritual grade than the man himself — he accompanies him, guides him, warns him; both are united by a psychic band. In the legends of the saints you may have read how such doubles have performed their earthly duties, while the said saints were rapt in the ecstasy of prayer. It is said that St. Isidore, a husbandman, was praying in the field, and when, after three hour's devotion, he was about to renew his work, he found an angel guiding the oxen in the plough. His double had accomplished the labour for him. There are many such accounts. Some persons see themselves, that is, their own double, or accompanying spirit, and even converse with it. Cagliostro, some mediums, and even those without any special medial gifts, have been seen to appear in distant places, while they were quietly at home; this happens by the attraction of certain spirits, who are able to take on the form of the person in question.

Persons of strong mesmeric power, who understand the art of magic, can draw numbers of doubles around them, and can send them out on various missions: but a deep knowledge of magical power is necessary for this. It is by means of thee double that photographs of living persons are obtained at a distance. The higher spirits, in the spirit world even, have their protecting guides, or doubles, who can take on their form, language, and character; and this explains why one and the same spirit can be in a hundred places at the same time, with a hundred different mediums. If, in the same teaching, varieties of style and expression are apparent, it is because these doubles, or representatives of the actual spirit, give it the impress of their own minds. It is possible in this way to cause a double to appear before you, and to take plaster casts of that form. Adelma, my medium, was photographed by Schofft (at Buda-Pest) with her own double. If this subject were more studied, it would be possible to make appointments

with your friends' doubles on certain days. It often happens now that the Spirit of a man himself will wander forth from his body, and then his double takes his place in his body, while the man wanders about in the perispirit of the double. You live a twofold life, and there is a twofold working in life. Two spirits appear as one, though to the clairvoyant eye both are seen separately. The protecting spirit comes with its charge to earth, and they are inseparably united during life. In some instances they are not divided in the life beyond.

*Gonobitz, Austria.*