



# **Metaphysical Odyssey Into the Mexican Revolution: Francisco I. Madero and His Secret Book, Spiritist Manual**

*C. M. Mayo*

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**WINNER, NATIONAL INDIE EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR HISTORY**

In a blend of biography, personal essay, and a rendition of deeply researched metaphysical and Mexican history that reads like a novel, award-winning writer and noted literary translator C.M. Mayo provides a rich introduction and the first translation of the secret book by Francisco I. Madero, leader of Mexico's 1910 Revolution and President of Mexico 1911-1913.

"Mayo... provides not only an English translation of Madero's Spiritist Manual, but also a lively introduction... **The author argues effectively that Madero's manual is essential to understanding his revolutionary zeal.**"--*Kikus Reviews*

*"Suspend your disbelief, dear reader, and spend a few moments with the Spiritist Manual. After its introduction by Mayo, I started in on it, expecting to be bored silly as I usually am by most ritualistic spiritual manuals-- excluding writers like Blavatsky...and what some now refer to as the "Neo-Modernist Buddhists:" Jack Kornfeld, Mark Epstein, Jakusho Kwong Rosh, Alan Watts, and the late prison guru, Bo Lozoff. Despite my affection for these writers, it was with heavy heart that I embarked on the pages of The Metaphysical Odyssey. But, I am here to tell you: they were, if you pardon the expression, a revelation" --*

**THE REVIEW OF ARTS LITERATURE, PHILOSOPHY, AND THE HUMANTIES**

*"Few have read and interpreted the soul of Mexico as Mayo has... Mayo's signal achievement is to be the first translator of a much stranger book of Madero's, his Spiritist Manual (Manual Espírita, 1911), and to include it in her study of Madero's metaphysical vision...[Mayo's] translator's notes and her research into Madero and related arcana such as the Biblioteca Orientalista have produced a long and winding study that satisfies both with its thoroughness and with its titillating other-worldiness.... Metaphysical Odyssey is as entertaining as it is informative. In the end, though, it is more. It's somewhat haunting. This derives partly from Madero's valor and genuineness and partly from the cri de coeur of an entire nation seeking a new way."-- EZRA Translation Journal*

*"Interesting, in an odd way, as the 90 page "Spiritist Manual" is, it is Mayo's own story of how she came to translate the book, that holds you. The strange paths of research and scholarship it led her into that makes up the bulk of her own "Metaphysical Odyssey into the Mexico Revolution"....we are embarking on a journey into the -- not unknown, but forgotten -- intellectual past. Mayo -- who after all is a travel writer, among her several talents -- is our guide on what is as much her own "Metaphysical Odyssey" as a journey down roads less traveled, but with one heck of an unusual view." --THE MEX FILES*

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