

lowest ... contains all the 48 higher

¹The cosmos consists of primordial atoms (called monads by Pythagoras), which are composed to make 48 kinds of atoms, each in succession coarser than the previous ones, in seven continuous series of seven atomic kinds in each. These atomic kinds make up the 49 cosmic worlds.

²Each lower atomic kind is formed out of the next higher one (2 out of 1, 3 out of 2, 4 out of 3, etc.). The lowest atomic kind (49) thus contains all the 48 higher kinds. When an atomic kind is dissolved, the next higher kind is obtained; out of the physical atom are obtained 49 atoms of atomic kind 48.

³All matter (atomic kinds, molecular kinds, aggregates, worlds, etc.) is formed and dissolved. Only primordial atoms are eternal and indestructible

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