

MYSTICAL GRADE OF 7=4

The Ceremony of the Grade of the Adeptus Exemptus

BEING THE GRADE OF THE RED ROSE WHICH BLOSSOMED

OFFICERS

Magus: Grey robe, white headdress with gold cord, leopard skin, sandals, spray of almond.

King of Salam: Blue and purple robe, winged sphere, lamen, incense.

Shekinah: Rose~coloured tunic, black belt, acacia.

Postulant: 1/white tunic, red shoes. 2/brown cloak and cowl, sandals, staff.
3/robe of glory.

ANTE-ROOM: Draped in red. Pastos upright and draped in white.

PORTAL: Sand~coloured with Cross of Lights. Ankh and Tat Pillars at South and North of Cross. Tripod of Salt at West.

VAULT: Square, blue with violet floor. Grey veil across East side, white and gold altar, red Mars Symbols on green cup, curtain on outer side of the Vault Door.

FOUR STARS: FOMALHAUT-12 rays; SIRIUS-24 rays; REGULUS-36 rays;
ALDEBARAN-72 rays

3 KEYS: Wheel of Fortune-Hermit-Fortitude.

N.B. MG means Magus KG means King of Salam SH means Shekinah POST means Postulant

OPENING:

Vault Door wide open; curtain drawn back.

Magus stands within holding branch of pink almond blossom.

Shekinah stands by Tat Pillar with spray of acacia her left hand; and a lighted lantern in right hand.

King of Salam stands by Ankh Pillar; a red rose in his left hand, censer in his right hand.

MG "Ye Heavens open and ye winds be still, and let God's Death Sphere receive the Word."

KG "0 ADONAI HA ARETZ, MELEKH, ISRAEL, Thou who didst appear unto Moses in the flame of fire in the bush and gavest him the law in Sinai; come and redeem us with stretched arms."

(He makes 1st sign)

SH "0 Sapienta, Pistis Sophia, Thou who camest out of the mouth of the Most High, reaching from one end to another, mightily and sweetly ordering all things come and show the way of understanding."

(She makes the 2nd sign)

MG "Let us together all give Praise to Him, sublime above the Heavens, of every Nature, Lord."

(He makes the 3rd sign)

ALL "0 Clavis David, Sharbith Israel Thou who openest and no man shutteth, and shuttest no man openeth, come and bring the Prisoner out of the Prison House, and Him that sitteth in darkness out of the shadow of death."

ALL REPEAT THE 4th SIGN ALL FACE EAST

MG "EL Strong and Powerful" "El, Lord of Light, bestow onus Thy Grace, that we in unity with Thee may impart these Mysteries, a Father only may bestow upon a son Initiate; that he, becoming thus the Eagle, may soar to Heaven and contemplate Thy Face. For verily, it is beyond his reach; that being beneath the sway of death, he should unaided soar into the Height, together with the golden sparkling of the Brilliancy that knows no Death. Grant we beseech Thee most Merciful, that he may be Holy even as Thou art Holy, that being made one with Thee, he may draw all men unto Thee. Amen."

(They prostrate themselves)

Point 1

Lights extinguished, Door set ajar. Bell struck four times, the POSTULANT approaches the Door.

KG (Opens Door wide) "By what key wouldst thou unlock this Door?"

POST (holds out his spray of acacia and replies) "My brow is like unto the Kings. My lips are open. My heart is upon its throne."

(The KG clasps the Postulant's hand in the 6=5, holds the Postulant's other arm firmly just above the elbow, draws the Postulant into the dark room, and guides him backwards in a spiral to the anteroom: The Postulant is placed upright in the Pastos, then the KG binds him round the KNEES with AMBER cord
the LOINS with VIOLET cord
the HEART with BLACK cord
the HEAD with SILVER cord

(saying)

KG (for Knees) "The Feet of Sothis are established; thou art born into their State of Rest." (for Loins) "Thou has inherited Eternity, and Everlastingness hath been bestowed upon thee." (for Heart) "There is nothing hid which shall not be made manifest, nor buried which shall not be raised." (for Brow) "Thou shalt be aware that thou art the Son of the Father, and Thou shall know that thou art in the City of God, and thou art that city."

(KG withdraws, leaving the Postulant alone. The Door is partly closed, showing the Wheel of Fortune Key. One of the Officers reads dearly so that Postulant may hear through partially dosed Door.)

"Harken now unto the Mystery of the Tarot Key before thee, and meditate thereon in thy heart. Is not the Taro itself named after the Rota? The Wheel of Destiny: of Birth and Rebirth. Lo, do not the radii thereof spring from the White Centre of the Divine Spirit, passing into the darkness of the womb of the Divine Mother; that being born of the Virgin, they may be crucified upon the Cross of Manifestation, and thence commit themselves again unto the Father." "Man indeed standeth between Spirit and Matter, betwixt Angel and Animal, at the summit of his ascent. We behold as in a glass darkly, that Perfected Being whom our Father strove to represent in the Sphinx, compound of the four elements in balanced disposition." "The Intelligence of Man; the soaring spirit of the Eagle, the fiery heart of the Lion, and the firm stability of the Bull. Born of the Spirit, he must descend into Malkuth, even till he is clothed with the coat of skin; the Body which is prepared for him, by the humble brothers of the flesh. And thence shall he arise again, bearing him that creation which groaneth and travaileth together with him until now awaiting Redemption." "The 21st Path is the Intelligence of Conciliation and is so called because it receives the Divine Influence which

flows into it from its Benediction upon all and each existence."

(A long pause during which the Postulant must repeat to himself the Mantra given him to learn in his prep. While he does this, he should continue to gaze at the revolving wheel. In the interval the Lights of the Cross are arranged in the Portal, and the Tripod of Salt placed just within the entrance from the anteroom. The 4 Stars must also be put ready.)

GREEN star by the SALT BLUE star on the TAT RED star on the ANKH
SILVER star within the VAULT

Mantra: "Earthborn and bound etc."

(One of the Officers enters (KG of S) He opens the Door but does not withdraw the curtain. He points to the brown cloak, sandals, and staff which lie on the floor and says:)

KG "The ascent of the Mt. of Initiation must be toilsome; each of us must pass through the Dark Gate of Death before we can attain the summit; each must tread the fiery Path of Purgatory, tracing again therein the Rescuing Symbol of the Cross marked therein in lines of flame, Guarded by the Lion of Fortitude." "And to do this, the Initiate must also be the Hermit, the Dweller in the Desert, the Pilgrim clothed indeed in brown habit of Earth, yet supported By the Fire Staff of steadfast will and aspiration, seeking the Light of Inspiration which in due season he will receive from the hand of the Great Mother, a spark of the indwelling Glory which ever hallows the Holy places of Humanity. Thus may be loosed the binding cords of desire and lust. Thus may he truly dedicate himself, body, soul, life and spirit to the living service, and thus may be at length exchange the Robe of Earthly Darkness for the Wedding Robe of Glory and attain the Beatific Vision." "The 20th Path of the Sepher Yetzirah is called the Intelligence of Will: it is so called because it is the means of preparation of all and each created Being; and by the Intelligence the existence of the Primordial Wisdom becomes known." "The 19th Path of the Sepher Yetzirah called me Intelligence of the Secret of all the activities of the Spiritual Beings, and it is so called because of the Influence diffused by it from the Most High and Exalted Supreme Glory."

POINT 2

(The Postulant should now, without prompting, step forth from the Pastos; stoop, take the brown cloak, don it and the sandals, and take the staff in his right hand. The Officer disappears. One bell sounds (!). The curtain is drawn back revealing a Lion in open Door way; behind him stands Shekinah, a lighted lantern in her hand. She holds this out to Postulant.

SH "He that would be greatest, let him be the Server."

(Postulant makes the 60-50 signs, lays his hand for an instant on the head of the Lion, then takes the Lantern and replies:)

POST "Server of Silence, is my name."

(Shekinah withdraws, lion disappears, thus showing Tripod of Salt. Postulant kneels on both knees, sprinkles salt on himself and says aloud:)

POST "Earth to Earth, and Body to Body. In the name of Adonai Ha Aretz, Lord and King of Earth, I dedicate my body to the Service of the Highest."

(He looses the amber cord from his knees, lays it across the Salt.) (The King of Salem comes forward, and fastens the Green Star on his left knee¹ saying:)

KG "And behold a Star in the West; even Fomalhaut in His brightest and His rays shall guide thy feet."

(Tripod is removed. Postulant moves forward entering the Cross of Light. He passes between the Lines of Light till his way is barred: he turns to Left and comes to the Tat Pillar with the bowl of water on the top and a cup of white wine on the blue arm; he takes the cup, wets his lips with the wine, then pours the rest into the bowl of water, falls on left knee and cries:)

POST "Water to Water and Soul to Soul. In the name of the Great Mother, I dedicate my soul to the service of the Highest."

(He loosens the violet cord from his loins, and hangs it across the Tat. Shekinah comes forward and binds the blue Star around his waist, raises him and says:)

SH "Peace, Peace unto him that is near. Let the Light of Sothis bring Peace unto thy Soul."

(Postulant turns and goes to Ankh Pillar. He sprinkles incense on the flame, falls on right knee and cries:)

POST "Fire to Fire and Life to Life. In the Names of Jah, everlasting, I dedicate my Life to the Service of the Highest."

(He looses the black cord, throws it through the Loop and Ankh. King of Salam comes forward, raises him and hangs red Star across his breast saying:)

KG "Thy heart is as the Heart of the Lion. and the Star of the King, even Regulus shall burn upon thy breast."

(Postulant turns back and is directed to approach the Vault entrance where the scarlet Mars on the green curtain hangs. He raises his lantern on high, lays his

staff across the threshold before the curtain and cries:)

POST "Light to Light and Spirit to Spirit. In the Name that may not be uttered, I dedicate my spirit to the Service of the Most High."

(Curtain is withdrawn. Shekinah stands within the Vault. Her veil is thrown back, and she holds in both hands the CRYSTAL SPHERE upon which the Sigil of the Postulant is engraved.)

SH "I am he; and He is I, and Lo, the Creator hath placed the Crystal Sphere within the Starry Heavens."

(She gives him the Sphere, takes the lantern and places it on the right side of the altar, then turns again and loosens the cord about his brow, saying:)

SH "Let the silver cord be loosed."

(She lays the cord across the left side of the altar, takes the silver star and puts it about his brow, saying:)

SH "I have given unto thee the Starry Crown of ALDEBARAN, that thou mayest pass onward into the Heavenly Path."

POINT 3:

Postulant is directed to kneel in front of the Vault entrance and draw the cowl of his Pilgrim's Robe over his eyes. There is a pause. At the end of this, the bell rings (!).

Postulant is raised to his feet and drawn across the threshold into the Vault with the 7=4 Grip. The brown cloak is taken from him and laid aside. At his feet is the Cross of 6 Squares; beyond this, the altar.

KG "The Father hath given commandment and the Son hath made for me a Spiritual Body through his own Soul. I am he who hath travelled far and who hath made pilgrimage among the stars of Heaven, even the Heart of the Mother and She gave both to me because it was Her will to do so."

"I am Osiris, the First born of the Gods;" "I have become a Divine Being;" "I have renewed my youth as the Eagle;" "Behold, I was watched and guarded; but now I am released;" "Behold, I was bound with cords, but now is my Crystal Sphere within the Starry Heavens."

"Lo I have knowledge and I have Truth; Yea movement is restored unto my hands and feet."

"I have passed through the Gate of Fomalhaut" "I have come forth from the Star Sothis." "I have received the Hear' of the Lion." "I am crowned with the Crown of 72 rays."

"Now let my soul be called into Thy presence, and my spirit laid upon Thine altar."

"Oh my Father, I have come before Thee and Thou has caused me to enter the Hidden Abode. Strengthen Thou me as Thou has strengthened Thyself, and show Thyself unto Thy Son. Oh Thou who returnest and withdrawest Thyself: let Thy Will be done."

SM "O Mystery which is without in the Worlds, because of which we hath come into existence." "This is the whole outgoing and the whole upgoing which hath emanated all emanations, and all that is therein, because of which, all Mysteries exist and all their Regions come unto me. O Thou that returnest and withdrawest Thyself; Come unto us for we are Thy limbs. Come unto us for we are all one with Thee. We are one and the same; Thou art the Father, and we altogether draw nigh unto Thee that Thou mayest receive this Thy Son. Strengthen Him as Thou has strengthened Thyself, and show Thyself unto Him that Thy Will may be done." "Come unto us for we all draw nigh unto Thee. Lo! We clothe this Thy Son in a Shining Robe of Glory."

(She puts the robe on Postulant and points to the Cross on the Floor.)

SM "The last shall be the first; and the lowest, the highest. Yea, Malkuth shall be exalted unto the Throne of Kether and all shall be consumed and become Infinite and Holy. For Behold! The stone which the Builder rejected, the same shall become the Chief cornerstone. The Cross of Suffering is transmuted with the Keystone of the Arch; and raised thereon above the Earth, the Son shall offer that which he hath received and peradventure then may behold the face of his Father."

(The Postulant must fold up the Cross into a cube and kneel thereon, supported by SH and KG. Postulant holds his Crystal in both hands and bends his head.)

(there is a pause) (Magus appears behind Veil.)

MG "Be still, My Son" "Hear the praise giving that keeps the soul in tune-the Hymn of rebirth- the Song of Union." "Be still, My Son" "Thus shalt thou know that He is Himself, both things that are and things that are not; the things that are, He hath made manifest. He keepeth things that are not in Himself. He is the God beyond all Name. He is the Unmanifest. He is the most Manifest. He whom the mind alone can contemplate. He: visible unto the eyes as well, He is the One of no body, the One of many bodies; may, rather of every body. Naught is there which He is not, for all are He and He is ALL." "Be still, My Son"

KG "All are in Thee. All are from Thee, O Thou who gavest all and takest naught. For Thou has all and naught is there which Thou hast not. That Thou art whatever I may be, Thou art whatever I may do. Thou art whatever I may speak, for Thou art All and there is nothing else which Thou art not."

SH "Thou art that which doth exist, and Thou art that which existeth not. Mind when Thou thinkest and Father when Thou makest and God when Thou dost energize and God and Maker of All."

MG "Be still, My Son. For I will sing the Praise of Him Who founded All; Who fixed the Earth and hung the Heaven, Who ruleth the Sea; Who makes the Fire to Shine: Tis He who is the Eye of Mind. O Life and Light, from us to Thee our praises flow Father; I give thanks to Thee, the Energy of all Energies. Take back from me All unto Thyself. From Thee, Thy Will to Thee all that is in us-O Life Preserve, O Light Illumine. O Creator Inspire, Father of Light in whom is no Shadow of Fault, receive Thy son."

(Postulant drops Crystal into Cauldron and raises his head. The Veil is silently parted and the Magus touches Postulant lightly on the heart, lips, eyes and brow with the Almond Branch; he then lays his hand for a moment on the head of the Postulant. There is a pause. Then Officers help him to rise and show signs.)

MG "Son, REMEMBER-Herein thou hast given thy ALL even to the uttermost; hence forward there can be no separateness for thee; and that thou mayest bear this in mind, I give thee the watchword ACHAD, which signifies UNITY. I give thee 2 numbers: 13 (the number of ACHAD), and 31 (the number of AL, the Divine Name of this Grade). Both these numbers conceal the number 4, which is manifestation. I greet thee as MENES THEOROS (Abider: Dweller on the Mountains). Remember then, O son, that in thee shall be manifest the Unity of the Divine One, and in token thereof, let us call upon Him in the four fold mystic and terrible name."

"A. EE. AE. 00." MG intones AA. SH intones FE. KG intones AF. POST intones 00.

The Veil closes, and the Magus withdraws. All leave the Vault.

THE END