

INNER ORDER CEREMONY

Chief: My brothers and sisters, in the name of the Rose Cross, I greet you all.

It is known in our secret wisdom that the things which are above continually lift to their realm the things that are below, and return them after a great transfiguration. Thus the work of Wisdom is continued, and the grace of the supernal Zion is communicated to the Zion which is on Earth, whereat the worlds rejoice and are fulfilled.

I therefore ask you to join with me in my intention, to assume this external and visible lodge of the Companions of the Stone into the House not made by Hands, builded of lively Stones, the Company of the Adepts. And so it is assumed.

[At this point, the inner temple is visualized. It is a certain bare room with eight windows, four in the corners and four in the walls, and a circular window also set in the roof, which is very high above it. Although this establishes an astral Temple, it is done in such a way that it points well beyond the simple astral. The following speech is made by the Chief bilocated, as it were, in both Temples.]

Chief: Brothers and sisters of the Rose Cross, we know that there is a certain Palace or Temple, erected of old by Wisdom as a Witness to the Mysteries that are above the sphere of Knowledge, and that this Temple or Palace is of the Supernal Triad. Here the Shekinah dwelt until the first creation was made void, the Holy Place laid waste, and the Children of the House of Wisdom taken into the captivity of the outer senses.

There we have worshiped since in houses made with hands. Yet never have the whispers of the higher realm been absent from our hearts, and this is the token that we may yet return into the House which is above. As in the Temple of the Heart, so in the outer Temple of Initiation, we have present certain teachers from Within, deputed to guard and lead the Lesser Mysteries and those who advance therein, that they may be fitted in due course to participate in the Light which is beyond it.

It is by the virtue of this link that I have assumed those things that are without into the things that are within at this secret meeting held at the (Spring/Fall) Equinox, for the solemn purpose of proclaiming a new Dirigent charged with the keeping of this Lodge for the coming six months, one part of the temporary period that intervenes between us and our rest.

[At this point, there may be silence to commune with those who may come in the Light, and to receive from them what authority

and power they bring to what follows. From the speech of the Chief above to the end of this silence is the core inner connection of the Rite, as the Higher and Lower are joined. In what follows, the Inner and Outer are superimposed, and thus the visualization needs certain landmarks (the eight windows) to tie it to the Lodge. This is at once the culmination of the last section and the first moment of the next.]

Chief: (rises; all rise and give LVX signs with Chief) Brothers and sisters of the Order of the Rose Cross, by the power vested in me, I now proceed to install and invest the Adept Dirigent of Emerald Lodge #3 of the Companions of the Stone.

Chief: Adept Companion N., you will bring the insignia of the Dirigent to the east. (Done.) You have been elected by the Companions of your Lodge to serve as Adept Dirigent for the next six months. Are you willing to assume these duties and responsibilities?

Dirigent: I am.

Chief: Then you will give the Grand Sign of the Rose Cross.

(Dirigent does so.)

Chief: The Sign is correct. You will give the Grand Word of the Rose Cross.

(Dirigent does so)

Chief: The Word is correct. Let us therefore remember, that when the Body is assumed by the Word, then we become living Souls. Thus it is that we persevere in the Pathway of the Cross as we look for the Assumption of the Rose. Will you thus persevere?

Dirigent: I will.

Chief: Then attend with care to the Charge of the Dirigent. The Office of Dirigent involves grave duties and responsibilities, since in the Dirigent's hands is the management of the affairs of the Lodge of the Outer Order, whereby the influx of Light is maintained. Take counsel, therefore, with the Inner Order on all important occasions, and strive to maintain a regular communion with the Guardians of the Outer Temple, so that the Temple and its Rites may exhibit, after your tenure, an even greater beauty and an increased light. Remember that the Guardians of the Outer Temple are deputed from within, and let you labor with them that Peace may be maintained with Power. I therefore ask you again, whether it is your will to take on these burdens?

Dirigent: It is.

Chief: Then repeat after me:

I, Brother/Sister _____, in the name of the Lord of the Universe, and of the Eternal Unity which I seek with all brothers and sisters of the Order of the Rose Cross, do solemnly promise that I will fulfill, to the utmost of my power, the Office which has been chosen for me, and which I have accepted freely; that I will maintain the Rites of the Order and the well-being of the Lodge and each of its members; that I will work together with the Guardians of the Temple and the Order, and govern in harmony with the Council and the Grand Assembly, without fear or favor, in accordance with the dictates of my own conscience. This I affirm by the Symbol of our Order.

Chief: Companion Dirigent Elect, I name you Adept Dirigent of Emerald Lodge #3 of the Companions of the Stone, and empower you to govern the work of the Outer Order under the dispensation of the Guardians for the coming six months. May the Light which is behind the Veil shine through you from your throne in the East on the Companions of the Order, and lead them to the perfect day, when the Glory of this world passes, and a great light shines over the splendid sea.

Receive the insignia of a Dirigent Adept. (Chief places it on Dirigent.) Bear it unspotted; keep clean your heart beneath it; may the virtue which it typifies stay with you even after the term of your office, and maintain you in your search after the White Stone on which a new name is written which none knows but the one who receives it.

By the Power in me vested, I install you as Dirigent Adept of Emerald Lodge #3 of the Companions of the Stone. May you be enthroned also in your proper place among those who are Above.

(He leaves his place and seats the new Dirigent.)

Brothers and sisters of this lodge, behold your Dirigent, clothed with the attributes of the lawful Governor of the Mysteries for those our Order is leading toward the Light. You are the Adepti of these Mysteries; assist our Dirigent to proclaim them, that those who are without may be led in love to that which is within. Join now, all present, in a common act of thanks.

(All rise and face east.)

All: We give thanks, Fountain of all Being, for the manifestation of thy Light that has been granted us, and for the firm hope of further Light beyond. Keep our Companion Dirigent in the ways of thy Justice, that our Dirigent may well and worthily direct the guidance of those who have been called from the tribulations of Darkness into the Light of this little Kingdom of thy love; and grant too that going forward in love for Thee, they may pass from the Desire of thy House into the Light of thy Presence.

Inner Order Ceremony

Chief Adept: Peace be with you, brothers and sisters. The work of the Light for which we have assumed this Temple has been accomplished, and the Lodge has received its Dirigent. Let us return from the Inner Temple, and set our faces toward the Outer.

[At this point, all are seated and the Inner Temple is de-visualized. After the return, the Chief continues.]

Chief: By the power in me vested, I return this Temple to its place in the Outer World, taking with it those graces and benedictions we have been permitted to bestow. And so it is returned. In the name of the Lord of the Universe, who works in silence and whom nothing but silence can express.

All: Amen.

(All give LVX signs, and return the Outer Temple to its ordinary state. The Dirigent remains seated in the Throne of the East.)