



ROSICRUCIAN INITIATION

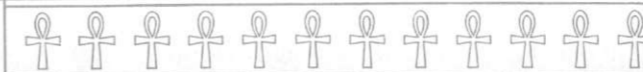
ROSICRUCIAN ORDER
AMORC



NEOPHYTE SECTION

Atrium 2

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The Story of Light

All the great avatars who gave to humanity spiritual doctrines or a moral code enabling men and women to commune with the Cosmic and receive its Illumination, were Torchbearers of the Great Light which, thanks to them, lit the world through history's darkest periods. Without their help it is likely that the human race would not have advanced to its present level of understanding and tolerance, even though we must recognize that humanity still has far to go to be a model of Divine Perfection on earth. In concordance with this initiation, whose purpose is to awaken your spiritual being, we offer this short biography of one of those great avatars who, through time and space, transmitted Light to humanity.

MOSES

Among all the Masters known to humanity, Moses is one of the few to have been deified within his lifetime. His uncommon destiny made Moses the beacon of an entire people and the prophet of a great religion. Historians agree that he was the creator of the Israelite nation and the founder of Judaism. According to classical and biblical texts, Moses, son of Jochebet and of the Levite Amram, was born in Egypt during the reign of Sethi I (c. 1300 B.C.). Fearing the realization of prophecies which announced that a savior would be born among the Hebrews and would liberate them from bondage, Sethi ordered that all the newborn of Hebrew families be put to death. Moses' mother placed him in a wicker basket and abandoned him to the Nile. The pharaoh's daughter found the baby when she was bathing in the river and she adopted the infant. It was she who gave him the name of Moses which, translated literally from the Hebraic word *mascia* signifies "Saved from the waters."

Moses was thus raised at the court of the pharaoh who, unaware of Moses' true origin, treated him like a son. But the day came when the pharaoh discovered Moses' true identity and then banished the young man from Egypt. After wandering in the desert, Moses was taken in by the family of Jethro and married Sephora, one of his daughters. She spoke to him of the God who lives on Mount Horeb, which became known later as Mount Sinai. According to classical history and biblical texts, Moses went to that mountain one day and heard the voice of God emanating from a bush that burnt without being consumed. He then received the mission of returning to Egypt and liberating his people.

(continued on inside back cover)

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Dear Fratres and Sorores,

The time has now come for you to step beyond the Portal leading to the second room of the antechamber of the symbolic Temple of our tradition. We urge you to now perform the following ritual, for it constitutes an initiation into the teachings that will be transmitted to you in the Second Atrium. As was true for the introductory ritual to the First Atrium, it is imperative that you place yourself in the proper setting, because the effectiveness of this ritual depends to a large extent on the mental and emotional conditions associated with it. Thus, it must be performed within a Rosicrucian Sanctum, be it permanent or temporary. In other words, you should have at your disposal a table, mirror, and two candles.

As you proceed with this ritual, never forget that its purpose is to give supremacy to your Inner Self—that is to say, to your Soul. It involves above all the spiritual part of your being, and its purpose is absolutely not to stimulate your intellect. Consequently, you must not concentrate on the letter but on the spirit, for the power of the words, expressions, and sentences used in the ritual is found more in their emotional content than in their intellectual meaning. We must also remind you that all Rosicrucian initiations are based on laws and principles that have no connection with occult, magical, or superstitious practices. Their purpose, on the contrary, is to produce a mental catharsis—in other words, a purification of all thoughts which prevent you from living in perfect harmony with the God of your Heart and Realization.

Know that our Order possesses an extremely powerful *égrégoire** and that it is directed by a hierarchy including both incarnate personalities and disincarnate Masters. From the moment that members of AMORC demonstrate sincerity and humility in the study of the monographs and in the achievement of the sanctum initiations, they receive a spiritual influx of this *égrégoire* and the cosmic inspiration of this hierarchy. Such an influx and inspiration are always manifested by a feeling of physical and mental regeneration and by the inner conviction of knowing oneself to be on the right path. Therefore be sincere and humble in

*The term *égrégoire*, when translated literally, means an assembly of mundane and spiritual entities forming a hierarchical unit actuated by thought energy. In very simple terms, we are speaking of a hierarchical expression of group consciousness. As you continue with your studies, you will learn more about the *égrégoire*.



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your mystical quest and strive to deserve the support of the most positive forces the Rosy-Cross can place at your disposal.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS

Sanctum Preparation:

To perform this initiation into the Second Atrium, arrange your Sanctum in the following manner:

Place on the floor a triangle made of white fabric or cardboard with each side approximately 25 inches (60 cm) long. This triangle is placed as shown in the diagram on page 5, approximately 3 1/2 feet (1 m) from your sanctum altar.

At points 2 and 3 of the white triangle, place the two unlit sanctum candles.

At the center of the white triangle, place an incense burner containing a stick of incense. Ignite that incense only when you are ready to perform the ritual.

Place your chair at point 2 of the white triangle and have it face the incense burner.

Have a box of matches and a snuffer within reach.

Special Instructions:

Wash your hands and drink a glass of water as a token of physical and mental purification.

Put on your Rosicrucian apron if you have one.

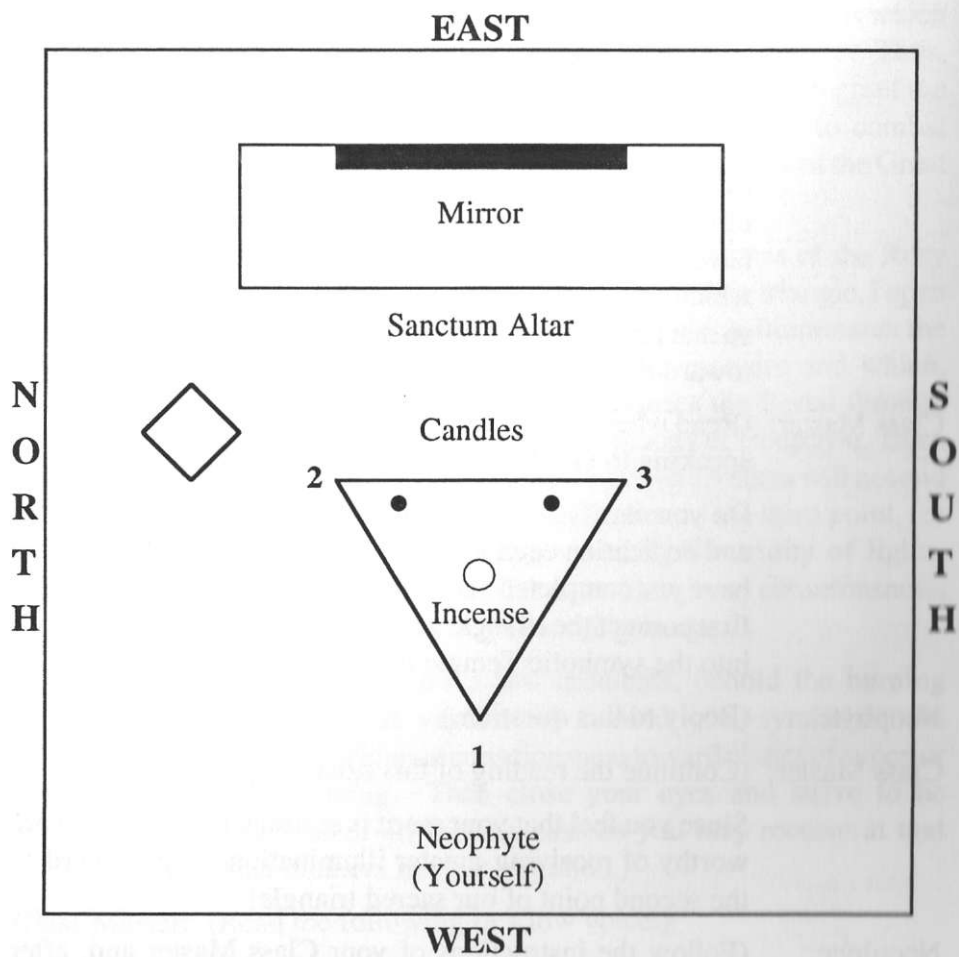
The lighting of the room in which you have set up your Sanctum must be as soft as possible. However, the light must be sufficient so for you to read the instructions without difficulty.



In the ritual you are about to perform you must always imagine that you are directed by your Class Master and that he or she is present on the invisible plane.

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As soon as you feel ready for this initiation, light the two candles beginning with the one on the left. Then ignite the incense and stand at point 1 of the white triangle.



RITUAL

Neophyte: (Make the Sign of Supplication while holding this Initiation Monograph in your left hand. This is done by crossing your arms so that your left hand, holding the monograph, is on your right shoulder and your right hand is on your left shoulder. Stand this way for about half a minute, looking into the burning incense; then drop your hands and begin to read the following:)

Masters and Brethren of the Rosy Cross, before you stands a Neophyte who requests admission into the Second Atrium of our Venerable Order. With the Sign of Supplication I have just made, I symbolized the sincerity and humility which inspire me. Thus, with all my Soul, I call upon you so that I may be given the privilege of pursuing my progress toward the Greater Light.

Class Master: (Read what follows and consider that your Class Master is speaking to you.)

Do you certify, Neophyte, that you have studied with zeal and dedication each of the monographs of the Atrium you have just completed and which symbolically constitute the first point of the triangle you must cover before penetrating into the symbolic Temple of our tradition?

Neophyte: (Reply to this question.)

Class Master: (Continue the reading of this ritual.)

Since you feel that your merit is sufficient and that you are worthy of receiving greater illumination, step forward to the second point of our sacred triangle!

Neophyte: (Follow the instructions of your Class Master and, after moving to point 2 of the white triangle, take the lit candle which is there and place it at point 1 which you have just left. That done, return to point 2 and, facing points 1 and 3, continue the reading of this ritual.)



Master, I have followed your instructions and, from the place where I am now, I solemnly declare my determination

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and my desire to pursue my journey and to study with sincerity and humility the teachings of the Second Atrium of the Ancient and Mystical Order of the Rosy Cross. The study of the preceding Atrium brought me the conviction that only Knowledge can liberate each of us from our false beliefs and deliver us from all forms of superstitions which stand us in opposition to ourselves and our Creator. Thus, may the God of my Heart and of my Realization grant me that Knowledge and show me how to use it to combat ignorance and to contribute to the achievement of the Great Work.

Having received the light which the Masters of the Rosy Cross dispensed to me at the first point of the triangle, I open my heart and my Soul to the light which illuminates the second point, where I stand at this moment and which, according to our tradition, symbolizes the Portal through which I am about to pass in the capacity of Neophyte. Even now, I know that the progress I have undertaken will not end until I have received the illumination of the third point, for any mystical ascent is governed by the trinity of lights. Thus by being mindful of that great law in my consciousness, I prepare to pursue my inner pilgrimage.

Neophyte: (Sit down and, for a few moments, behold the burning incense whose vapors, we remind you, symbolize the elevation of human consciousness toward planes of superior understanding. Then close your eyes and strive to be conscious of all the impressions you may receive at that exact moment in your initiation.)

Class Master: (Read the following in a low voice.)

While you were meditating, the Masters of our tradition granted to you the spiritual influx corresponding to your worthiness. Make good use of it, both for your greatest benefit and for that of others. Throughout the coming months, you will be instructed in new mysteries which, for the most part, will involve a dimension of



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your being you may never have suspected. You will be shown in time how to use the energies of your body to maintain the harmony within or to restore it when it fails you. As you do so, you will be initiated into the procedures of the mystical art of healing, as practiced by the Rosicrucians for centuries.

You must now receive the password which certifies that you did indeed pass the Second Portal of the Neophyte Section. That word is *Cromaat* (pronounced "crow-maht"). It is Egyptian in origin and means "The Truth shall be." Someday, perhaps, this word will be asked of you in a special circumstance. Learn this word, but keep it secret, for it is part of the traditional terminology of our Order.

Know that in the temples of ancient Egypt, where all those who preceded us in the study of the mysteries congregated, special veneration was granted to Maat, Goddess of Truth and Justice. It was she who, in the presence of Osiris, Guardian of the Gates of the Beyond, weighed each person's conscience at the time of death. At that time it was customary to recite the *Confession to Maat* for the deceased, so as to attest to the deceased person's purity at the time when he or she had crossed over the Great Threshold. In their lifetime, it was part of the prayers the Egyptians—and most particularly, the initiates—recited every day when they awoke and before they fell asleep. Read it slowly and let yourself be penetrated by the power of the affirmations which constitute it.

Neophyte: (Read the *Confession to Maat* slowly and in a low voice, thinking of the thousands of Neophytes who have done so since the most remote antiquity.)



CONFESSION TO MAAT

Homage to Thee, O Great God, Thou Master of All Truth! I have come to Thee, O my God, and have brought myself hither, that I may become conscious of Thy decrees. I know Thee and am attuned with Thee and Thy two and forty Laws which exist with Thee in this Chamber of Maat . . .

In truth have I come into Thine attunement, and I have brought Maat in my mind and soul.

I have destroyed wickedness for Thee.

I have not done evil to mankind.

I have not oppressed the members of my family.

I have not wrought evil in the place of right and truth.

I have had no intimacy with worthless men.

I have not demanded first consideration.

I have not decreed that excessive labor should be performed for me.

I have not brought forward my name for exaltation to honors.

I have not defrauded the oppressed of property.

I have made no man to suffer hunger.

I have made no one to weep.

I have caused no pain to be inflicted upon man or animal.

I have not defrauded the Temples of their oblations.

I have not diminished from the bushel.

I have not encroached upon the fields of others.

I have not filched away land.

I have not added to the weights of the scales to cheat the seller.

I have not misread the pointer of the scales to cheat the buyer.

I have not kept the milk from the mouths of children.

I have not turned back the water at the time when it should
flow.

I have not extinguished the flame when it should burn.

I have not repulsed God in His manifestations.



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Affirmation

I am pure! I am pure! I am pure!
My purity is the purity of the Divinity of the Holy Temple.

Therefore, evil shall not befall me in this world, because I, even I, know
the laws of God which are God. CRO-MAAT!

Class Master: (Continue the reading of this ritual.)

Neophyte, the time has come for us to part. When the hour
has come for you to leave this world, may you remember the
Confession to Maat and present yourself to the Gates of the
Beyond with as pure a heart as possible. Now, arise and,
facing the two candles, once again make the Sign of
Supplication.

Neophyte: (Follow the instructions of your Class Master. The Sign of
Supplication is the one you made at the beginning of this
ritual. It is made by crossing the arms, so that the right hand
is on the left shoulder and the left hand is on the right
shoulder. Remain in that position a few seconds and then
lower your arms and continue.)

Class Master: (Read slowly the following.)

In the name of Light, Life, and Love, I declare, before the
Rosy Cross and its Guardians, that this Neophyte has been
duly initiated into the symbolism of the Second Atrium of
our Venerable Order. It is done! Cromaat!

Neophyte: (Remain silent a few moments. Then extinguish the two
candles, beginning with the one on your left. Afterwards
you can dismantle your Sanctum, if it is only temporary.
Keep the white triangle, for you will need it for other rituals.
Also, at your earliest convenient time, kindly write a brief
report of the ritual on the form provided and mail it to the
Department of Instruction.



Words of the Illumined

*"Many are the vistas that are revealed to him
who has attained the mountaintop"*

It is often difficult, when considering the founders of spiritual doctrines which marked the evolution of humanity, to make a distinction between the historical truths and legendary aspects of their lives, for such beings are always described as demigods. But beyond doubt their words of wisdom reflect the Cosmic Illumination that raised them above other individuals of their time. Featured here are some of the thoughts and wisdom of the illuminatus whose biography introduces this special monograph.

LEVITICUS 19:9-18

And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest.

And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the Lord your God!

Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another.

And ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the Lord.

Thou shalt not defraud thy neighbor, neither rob him: the wages of him that is hired shall not abide with thee all night until the morning.

Thou shalt not curse the deaf, nor put a stumblingblock before the blind, but shalt fear thy God: I am the Lord.

Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment; thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty: but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbor.



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*Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people;
neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbor: I am the Lord.*

*Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise
rebuke thy neighbor, and not suffer sin upon him.*

*Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy
people, but thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself: I am the Lord.*



The Story of Light *(continued)*

Rosicrucian tradition, on the other hand, reports that Moses was not born during the reign of Sethi I and that Sethi's son, Ramses II, never ordered his army to pursue the Hebrew people into the desert to slaughter them. According to texts we have at our disposal, Moses lived during the period of Akhnaton and belonged to the circle of initiates studying in the mystery school directed by that young pharaoh. At this school Moses was already laying the foundation for the monotheistic religion he would eventually establish among his own people. Having been initiated into the monotheism of Akhnaton, Moses received from the pharaoh the great mission of guiding the Hebrew people toward the Land of Israel, home of their ancestors. Throughout that exodus which, according to the archives of our Order, took place approximately 1350 B.C., Moses inculcated in his people the belief in a sole God to whom he gave the exoteric name of *Yahve* or *Yahweh*, traditionally designated by the letters *Yod He Vav He* (יהוה).

Thus, contrary to what many historians and theologians state, Judaism has its source in Egyptian monotheism and Moses himself was only a commissioned disciple of Akhnaton, then Grand Master of the mystical tradition perpetuated by our Order. As for the Ten Commandments, they are linked to the revelations Moses received at the time of his own illumination. Their purpose was, above all, to give an ethical and religious code to his people.

*Initiation brings into the realm of reason the purpose
and into the realm of emotion the spirit of one's
introduction into the Mysteries.*



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