

K.E.W.

KNIGHT OF EAST AND WEST

INITIATION

Revised Winter An IVxiv

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Temple Furnishings

The KEW Temple may be constructed in any convenient space. There are three thrones or chairs in the east, and in the center a tent pole is erected, without any tent covering. A double-cube altar is in the west, and bears the Volume of the Sacred Law and a lit candle.

If desired, banners may be hung: in the east one showing the lamen of O.T.O., and in the west one showing a green ankh in an ellipse on a white ground. (See design of apron, below.)

Dress

All Instructed Brethren wear white robes and the KEW apron, which is white with a green figure and green edging. (See diagram.)

The Candidates are initially dressed as Perfect Initiates.

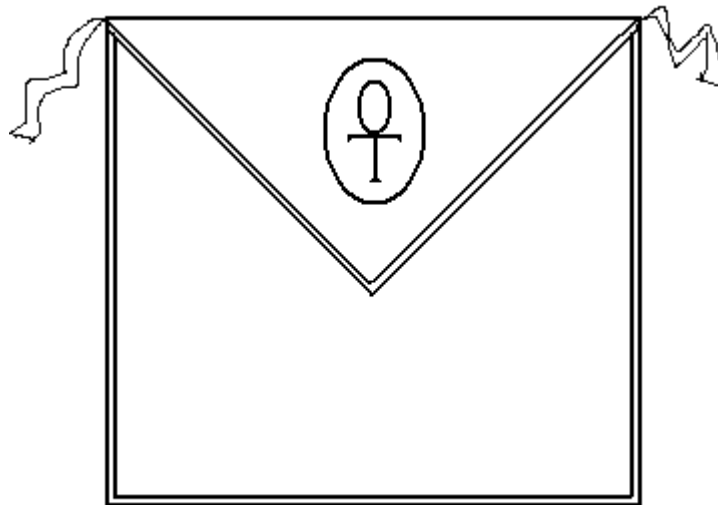
The Officers are dressed as follows:

Most Puissant: As an Instructed Brother, plus a white nemyss, striped with gold.

Second Officer: As Most Puissant, with green stripes rather than gold.

Third Officer: As Second Officer.

Senior Knight: As an Instructed Brother.



OPENING¹

*VII° sits throned in the east, with 2nd officer at his right hand, 3rd at left.
Senior Knight stands within the outer door.*

VII° (M.P.): Instructed Brethren, assist me to open this Lodge of Knights of East and West. What is the first care of every Instructed Brother?

2nd To see the lodge secured.

M.P. Direct that to be done.

2nd Senior Knight, you will see the lodge secured.

S.K. The lodge is secured.

2nd Most Puissant, the Lodge is secured.

M.P. What is the next care?

3rd To see that none but Knights of East and West are present.

M.P. Instructed Brethren, to order.

All give sign of K.E.W.

M.P. Whence come the Knights of East and West?

2nd From Earth.

M.P. And whither do they take their course?

3rd Unto the love of the starry heaven.

M.P. So mote it be.

All. So mote it be.

M.P. I travel upon high! I tread upon the firmament of Nu! In the name of the Grand Master Sabazius, I declare this Lodge of Knights of East and West duly opened.

¹ This ritual is a modern development, revising and replacing the simple knightly “dubbing” ceremony used by Hymenaeus Alpha and his Inspectors. Crowley evidently viewed the K.E.W. as a “dignity” to be “conferred,” rather than a full dramatic initiation. But the degree as currently constituted provides instruction to amplify the condition of the pledge form described in Liber CXCV. While formerly optional, it is now required as a part of advancements to K.E.W. The use of variant drafts is abolished. –H.B.

OBLIGATION

S.K. exits and brings Candidate (attired as P.I.) to the outer door.

Knocks: 11 11 1

M.P. See who wants admission.

2nd (to 3rd) See who wants admission.

3rd (goes to door, opens it) Who comes there?

K.T. A Perfect Initiate who has completed the Cycle of Earth.

3rd What is his name?

K.T. He² has no name.

3rd How is he clothed?

K.T. A robe of darkness indeed.

3rd What does he seek?

K.T. The dignity of the degree of Knight of the East and West.

3rd Let him wait patiently while a report is made to the Most Puissant. (*closes door, returns*) Most Puissant, a Perfect Initiate who has completed the Cycle of Earth seeks the dignity of the degree of Knight of the East and West.

M.P. Let him enter, in due form.

3rd Enter, in due form.

*Done.*³

M.P. Are you willing to take a solemn obligation to dedicate your life to the establishment of the Law of Thelema?

Can. Yes.

M.P. Officers, do your duty.

3rd ties Can. to pole, facing west. 2nd applies V.S.L. to heart of Can.

² Or "she."

³ Gives signs of CPI before thrones.

M.P. stands west of altar, facing Candidate.

M.P. Repeat after me:

Being myself a Perfect Initiate,
born and slain,
exalted and annihilated,
I hereby dedicate my life
to the establishment and extension
of the Law of Thelema
as communicated to the Prophet
by the minister of Hoor-paar-kraat.
I promise ever to keep
the secrets of a Knight of East and West,
and ever to give
the Law of Light, Life, Love, and Liberty.
The law is for all.
I further solemnly pledge myself
to discover my one star
and unite myself to it
for the accomplishment of my will.
All these points
I swear to observe,
under no less a penalty
than to be cast out and despised:
an eater of dung on the day of Be-with-us.
Amen.

2nd removes hood of Can., presents book to lips of Can., who kisses it.

3rd unties Can. and has him kneel on one knee.

*M.P. touches flat of sword to candidate's right shoulder,
left shoulder, and top of head.*

M.P. In the name of Baphomet and by the authority of the Supreme and Holy King Sabazius, I confer upon you the Knighthood of East and West in Mysteria Mystica Maxima.

O.T.O. applause.

2nd *(back to Can., facing east) O thou Lady of the East, Asi the curved one, may thy light and grace comfort and sustain this Knight in his quest.*

3rd *(back to Can., facing west) O thou Lord of the West, Apep the slayer, may thy darkness and strength compel and constrain this Knight in his quest.*

INSTRUCTION

M.P. Sir Knight,⁴ you will now be taken to a place prepared, there to don attire suited to your high quest.

*S.K. takes Can. out, has him change into white robe.
They return.*

M.P. Child of Earth, you have departed the hall of darkness. Rejoice exceedingly, for your salvation is at hand!

2nd Our Prophet, in his twenty-fifth year, began a journey around the earth: from Boleskine to New York, Mexico, Texas, California, Hawaii, Japan, Ceylon, India, France, and Boleskine once more. Thus, by the year 1903, his travels westward with the sun had made him a Man of Earth as few have been.

3rd Then, in his thirtieth year, he set out once more: from Boleskine to India, Tibet, China, Canada, New York, and Boleskine again. By 1906, he had once more circled the Earth, this time traveling east against the sun. And so he transcended the grade of Earth, sacrificing himself to the global designs of the Secret Chiefs.

M.P. In 1907, he attained the Knowledge and Conversation of his Holy Guardian Angel.

After your sojourns in the land of Egypt, you find yourself here by a naked tent-pole. But this pole is the symbol of the travels by which we are tested and set free. The pole of the tent is the axle of the chariot. The pole of the tent is the mast of the ship. The pole of the tent is the axis mundi.

Moreover, our Prophet has written: “We have for the whole Beginning of Our Work, praise be eternally unto His Holy Name, the Fire of our Father the Sun. The inspiration is ours, and ours is the Law of Thelema that shall set the world ablaze. And We have many small dry sticks, that kindle quickly and burn through quickly, leaving the larger Wood unlit. And the great logs, the masses of humanity, are always with us. But our edged need is of those middle fagots that on the one hand are readily kindled by the small Wood, and on the other endure until the great logs blaze.”

Sir Knight,⁴ behold in this tent-pole the *middle fagot* to transmit that fire, and strive in your own work to manifest that which it represents. Thus may you fit yourself for advancement to the next Triad.

M.P. Let the new Knight receive the decoration befitting his quest.

⁴ Or “Dame Knight.”

3rd brings apron to 2nd, who ties it onto Candidate.

M.P. The symbol on this apron is made up of the letters O T O. Combined in this fashion, they form the ancient character of the *ankh*, which signifies eternal life. The form and name of this figure is taken from a sandal-strap, since the power of a god is his going.

I now proceed to instruct you in the secrets of this degree. They consist of a sign, a grip, and a word.

The sign is given by holding the right hand as you have been taught; placing the thumb at the throat; then moving it in a circle to the left, down, across the body, and back to the throat; and finally tracing the same circle in reverse.

The grip is given as follows: each grasps reciprocally the wrists of the other, crossing right hands over left.

The grip demands a word. The word is⁵ It means “to go,” and it represents the fifth power of magick. We synthesize knowledge, will, courage and silence in the way of our going. “Come unto me” is a foolish word: for it is I that **go**.

You have now received the instruction of this degree. Take your place among the Knights of this lodge.

⁵ Say word and then spell it.

CLOSING

M.P. Instructed Brethren, assist me to close this Lodge of Knights of East and West.
What is the first care of every Instructed Brother?

2nd To see the lodge secured.

M.P. Direct that to be done.

2nd Senior Knight, you will see the lodge secured.

S.K. The lodge is secured.

2nd Most Puissant, the Lodge is secured.

M.P. What is the next care?

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3rd Unto the love of the starry heaven.

M.P. So mote it be.

All. So mote it be.

M.P. I travel upon high! I tread upon the firmament of Nu! In the name of the Grand Master Sabazius, I declare this Lodge of Knights of East and West duly closed.

All retire.