



## **RITUAL OF THE VIII° DEGREE O.T.O.**

## **PERFECT EPOPT OF THE ILLUMINATI**

### **Altar Preparation:**

North: a yellow candle.  
West: a blue candle.  
South: a red candle.  
East: a green candle.  
Center: a black candle.

### **Accessories for the Adept Hierophant (XI<sup>0</sup>):**

Magickal rod, Consecrated water, Consecrated oil, Bell.

### **Vestments:**

Red Tunic for the Hierophant (XI<sup>0</sup>), white tunic for the assistant (IX<sup>0</sup>) and black tunic for the VIII<sup>0</sup> Candidates.

### **Incense:**

Appropriate for the day, season, or Abramelin

## **OPENING RITUAL**

1. In the centre of the Temple, with the lights out, the incense burning and the Hierophant facing East:

**DO WHAT THOU WILT SHALL BE THE WHOLE OF THE LAW**

2. Turning to the North, he lights the yellow candle and states:

**SACRED SPIRITS OF THE LUMINOUS NORTHERN CROSS, COME FORTH!**

3. Turning to the West, he lights the blue candle and states:

**SACRED SPIRITS OF THE LUMINOUS WESTERN CROSS, COME FORTH!**

4. Turning to the South, he lights the red candle and states:

**SACRED SPIRITS OF THE LUMINOUS SOUTHERN CROSS, COME FORTH!**

5. Turning to the East, he lights the green candle and states:

**SACRED SPIRITS OF THE LUMINOUS EASTERN CROSS, COME FORTH!**

6. Going to the centre of the Temple and facing East, he lights the black candle and states:

**SACRED SPIRITS OF THE CENTRAL UNIVERSAL LIGHT, COME FORTH!**

7. Staying in the centre, he states:

OH UNOBSCURED LIGHT, OH LIGHT! WE ARE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LIMITLESS LIGHT.

8. He takes the rod, turns to the North and traces the symbol of the Cross within the Circle.

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He states:

I UNITE MY BODY WITH THE SOVEREIGN SANCTUARY OF THE GNOSIS, O.T.O.

9. He turns to the West and traces a Cross within the Circle pronouncing:

I UNITE MY BODY AND MY EMOTIONS WITH THE SOVEREIGN SANCTUARY OF THE GNOSIS, O.T.O.

10. He turns to the South and traces the same symbol pronouncing:

I UNITE MY BODY, MY EMOTIONS AND MY WILL WITH THE SOVEREIGN SANCTUARY OF THE GNOSIS, O.T.O.

11. He turns to the East and traces the same symbol pronouncing::

I UNITE MY BODY, MY EMOTIONS, MY WILL AND MY MIND WITH THE SOVEREIGN SANCTUARY OF THE GNOSIS, O.T.O.

### **INVOCATION OF THE HOLY GUARDIAN ANGEL**

1. Facing East, he points with the rod in that direction and states:

I GREET THEE OH RA-HOOR-KHUIT

2. Facing South, he points with the rod in that direction and states:

I GREET THEE OH AIWAZ

3. Facing the West, he signals with the rod to that direction and states:

I GREET THEE OH HOOR-PAAR-KRAAT

4. Facing the North, he signals with the rod to that direction and states:

I GREET THEE OH LAM

5. He circumambulates the Temple deosil starting East, after having put the Rod on the Altar and taken the Holy Water. On passing, he sprinkles the cardinal points three times each.

6. Turning back to the center of the Temple he looks to the East and he strikes the Bell eleven times in the following manner:

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7. He takes the Rod and traces a circle over the head pronouncing:

NUIT

8. He touches with the Rod the sexual organs and states:

HADIT

9. He touches with the Rod the chest and states:

HERU-RA-HA

10. Still on his feet, facing the East he states:

I INVOKE MY DIVINE GENIUS, MY IMMORTAL DAEMON, MY HOLY GUARDIAN ANGEL

11. He raises his hands and states:

MY ANGEL SAYS: I AM ABOVE YOU AND IN YOU. MY ECSTACY IS IN YOURS. IN ME, IN ME, ABRAHADABRA.

### **THELEMIC Gnostic MASS**

H goes from the centre of the temple to the altar; on his right hand is the priest or priestess (assistant of the ix°) who will assist him during mass. The assistants keep their gaze focused on the altar. On the Altar are 11 lights, one seven armed candle holder and four candles according to the colours of the four Elements. Likewise a Cup of Wine and Golden Paten with Host. The Stele of revealing and any other Symbol the Hierophant deems appropriate.

The Hierophant lights the candles of the seven armed Candlestick and the four candles of the four Elements. He places incense in the censer.

He addresses the assistants pronouncing:

DO WHAT THOU WILT SHALL BE THE WHOLE OF THE LAW

All answer:

LOVE IS THE LAW, LOVE UNDER WILL

All kneel before the altar and the Priest states:

I BELIEVE IN ONE SECRET AND INEFFABLE LORD; AND IN ONE STAR IN THE COMPANY OF STARS OF WHOSE FIRE WE ARE CREATED, AND TO WHICH WE SHALL RETURN; AND IN ONE FATHER OF LIFE, MYSTERY OF MYSTERY, IN HIS NAME CHAOS, THE SOLE VICEREGENT OF THE SUN UPON THE EARTH; AND IN ONE AIR THE NOURISHER OF ALL THAT BREATHES.

AND I BELIEVE IN ONE EARTH, THE MOTHER OF US ALL, AND IN ONE WOMB WHEREIN ALL MEN ARE BEGOTTEN, AND WHEREIN THEY SHALL REST, MYSTERY OF MYSTERY, IN HER NAME BABALON.

AND I BELIEVE IN THE SERPENT AND THE LION, MYSTERY OF MYSTERY, IN HIS NAME BAPHOMET.

AND I BELIEVE IN ONE Gnostic AND CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LIGHT, LIFE, LOVE AND LIBERTY, THE WORD OF WHOSE LAW IS THELEMA.

AND I BELIEVE IN THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS.

AND, FORASMUCH AS MEAT AND DRINK ARE TRANSMUTED IN US DAILY INTO SPIRITUAL SUBSTANCE, I BELIEVE IN THE MIRACLE OF THE MASS.

All rise. The Hierophant and the Priestess or Priest, turn to the assistants. The Hierophant with the Cup full of wine and on top of it the Paten with the bread, in his hands, states while lifting both hands:

THIS IS THE SAN GRAAL

All answer:

SO MOTE IT BE.

The Hierophant lowers the cup to his breast and states:

OPEN THE VEIL OBSCURING THE CELESTIAL REGIONS, KNOW YE THAT EVERY MAN AND EVERY WOMAN IS A STAR. WE ARE ALL AS BRILLIANT GEMS ON THE FIRMAMENT OF NUIT.

All answer:

IN HER BEING, THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE, THE DIVIDED IS ONE

The Priestess or Priest states:

BE THOU HADIT, MY SECRET CENTRE, MY HEART AND MY TONGUE. I AM ABOVE YOU AND IN YOU. MY ECSTASY IS IN YOURS, MY JOY IS TO SEE YOUR JOY.

The Hierophant states:

ABOVE, THE GEMMED AZURE IS THE NAKED SPLENDOUR OF NUIT; SHE BENDS IN ECSTACY TO KISS THE SECRET ARDOURS OF HADIT. ETC.

The Priestess or Priest states:

THE WINGED GLOBE, THE STARRY BLUE, ARE MINE.

NOW, THERE FORE, I AM KNOWN TO YE BY MY NAME NUIT. I AM INFINITE SPACE, AND THE INFINITE STARS THEREOF, DO YE ALSO THUS. BIND NOTHING! LET THERE BE NO DIFFERENCE MADE AMONG YOU BETWEEN ANY ONE THING AND ANY OTHER THING; FOR THEREBY THERE COMETH HURT.

I AM NUIT, AND MY WORD IS SIX AND FIFTY.

The Hierophant states:

OH NUIT, CONTINUOS ONE OF HEAVEN. LET IT BE EVER THUS, THAT MEN SPEAK NOT OF THEE AS ONE BUT AS NONE; AND LET THEM SPEAK NOT OF THEE AT ALL, FOR THOU ART CONTINUOUS.

The Priestess or Priest states:

WHO CALLS US THELEMITES WILL DO NO WRONG, IF HE LOOK BUT CLOSE INTO THE WORD.. THE WORD OF SIN IS RESTRICTION. THERE IS NO BOND THAT CAN UNITE THE DIVIDED BUT LOVE.

The Hierophant raises the Cup again and states:

(all kneel)

HERE ARE THE BREAD AND THE WINE THAT ARE TO BE TRANSMUTED INTO THE BODY AND BLOOD OF THE LOGOS, THE FOOD WHICH MAKES US AS IMMORTAL GODS.

The Priestess or Priest kneels too. The Hierophant puts the Cup and the Paten on the Altar, kneels over them and states:

IO IO IO IAO SABAO, KURIE ABRAXAS KURIE MEITHRAS KURIE PHALLE, IO PAN IO PAN IO PAN PAN IO ISCHURON IO ATHANATON IO ABRONTO IO IAO. CHAIRE PHALLE CHAIRE PANPHAGE CHAIRE PANGENETOR. HAGIOS HAGIOS HAGIOS IAO.

THIS IS THE BLOOD AND THE BODY OF THE LOGOS.

He lifts the Paten with the bread and states:

THIS BREAD IS THE BODY OF THE LOGOS.

He places it next to the Cup and states:

TOUTO ECTI TO SOMA MOU

He kneels in front of the Altar and gets up. He lifts the Cup and states:

THIS WINE IS THE BLOOD OF THE LOGOS.

He puts it back and states:

TOUTO ECTI TO IIOTHPION. TOU HAIMATOC MOU.

He prostrates in front of the Altar and gets up. He cuts a piece of bread and puts it in the wine.

All rise. The Hierophant raised, with the Paten and the bread in his left hand, takes a piece with the right hand and gives it to the Priestess (or Priest) stating:

TAKE AND EAT.

He gives the Paten and the bread to the Priestess (or Priest), who takes it with the left hand and offers a piece to the Hierophant, stating:

TAKE AND EAT.

She (or he) returns the Paten to the Hierophant, who places it on the Altar. He then takes the Cup and gives it to the Priestess (or Priest), pronouncing:

TAKE AND DRINK.

The Hierophant, after having drunk, offers it to the Priestess (or Priest) pronouncing:

TAKE AND DRINK.

She (or he) returns it and the Hierophant places it on the Altar. Then he takes the Paten and approaches the assistants, who kneel, and states to them:

TAKE AND EAT.

He gives them a piece of bread each and then puts the Paten back on the Altar. He takes the Cup and states:

TAKE AND DRINK..

He offers the wine to the assistants and then places the Cup back on the Altar. He kneels and consumes the remaining bread and wine.

He cleanses the Cup with water and drinks it.

He turns around and states:

THE SACRIFICE OF THE HOLY MYSTERIES HAS ENDED. MAY THE LIGHT OF THE LOGOS RESIDE IN YOU FOR EVER.

## **INITIATION**

After the celebration of the Mass, the candidates for the VIII<sup>o</sup> Degree go to the door of the Temple wearing black tunics. Before the Altar stands the Hierophant (XI<sup>o</sup>) with the Rod in his left hand and hierophantic ring on his right, dressed in a red tunic. One member of the IX<sup>o</sup> Degree will assist the Hierophant during the initiation; dressed in a white tunic he approaches them and states:

APPROACH THOU WHO ART TO BE INITIATED INTO THE VIII<sup>o</sup>.

They approach the Hierophant with bowed heads. The initiate of the IX<sup>o</sup> remains at the right side of the Hierophant and turning to him he states:

MOST REVEREND FATHER, THE ORDO TEMPLI ORIENTIS ASKS THEE TO INITIATE INTO THE VIII<sup>o</sup> DEGREE THESE OUR BRETHREN OF THE VII<sup>o</sup> DEGREE.

Hierophant:

DO YOU KNOW IF THEY ARE WORTHY?

Initiate IX<sup>o</sup>:

I TESTIFY THAT THEY ARE CONSIDERED WORTHY.

The Hierophant turns to the candidates and states:

DEAR BRETHREN, DO YOU WISH TO BE INITIATED INTO THE VIII<sup>o</sup> DEGREE OF THE PERFECT EPOPT OF THE ILLUMINATI AND ARE YOU AWARE THAT YOU WILL HAVE TO EXERCIZE THIS DEGREE BASED ON THE USE OF THE GENERATIVE POWER ONLY AND EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE REALIZATION OF THE GREAT WORK FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIVES. THEREFORE: DO YOU PROMISE BEFORE YOUR VERY DIVINE SELF AND BEFORE THE ORDER TO OBSERVE THIS RULE FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIVES?

Candidates:

YES, I PROMISE.

Hierophant:

MAY YOUR HIGHER WILL GUIDE YOU IN THIS ENTERPRISE.

Candidates:

AUMGN

Hierophant:

DEAR BRETHREN, BEFORE ENTERING THE VIII<sup>o</sup> DEGREE OF OUR ORDER YOU HAVE TO MANIFEST YOUR WILL TO RECEIVE THIS INITIATION. DO YOU WANT TO CONSECRATE YOURSELVES TO THE SERVICE OF THE SOVEREIGN SANCTUARY OF THE EPOPTS OF THE ILLUMINATI?

Candidates:

YES, I DO.

The candidates approach the Hierophant and kneel placing their hands between his.

Hierophant:

DO YOU PROMISE OBEDIENCE TO THE TRUTH, THE SOLE DEVISE AND DOGMA OF OUR ORDER?

Candidates:

YES, I DO.

The Hierophant puts his hands over the heads of each candidate pronouncing:

THE MYSTERIES OF THE O.T.O. HAVE TO BE TREASURED IN YOUR HEART AND YOU MAY NOT COMMUNICATE THEM TO ANY UNWORTHY BEING, NOR TO A FATHER, NOR TO A MOTHER, NOR TO A BROTHER OR A SISTER, NOR

TO ANY FAMILIARS, NOR TO FRIENDS, NOR IN CHANGE FOR FOOD, OR DRINK, OR LUXURY, OR GOLD, OR SILVER, OR ANYTHING OF THIS WORLD. TREASURE IT IN YOUR HEART. RECIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR THE OFFICE OF PERFECT EPOPT OF THE ILLUMINATI. -- (+) on Anahata --.

NOW THAT YOU HAVE LEFT YOUR PARENTS AND THE REST OF THE WORLD TO RECEIVE THE KNOWLEDGE, YOU ARE NOW PREPARED TO RECEIVE THE MOST OCCULT MYSTERIES OF THE O.T.O.

The newly initiated into the VIII<sup>o</sup> degree rise and remain standing and facing the Hierophant.

The Hierophant states:

THE EMANATIONS OF THE LAW ARE FOURFOLD, AND WHEN THE LAW COMES TO BE THE CENTER OF YOUR BEING THESE FOUR RAYS WILL FILL YOUR BEING, AND THESE FOUR RAYS ARE: LIBERTY, LOVE, LIFE AND LIGHT.

THESE RAYS OF THE LAW HAVE TO BE APPLIED TO EACH AFFAIR OF YOUR DAILY LIFE.

1<sup>o</sup> LIBERTY: THE POWER TO CHOOSE YOUR OWN DESTINY: THE ROD.

EXCEPT THAT YOU ARE FREE TO ACT, YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO ACT. THE FIRST NECESSITY IS LIBERTY. IGNORANCE IS THE GREATEST LIMITATION DETERRING US. FIRST YOU HAVE TO DISCOVER THE STAR YOU ARE AND YOUR RELATION WITH OTHER STARS AROUND YOU AND YOUR RELATION AND IDENTITY WITH THE TOTALITY.

IN ORDER TO REALIZE THE GREAT WORK, EACH ONE OF US HAS TO DISCOVER HIS OWN INFINITE WILL AND DESTINY. WE HAVE TO APPLY OURSELVES DAILY TO DESTROY THE CONCEPT OF DUALITY (I AND NOT-I) THAT RESTRICTS OUR WILLS AND ADHERE TO THE REALIZATION OF UNITY IN A WILL OF DESIRE.

YOU HAVE TO BECOME A MASTER OF YOURSELF, ANALYZE YOUR MOST INNER THOUGHTS, DISCHARGE OF YOUR LIFE THE IMPEDIMENTS RETSTRAINING YOUR LIBERTY. "THOU HAST NO RIGHT BUT TO DO THY WILL", BUT ONLY THE GREATEST HAVE THE STRENGTH AND THE VALOUR TO OBEY IT.

2<sup>o</sup> LOVE. ONE FORCE UNITING THE CUP.

IT IS WRITTEN: "LOVE IS THE LAW, LOVE UNDER WILL". LOVE EQUALS WILL NUMERICALLY. LOVE IS THE FIRE OF ECSTACY OF TWO WHO WANT TO BECOME ONE. IT IS THE UNIVERSAL FORMULA OF HIGH MAGICK. THE PAIN CAUSED BY DIVISION IS HEALED BY THE UNION OF UNITY. THE UNION OF ELEMENTS OF OPPOSED POLARITY PRODUCES A GLORY OF HEAT, LIGHT AND ELECTRICITY. IN THIS EXPLOSION OF ECSTASY A TRANSCENDENCE IS KNOWN AS DIVINE SPIRITUALITY THAT KNOWS NO ONE BUT UNDERSTANDS ALL.

UNITE THUS IN ECSTACY WITH EACH STAR THAT YOUR WILL CHOOSES IN THE GREATEST PASSION AND LUXURY, INFLAMING YOURSELF WITH ALL

MEANS THAT YOUR IMAGINATION DICTATES. REMEMBER THAT LOVE IS INFINITE IN ITS DIVERSITY, JUST AS THE STARS ARE. MAY EVERY ACT OF LOVE BE COMPLETE AND PURE.

3º LIFE: THE ECSTACY OF THE PURE ESSENCE: TO CREATE, THE SWORD.

LIFE IS INDESTRUCTIBLE. THE CONSCIENCE OF THE INDIVIDUAL I EXTENDS TO INCLUDE BIRTH AND DEATH IN A SPIRAL CURVE EXTENDING TO INFINITY. THE CONTINUITY OF EXISTENCE IS SOMETHING ASSURED BY THE MEMORY OF THE SOUL. AS ASPIRANTS TO THE SACRED WISDOM WE HAVE TO CONSIDER OURSELVES ALWAYS AS PART OF THE SERPENT OF LIFE.

IN THE ACT OF LOVE THE I/NOT-I IS DEVOURIED IN A MYSTICAL DEATH FOR ALL TO BE DISSOLVED IN THE FORMLESS LIGHT OF THE UNITY. TO CREATE IS FOR YOU A REPETITION OF THE CORRECT PRACTICE OF THIS CONSCIENCE OF WHICH INDWELLS THE LIGHT. IT IS NECESSARY TO CONTEMPLATE THE IDENTITY OF LOVE AND DEATH IN THE PRACTICE OF MORTAL LOVE AS A SYMBOLIC SACRAMENT OF THE GREAT DEATH.

HOOR-PAAR-KRAAT EQUALS THE GODDESS OF DESTRUCTION OR REABSORPTION OF THE I IN PRIMORDIAL INDIVIDUALITY, WHICH DENOTES THE DESTRUCTION OF THE EGO, OR THE LIMITED PERSONALITY COMPLEX. THROUGH DEATH YOU WILL BE REBORN TO CONTINUE A LIFE OF ETERNAL MOVEMENT IN THE NEVER ENDING CHANGE, BECAUSE YOU WILL NEVER DIE; ALTHOUGH YOU MAY CHANGE, THE TRANSFORMATION IS A PART OF NATURE.

4º LIGHT: VISION OF THE MIND. KNOWLEDGE OF ALL THINGS. THE ECSTACY OF ALL KNOWLEDGE. THE DISC.

THE LIGHT IS INVOKED BY AN ACT OF WILL TO CREATE LIFE. IT IS AN ECSTACY WHICH IS LIMITLESS AND FORMLESS. THIS PRIMORDIAL LIGHT IS DARKNESS, SILENCE AND NAUGHT. FROM THIS SOURCE OF PRIMORDIAL LIGHT COMES THE SOUND OF THE VOICE OF SILENCE, THAT HAS TO RETURN IN THE END TO THE SILENCE.

IN THE WILL TO LOVE THE LIGHT IS HIDDEN THE SECRET PART OF LIFE AND LOVE COMES TO BE ONLY A STAGE. IN EACH ACT OF LOVE GUIDED BY WILL, THE

INFINITE ENERGY OF THE UNIVERSE IS DISSOLVED LITTLE BY LITTLE IN THAT LIGHT THAT IS ITS SECRET AND SUBTLE NATURE, NAUGHT. THIS LIGHT OR NAUGHT IS THUS THE RESULT OR TOTALITY OF PURE PERFECTION AND EQUALS TO THE IDENTITY BETWEEN ALL THINGS AND NAUGHT.

The Hierophant gives to each of the initiates a Book of the Law.

Addressing the initiates he states:

THE PERFECT EPOPT OF THE ILLUMINATI RECEIVES THE NAME OF MAN OF EARTH IN THELEMA WHICH CORRESPONDS WITH THE ARCANUM OF THE HANGED MAN. THE MAN OF EARTH THEREFORE IS THE ONE WHO REDEEMS HIMSELF IN THE WATERS. THE SECRET IS HIDDEN IN THE WATERS ABOVE AND THE WATERS BELOW. DO NOT LET THE WATERS THROUGH WHICH YOU

TRAVEL SOAK YOU. WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE SHORES PLANT THE VINE  
AND REJOICE SHAMELESSLY.