

Wasted Towers



Trelawney and the breeding of the many whose name is Legion.

P.E. and LcF

"And they will cleave to the name of a dead man, thinking that they will become pure. But they will become greatly defiled and they will fall into a name of error, and into the hand of an evil, cunning man and a manifold dogma, and they will be ruled without law."

-Apocalypse of Peter.

"But others shall change from evil words and misleading mysteries. Some who do not understand mystery speak of things which they do not understand, but they will boast that the mystery of the truth is theirs alone."

-Apocalypse of Peter.

"But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things."

-Romans

"He who will receive that light will be the darkness and the night, but hidden in a perfect day and a holy light."

-Gospel of Phillip

"Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;"

-Corinthians

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

-Gospel of John

"And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not."

-Gospel of John

"Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth? "

-Galatians

During his lifetime, Aleister Crowley was very circumspect with the XIth degree of the O.T.O. and never wrote any formal instructions for the degree. What exists are notes in his diaries, his published writings and elsewhere that gives knowledge of the secret of this degree. Knowledge of the IXth degree is prerequisite and the secret of the XIth degree is largely unknown, despite contemporary mythology to the contrary.

Cosmo Trelawney, a critic of Crowley and a stage magician who wrote several lampoons on A.C., claimed to have moved into a rooming house where A.C. had left a trunk of papers. According to Trelawney, the originals were of course destroyed in the Blitz and conveniently, only his extracts survive. Allegedly using these sources, he wrote a series of spoofs constructed from quotations from A.C. and his writing style that form part of the so-called "Cosmo Trelawney Papers".

Gerald J. Yorke, the noted collector and archivist of Crowley materials, was on friendly terms with Cosmo Trelawney and added these papers to his collection, and today many of them ("Satanic Extracts" to name but one) have been issued by Mandrake Press. And though their provenance was noted in the booklets, they have been published as if they were written by Aleister Crowley himself.

Around 1982 e.v., Llee Heflin copied the paper and sent it to Marcelo R. Motta, who reacted adversely to the content of the paper, as a "secret instruction". While Motta may have been a lunatic, he recognised instantly that the words from the "XI Degree O.T.O." Trelawney paper consisted in its entirety of out of context extracts from A.C.'s unfinished *"Commentaries on the Golden Verses of Pythagoras"*.

Later, under the reign of Hymeneus Alpha, Patrick King would attempt a recreation of the XIth degree and though his efforts in that vein are worthy of mention, it was in no way connected with the spirit or practice of the real XIth degree. Instead of researching and creating a system in accord with Crowley's original vision, Patrick King chose to engage in the "occult sport" of conflation of ideas and use of sources whose pedigree was at best uncertain and incomplete. Among the papers he cited as being official instructional papers of his reconstruction of the XIth degree were "11. the notes of Cosmo Trelawney - XI' papers of Crowley."

In using this paper, Patrick King perpetuated the forgery of Trelawney and the perpetuation of untrue and incorrect ideas surrounding the XIth degree. The essential problem with the Trelawney paper and the subsequent bad imitations and misunderstandings of the XIth degree it created was that it not only was constructed from quotes from a paper A.C. created for public consumption but even more telling, was hopelessly muddled in the way it extracted from Crowley's work without context or explanation of the ideas contained within.

The paper itself contains extracts from commentaries of two of the "Golden Verses":

"5. But those of the others is most manful in manhood, make him thy lover."

"6. Model thyself by his gentle words, by his fruitful deeds. Hate him not for a small waywardness that thou mayest have power. For power lieth hard by necessity. "

In his creation of the "XIth Degree OTO" paper, Cosmo Trelawney made substantial errors which appear to be intentional. In particular, he takes comments out of context and conflates them together, and his use of Crowley's original manuscript indicates a tacit familiarity with the source as well as a conscious choice to create a forgery. Upon examining both the "Golden Verses" and the Trelawney "XIth Degree OTO" paper, it

becomes readily obvious that the latter is a derivative of the former, and makes major mistakes in summarizing and revealing what is contained within.

Another error can be found in Trelawney's inclusion of

"The Neophyte will recall the story of Isis and the Name of Ra. The Cabbalistic teachings as to the Name Jehovah and the precautions taken by many primitive tribes to prevent a man's 'Name' being discovered by his ill-wishers."

in the document. This quote is from verse 6 of "Golden Verses" and is for some odd reason inserted at the end of the Trelawney paper which almost entirely consists of extracts from verse 5, and is in reality a commentary on the sacredness of the trust between the beloved disciple and his teacher upon learning the true name of the beloved. It illustrates the haphazard method in which Trelawney constructed his lampoon, not particularly caring for nor understanding the central message that Crowley attempted to convey in the original.

Even more disturbing is the fact that the extracts from verse 5 conveniently stops short of A.C.'s last note to the verse, where he reveals that today a woman is even superior as a beloved than a man. Compare this important revelation to the central message of the Patrick King XIth Degree documents, and no question remains about the inherent problems in his attempts to reconstruct Crowley's original system of magick and fraternity associated with the XIth Degree.