

The Golden Dawn Rituals  
Volume One  
Neophyte (0=0) Ritual:  
Revised Three Officer Version

This promotional preview copy is provided by [Morgan Drake Eckstein](#).

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**The Golden Dawn Rituals**  
**Volume One**

**Neophyte (0=0) Ritual**  
**Revised Three Officer Version**  
as used by the B.I.O.R.C.  
modified for public use

**Morgan Drake Eckstein**

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(This promotional preview copy is missing 48 pages. This preview copy is based on an earlier, uncorrected version of the book. But let's be honest, these are the important pages.

Morgan Drake Eckstein)

## Introduction

This particular version of the Golden Dawn Neophyte (0=0) Ritual arose during the early days of Bast Temple (B.I.O.R.C.) which was originally established to serve the needs of the students of the Golden Dawn tradition living in Denver, Colorado. This revised ritual was designed to address a specific need of the lodge--the lack of enough people to do the traditional version of the ritual--a problem that plagues many Golden Dawn based groups during their early years.

The traditional ritual calls for eleven officers (five of them being of the Adept Minor Grade or higher), which are more members than the typical group can muster when starting out. This has resulted in a few groups having a stranglehold on the entire tradition, allowing them to require members to travel long distances to undergo initiations and attend seminars, and/or having the members trust the officers of the group to be able to perform an adequate astral (long-distance) initiation. Some students faced with these options chose the route of self-initiation instead. This lack of lodges has led to a general lack of understanding about what actually goes on in the lodges; it also has the continuing effect of insuring that only a handful of Golden Dawn based lodges exist.

While the aforementioned options can work, there is another option. That option is to quite simply gather enough people together to work the ritual. Most organizers fail in this task for the simple reason that they aim for the full complement (eleven officers and a candidate), rather than the bare minimum needed to do the ritual.

So what is the bare minimum number of participants necessary to work the Golden Dawn Neophyte Ritual? Four. Three officers and a candidate. All it takes is four committed students of the tradition to start working the Neophyte ritual as a group. That's all--four people.

None of them have to be Adepts. Adepts are nice for a group to have, but they are not an absolute requirement. In fact, a group can start out without a single experienced member. The only requirement is that the members are committed to doing the work; that's it. Furthermore, it is possible for a Golden Dawn based group to start without a charter or warrant.

To some, this will sound like heresy--groups existing without having any previous lineage. Yet reality speaks otherwise. Historically, when one examines the records, one learns that Golden Dawn started with just three officers (Wynn Westcott, William Woodman, and Samuel Mathers); for at least one initiation, there were only three officiators. And despite the smoke and mirrors created by the addition to the Cipher Manuscript, Golden Dawn started out without a lineage. If the original Order could do it...

So am I completely against accepting a charter or warrant; am I against the concept of lineage? No. I just think that the whole principle has been carried out to a ridiculous degree. In theory, having a charter/warrant/lineage should give a lodge better resources, mainly in the form of better instructions and lessons, yet the sad reality is that often all a

charter/warrant/lineage gives is increased rules and regulations, along with higher dues (a portion of which are going to the ruling Order). And if all that they can offer you is stuff easily available to anyone with a big enough book budget, why bother? It is in that light that this version of the Golden Dawn Neophyte ritual is being made available to the public. If all you are going to get is stuff that is published already--why not cut out the middleman?

Should you call your new group Golden Dawn? No. At best, you can say your group is "Golden Dawn based." Be honest---it will save you a bunch of grief. Resist the urge. Come up with another name---your group is a new lineage; be proud of it.

This ritual is the result of a new lineage, a group of students who came together to study and work the Golden Dawn material. After working the ritual so many times with the question "Who is covering this line" arising periodically, it was decided to type up the ritual as it was actually being done. The version that you hold in your hands is based on that ritual. Some changes have been made to the ritual, mostly in the speeches--the Bast Temple version has parts to it that are specific to that group--some of it is administrative, other parts symbolic. One part has been blinded, quite blatantly, the interested student can figure out how to fill in the blanks.

How should a Golden Dawn based group be ran? Historically, the power to rule has been in the hands of a few, which has led to the majority of the members not having any say in how things are done. The roots of many of the splits and schisms that plague some Golden Dawn groups can be traced to the dissatisfaction of the membership with their leaders. In the end, one needs to ask



if a system that has created this many problems is the right one.

Democracy is something that a new Golden Dawn based group may want to consider. Bast Temple elects all of its officers. The membership also sets the rates of dues, and determines its own bylaws. The members vote on the acceptance of new members. And while the Inner Order sponsor of Bast Temple has the right to override decisions made by the members of Outer Order, he has only used that right twice in seven years. The membership still talks to one another and the lodge continues to meet, so perhaps they are doing something right. Ideally, a lodge consists of people who are pooling their resources together for a common goal. Golden Dawn based groups exist to study and work the Golden Dawn material--not to line the pockets of the leaders, nor to feed their egos. Everyone should bring something to the table (a skill, knowledge, talent, potential)--democracy is more ideal for bringing this forth than other models of Order governance.

The biggest reason cited for maintaining the old form of Order governance (one Order, one ruler---no one else has a say) is that it preserves the tradition and our sacred knowledge. Today with much of the Golden Dawn material published, (there are things that are still secret and known only to a few) that reason is mostly a thing of the past. Any student can assemble the baseline of the knowledge contained in the Golden Dawn tradition; our knowledge is safe from extinction. And the tradition and our knowledge can grow if the Orders allow it to. So why hasn't it? The answer lies with the leadership of the old system, and the general lack of Golden Dawn based lodges. The Golden Dawn community does not have to put up with this as this ritual shows.

Remember the only way to learn the deepest secrets of Golden Dawn is to do the work. That is the secret. Nothing more.

[Morgan Drake Eckstein](#)

[Bast Temple \(B.I.O.R.C.\)](#)

Denver, Colorado

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## The Opening of the Neophyte (0=0) Grade Ritual

### Hall Officers

Hierophant: seated in the East, dressed in red robe, with Crown-headed Sceptre and Banner of the East

Hiereus: seated in the West, dressed in black robe, with sword and the Banner of the West

Hegemon: seated between the two pillars, dressed in white robe, with Mitre-headed Scepter

### Altar Requirements (To be placed on the altar)

Red cross and white triangle, red rose, red lamp, chalice of wine, paten of bread and salt

### Temple Requirements

Roll of membership, Twin Pillars, Neophyte Sash, Cup of Lustral Water (placed in North), and Censer of incense (placed in the South), Kerux's Lamp

### Candidate Requirements

Black robe, hoodwink, cord (rope)

### Movement in Temple

All movement in Temple is done with the direction of the Sun, except for the Reverse Circumambulation. When entering the Temple, the Sign of the Enterer is done towards the Hierophant's Throne in the East. When leaving the Temple, the Sign of Silence is performed. The Sign of the Enterer is also done whenever passing the Hierophant's Throne in the East.

If the Temple is not reserved exclusively for Temple purposes

In the event that the meeting hall is not used exclusively for Temple use, it should be purified by the Lesser Ritual of the Pentagram. This ritual should be performed by either the Hierophant using their sceptre or the Hiererus using their sword.

In the event of the Temple not being duly oriented

Sometimes the layout of the meeting hall will not confirm with the requirement that the furthest end of the hall from the entrance be oriented to the east. If the hall does not confirm to this rule, then after the Lesser Ritual of the Pentagram is performed, but before the formal Opening of the Temple. The Hierophant should do the following prayer.

The Hierophant goes and stands between the Altar and true east, all the other members of the lodge stand up and face true east. Raising his Sceptre, the Hierophant says:  
*Creator of the Universe, Lord of the Visible World, who has by Thy Supreme Will set limits to its magnitude and conferred special attributes on its boundaries, we invoke Thee to grant that whatever hidden and mystic virtue doth reside in the radiant East--the Dayspring of Light--the origin of Life--may in answer to this our prayer be this day conferred upon the Throne of the Hierophant of this Temple, who is the emblem of the Dawning of that Golden Light which shall illuminate the Path of the Unknown and shall guide us at length to the attainment of the Quintessence, the Stone of the Wise, True Wisdom and Perfect Happiness.*

*So mote it be.*

The rest of the members say: *So mote it be.*

### Preparation of the Candidate

The Candidate is seated by the door by which they entered the hall, blindfolded and hoodwinked by the Hegemon. The Hiererus accompanies the Hegemon and is armed with his sword. The Hegemon says before blindfolding and tying the rope three times around the Candidate's waist:

*Just as you submitted yourself to be born blind and bound by the triple bondage of karma, so must you enter the Temple of Dual Truth. Do you consent to be hoodwinked and bound?*

If the Candidate consents, then the Hegemon says:

*So mote it be.*

If the Candidate does not agree to this condition, then they are to be led out by the Hieres and barred from re-entering the Temple, for they are not yet ready to submit to the task of the Great Work.

### Opening of the Neophyte (0=0) Grade

All take their proper places.

Hierophant rises and gives one knock, then says:

*Hekas, Hekas, Este Bebeloi!*

Hierophant gives another knock and says:

*Brothers and Sisters of this Temple assist me to open the Hall of Neophytes.*

All rise.

Hierophant:

*Brother Hieres, see that the Hall is properly secured.*

Hiereus goes to the door and makes sure that it is locked, then he says:

*Brother Hierophant, the Hall is properly secured.*

If there is a Candidate joining the lodge at this meeting, the Hierophant says (otherwise skip to testing for Grade Signs):

*Sister Hegemon, has the Candidate accepted the conditions of entering this Hall?*

Hegemon replies:

*Just as we all chose to be born, so must we all chose to enter the Temple of our own Free Will. With this in mind, the Candidate has freely accepted to be blindfolded and bound.*

Hierophant:

*Brother Hiereus, assure that all of the unguarded present here today have beheld the mysteries of the Neophyte Grade.*

Hiereus:

*Brothers and Sisters of this esteemed Order, give the Signs of the Neophyte.*

All members give the Signs (except Hierophant and Candidate). Then the Hiererus says:

*Brother Hierophant, all present have been so honored.*

Hierophant gives the Sign of the Enterer, and then says:

*Let the number of the Officers of the Grade and the nature of their offices be proclaimed once again, that the powers whose images they are may be re-awakened in the spheres of those now present and in the sphere of this Order, for by names and images are all powers awakened and reawakened.*

Hierophant now gives the Sign of Silence.

Hierophant:

*Brother Hiererus, how many Chief Officers are there in this Grade?*

Hiererus:

*There are three Chief Officers: the Hierophant, the Hiererus, and the Hegemon.*

Hierophant:

*Is there any peculiarity in these Names?*

Hiereus:

*They all commence with the letter "H".*

Hierophant:

*And of what is this Letter a symbol?*

Hiereus:

*Of Life, because the letter "H" is our mode of representing the ancient aspirate or breathing, and Breath is evidence of Life.*

Hierophant:

*By tradition, how many lesser Officers are there?*

Hiereus:

*There are three besides the Sentinel: the Kerux, the Stolistes and the Dadouchos.*

Hierophant:



*By tradition, what is the station and duties of the Sentinel?*

Hiereus:

*The station of the Sentinel is outside the Hall. His duty is to guard the Portal of the Hall and to bears a sword to keep out intruders. It is his duty to prepare the Candidate.*

Hierophant:

*Sister Hegemon, by tradition, what is the station and duties of the Dadouchos?*

Hegemon:

*The station of the Dadouchos is in the South to symbolize Heat and Dryness, and their duty is to see that the Lamp and Fires of the Temple are ready at the Opening, and to watch over the Censer and Incense, and to consecrate the Hall and the Brothers and Sisters and the Candidate with Fire.*

Hierophant:

*Brother Hiereus, by tradition, what is the station and duties of the Stolistes?*

Hiereus:

*The station of the Stolistes is the North, to symbolize Cold and Moisture, and their duties are to see that the Robes and Collars and Insignia of the Officers are ready at the Opening, and to watch over the Cup of Lustral Water and to purify the Hall and the Brothers and Sisters and the Candidate with Water.*

Hierophant:

*By tradition, the station of the Kerux is within the Portal, and their duties are to see that the furniture of the Hall is properly arranged at the Opening, and to guard the inner side of the Portal, to admit the Brothers and Sisters, and to watch over the reception of the Candidate, and to lead all Mystical Circumambulations, to carry the Lamp of their Office, and to make all reports and announcements. Their Lamp is a symbol of the Hidden Knowledge and their Wand is a symbol of its directing power.*

Hierophant:

*Sister Hegemon, what is your station and duties?*

Hegemon:

*My station is between the Two Pillars of Hermes and Solomon, and my face is towards the Cubical Altar of the Universe. My duty is to watch over the Gateway of the Hidden Knowledge, for I am the Reconciler between Light and Darkness. I watch over the reception of the Candidate*

*and their preparation, and I lead him in the Path that conducts from Darkness to Light. The White Color of my robe is the color of Purity, my ensign of office is a mitre-headed scepter to symbolize religion which guides and regulates life, and my Office symbolizes those higher Aspirations of the Soul which should guide its actions.*

Hierophant:

*Brother Hiereus, what is your station and duties?*

Hiereus:

*My station is on the Throne of the West and is a symbol of the increase of Darkness and decrease of Light, and I am the Master of Darkness. I keep the Gateway of the West and watch over the reception of the Candidate and over lesser Officers in the doing of their work. My Black Robe is an image of the darkness that was upon the face of the Waters. I carry the sword of Judgment and the banner of the Evening Twilight, which is the Banner of the West, and I am called Fortitude by the Unhappy.*

Hierophant:

*My station is on the Throne of the East in the place where the Sun rises, and I am the Master of the Hall, governing it according to the Laws of the Order, as HE whose image I am, is the Master of all who work for the Hidden Knowledge. My robe is red because of Uncreated Fire and*

*Created Fire, and I hold the Scepter of Power and the Banner of the East. I am called Power and Mercy and Light and Abundance, and I am the Expounder of the mysteries.*

Hierophant:

*Brother Hiereus, I command you to purify the Hall and the members with Water.*

Hiereus goes to North and if it has not already been done, mixes the water and salt together, consecrating them using the Sign of Manifestation and vibrating the Divine Name \*\*\*\*. Then he proceeds to the East, carrying the Cup, faces the Hierophant, makes the Sign of the Enterer. He then makes the symbol of the Cross and Triangle in each of the four quarters of the Hall, first by making a cross with the Cup and then sprinkling three times with the first and second fingers and thumb of his right hand.

Hiereus, upon returning to the East, says:

*I purify with Water.*

Then he makes the Sign of Silence, before returning to his place, depositing the Cup on the Altar while passing it.

Hierophant:

*Sister Hegemon, I command you to consecrate the Hall and the members with Fire.*

Hegemon goes to the South and if it has not already been done consecrates the burning incense by making the Sign of Manifestation and vibrating the Divine Name \*\*\*\*, then carrying the incense proceeds to the East. Faces the Hierophant and makes the Sign of the Enterer. She then makes the symbol of the Cross and Triangle in the four quarters. If using the Censer, shortens the chain and makes the Cross, then lengthening the chain swings the censer forward three times; if using a stick of incense, she merely draws the symbol of the Cross and Triangle using the end of the incense stick.

Hegemon upon returning to the East, says:

*I consecrate with Fire.*

Then she makes the Sign of Silence, and goes around the Altar to place the incense on the Altar before returning to her station between the two pillars.

Hierophant:

*Let the Mystic Circumambulation take place in the Pathway of Light.*

All members (except the blindfolded Candidate) form a line and walk around the Altar three times, each making the Sign

of the Enterer as they pass the Throne of the East. All return to places when done.

Hierophant:

*The Mystical Circumambulation symbolical of the rise of LIGHT is accomplished. Let us adore the Lord of Universe and Spaces.*

All (except the blindfolded Candidate) rise and face East.

Hierophant (with all making the proper Signs) says:

*Holy art Thou, Lord of the Universe!* (Sign of the Enterer)

*Holy art thou, Whom Nature hath not formed!* (Sign of the Enterer)

*Holy art Thou, the Vast and the Mighty One!* (Sign of the Enterer)

*Lord of the Light and of the Darkness!* (Sign of Silence)

All Officers raise their Banners and Scepters on high, and then sink them in salutation.

Hierophant:

*In the name of the Lord of the Universe, Who works in Silence and Whom naught but Silence can express, I declare that the Day Star has arisen and the Shadows flee away. Let*

*it be known that this Temple is now open in the Grade of Neophyte.*

Hierophant knocks.

Hiereus knocks.

Hegemon knocks.

Hierophant knocks and says:

*KHABS.*

Hiereus knocks and says:

*AM.*

Hegemon knocks and says:

*PEKHT.*

Hiereus knocks and says:

*KONX.*

Hegemon knocks and says:

*OM.*

Hierophant knocks and says:

*PAX.*

Hegemon knocks and says:

*LIGHT.*

Hierophant knocks and says:

*IN.*

Hiereus knocks and says:

*EXTENSION.*

All make Signs and resume seats except for the Hegemon and Hiereus.

Hiereus goes to Altar, picks up the Rose, circles the Altar once before taking it to the East, and silently asking the Sons of Horus to guard this part of the Mystic Repast before leaving it in the East.



Hegemon goes to the Altar, picks up the Red Lamp, circles the Altar once before taking it to the South, and silently asks the Sons of Horus to guard this part of the Mystic Repast before leaving it in the South.

Hiereus goes to the Altar, picks up the Chalice, circles the Altar once before taking it to the West, and silently asking the Sons of Horus to guard this part of the Mystic Repast before leaving it in the West. Circles the Altar once before returning to station.

Hegemon goes to the Altar, picks up the Paten of Bread and Salt, circles the Altar once before taking it to the North and silently asking the Sons of Horus to guard this part of the Mystic Repast before leaving it in the North. Circles the Altar once before returning to station.

The business of the lodge is now to be conducted, with the Ceremony of Admission to take priority of all other business.

## Ceremony of Admission into the Neophyte Grade

Hierophant:

*Brothers and Sisters of the Order of \*\*\*\*, I have received notice from the voting members of this lodge that they desire the admission of \*\*\*\* to this lodge.*

*Sister Hegemon, I understand that the Candidate has agreed to the conditions of their entry into this Holy Order.*

Hegemon knocks and then says:

*The Candidate has agreed, and is prepared, seeking for entrance.*

Hiereus turns down lights.

Hierophant:

*I give permission to admit \*\*\*\*\*, who now loses their name and will henceforth among us be known as \*\*\*\*\*. Let the Officers of the lodge assist in their reception.*

Hegemon (standing in front of the Candidate) says:

*Inheritor of a Dying World, arise and enter the Darkness.*

Hegemon helps the Candidate to stand up.

Hiereus:

*The Mother of Darkness hath blinded her with her Hair.*

Hegemon:

*The Father of Darkness hath hidden her under His Wings.*

Hierophant:

*Her limbs are still weary from the wars which were in Heaven.*

(Pause)

*Unconsecrated and Unpurified, thou cans't enter our Sacred Hall.*

Hiereus marks forehead with a cross and sprinkles thrice.  
Says:

*I purify thee with Water.*

Hegemon makes the symbol of the cross and triangle using the incense on the aura of the Candidate. Then she says:

*I consecrate thee with Fire.*

Should there be more than one Candidate, Hiereus and Hegemon must consecrate each alternately, so as to complete one before going to the next one.

Hierophant:

*Conduct the Candidate to the foot of the Altar. (Done.)*

*Inheritor of a Dying World, why seekest thou to enter our Sacred Hall?*

*Why seekest thou admission to our Order?*

Hegemon (speaking for the Candidate):

*My Soul wanders in Darkness and seeks the Light of the Hidden Knowledge, and I believe that in this Order, the Knowledge of that ancient Light may be obtained.*

Hierophant:

*By Ancient Custom, members of this Order pledge to keep secret everything that relates to this Order. To confirm your pledge to keep secret the True Mysteries of this Order, I now ask you, are you willing to take the solemn Obligation in the presence of this Assembly, to keep the secrets and Mysteries of our Order inviolate? There is nothing incompatible with your civil, moral, or religious duties in this Obligation. Although the Magical virtues can indeed be awaken into momentary Life in the wicked and foolish hearts, they cannot reign in any heart that has not the natural virtues to be their throne. He who is the Fountain of the Spirit of Man and of Things, came not to break, but to fulfill the Law. Are you ready to take this Oath?*

Candidate:

*I am ready.*

Hiereus, Hierophant, and Hegemon take their places in the form of a triangle around the Altar. Hierophant, from the East, advancing between the Pillars with scepter. Hiereus, Northwest of Altar with sword, Hegemon, Southwest of Altar with scepter. All members stand.

Hierophant:

*By Ancient Custom, in the days of old, a Candidate was expected to kneel while they took the Oath.*

(Pause)

*That custom does not rule here, for we are all equals here. All that meet in the Halls of this Temple are equals, some of us have merely been traveling longer, or have traveled faster on the Path than the others.*

*This Temple of \*\*\*\* does not exist by Charter or Warrant, we exist because the voting members of the lodge agree to meet. It is to these individuals and to the Great Work and to your Highest Self that we ask you to take this Obligation.*

(Pause)

*Are you still willing to take this Obligation?*

Candidate:

*I am.*

Hierophant:

*Give me your right hand which I place upon this Holy Symbol. Place your left hand in mine, bow your head, repeat your full name by which you are known on earth, and say after me:*

*I \*\*\*\* in the Presence of the LORD of the Universe, Who works in Silence and whom naught but Silence can express, and in this Hall of the Neophytes of \*\*\*\*, regularly assembled under approval of the voting members of the lodge, do of my own free will, hereby and hereon, most solemnly promise to keep secret this Order, its name, the Names of its Members, and the proceedings that take place at its meetings, from every person in the world who has not been initiated into it: nor will I discuss them with any member who has not the Password for the time being, or who has resigned, demitted, or been expelled.*

*I undertake to maintain a kindly and benevolent relation with all the Brothers and Sisters of this Order.*

*I solemnly promise to keep secret any information I may have gathered concerning this Order before taking this Oath.*

*I solemnly promise that any Ritual or lecture placed in my care or any cover containing them, shall bear the official label of this Order.*

*I will neither copy nor allow to be copied any manuscript, until I have obtained permission of the voting members of the Order, lest our Secret Knowledge be revealed through my neglect.*

*I solemnly promise not to suffer myself to be placed in such a state of passivity, that any uninitiated person may cause me to lose control of my words and actions.*

*I solemnly promise to persevere with courage and determination in the labors of the Divine Science, even as I shall persevere with courage and determination through this Ceremony which is their Image--and I will not debase my mystical knowledge in the labor of Evil Magic at any time tried or under any temptation.*

*I swear upon this Holy Symbol to observe all these things without evasion, equivocation, or mental reservation, under the penalty of being expelled from this Order for my perjury and my offence, and furthermore submitting myself by my own consent to a Deadly Stream of Power, set in action by the Divine Guardians of this Order, Who, Living the Light of their Perfect Justice, can, as tradition and experience affirm, strike the breaker of this Magical Obligation with death or palsy, or overwhelm him with misfortune.*

All Officers say:

*They journey as upon the Winds;  
They strike where no man strikes;  
They slay where no man slays.*

Hiereus places the flat of his sword on the Candidate's neck.

Hierophant:

*As I bow my neck under the Sword of the Hiereus, so do I commit myself unto their hands for vengeance or reward. So help my Mighty and Secret Soul, and the Father of my Soul*



*Who works in Silence and Whom naught but Silence can express.*

Hierophant:

*Welcome Neophyte of the 0=0 Grade of \*\*\*\*.*

Hierophant resumes Throne.

Hierophant:

*Sister Hegemon will you place the Neophyte in the Northern part of the Hall---the place of Forgetfulness, Dumbness, and Necessity, and of the greatest symbolical Darkness.*

Hegemon does so, facing the Candidate to East.

Hierophant:

*The Voice of my Undying Soul and Secret Soul said unto me, "Let me enter the Path of Darkness and peradventure, there shall I find the Light. I am the only Being in the Abyss of Darkness, from an Abyss of Darkness came I forth ere my birth, from the Silence of a Primal Sleep. And the Voice of Ages said unto my Soul-- "I am He who formulates in Darkness, the Light that shineth in Darkness, yet the Darkness comprehendeth it not."*

*Let the Mystic Circumambulation take place in the Path of Darkness which leads unto the Light, with the Lamp of the Hidden Knowledge to guide us.*

Hegemon leads the Neophyte around the Altar. As they pass the Hiererus knocks once, and the Hierophant makes his way to bar the way in the South before they pass a second time.

Hierophant:

*Unpurified and Unconsecrated, thou cannot enter the Path of the West!*

Hierophant:

*I purify thee with Water.*

Hegemon:

*I consecrate thee with Fire.*

Hegemon:

*Child of Earth twice purified and twice consecrated thou mayest approach the pathway of the West.*

Procession is lead to the Throne of the Hiereus, who threatens with Sword.

Hiereus:

*Thou canst not pass by me, saith the Guardian of the West, unless thou can tell me my name.*

Hegemon:

*Darkness is thy Name, thou Great One of the Paths of the Shades.*

Hierophant lifts hoodwink for a moment.

Hiereus:

*Fear is failure, so be thou without fear. For he that trembles at the Flame and at the Flood and at the Shadows of the Air, hath no part in GOD. Thou hast known me now, so pass thou on.*

Hierophant replaces hoodwink, procession moves past the Throne of the Hierophant who gives one knock, and past the Hiereus, who knocks again.

The procession is halted at the North.

Hierophant says:

*Unpurified and Unconsecrated, thou canst not enter the Pathway of the East.*

Hiereus and Hegemon purify and consecrate as before.

Hegemon:

*Thrice purified and thrice consecrated, thou mayest approach the Gateway of the East.*

Procession leads to the Hierophant, who rises and menaces with scepter.

Hierophant:

*Thou canst not pass me, saith the Guardian of the East, unless thou canst tell me my name.*

Hegemon:

*Light dawning in Darkness is thy name, the Light of a Golden Day.*

Hiereus lifts hoodwink for a moment.

Hierophant:

*Unbalanced Power is the ebbing away of Life. Unbalanced Mercy is weakness and the fading out of the Will. Unbalanced Severity is cruelty and the barrenness of the mind. Thou hast known me now, so pass thou on to the cubical Altar of the Universe.*

Hiereus replaces the hoodwink. Candidate is led to the West of the Altar. Hiererus Northwest, with the Hegemon in the Southwest.

Hierophant leaves Throne, and passes between the Pillars with scepter in his right hand and the Banner of the East in his left hand. He stops either between the Pillars, or halfway between them and the Altar, or else to the East of the Altar, saying, halting at each sentence:

*I come in the Power of the Light;  
I come in the Light of Wisdom;  
I come in the Mercy of the Light;  
The Light has Healing in his Wings.*

All Officers and members bow their heads.

*Let us bow our heads in reverence of the Divine.*

Hierophant turns toward the Altar, standing and says:

*Lord of the Universe—the Vast and Mighty One;*

---

*Ruler of the Light and of the Darkness;  
We adore Thee and we invoke Thee;  
Look with favor upon this Neophyte who stands before Thee,  
And grant Thine aid unto the higher aspirations of his (her)  
Soul,  
So that he (she) may prove to be a true and faithful Brother  
(Sister) Neophyte among us;  
To the glory of Thou Whom naught but Silence can express.  
So mote it be.*

All members chorus:

*So mote it be.*

All rise and remain standing.

Hierophant comes close to Altar and raises scepter above Neophyte's head. Hieres raises sword so to touch Hierophant's scepter. Hegemon raises his scepter to others.

The Hoodwink is to be removed at the word "light" in the following sequence.

Hierophant:

*Inheritor of a Dying World, we call thee to the Living  
Beauty.*

Hiereus:

*Wanderer in Wild Darkness, we call thee to the Gentle Light.*

A member turns up the lights.

Hierophant:

*Long has thou dwelt in Darkness---Quit the Night and seek the Day.*

All say:

We receive thee into the Order of \*\*\*\*.

Hierophant knocks and says:

*KHABS.*

Hiereus knocks and says:

*AM.*

Hegemon knocks and says:

*PEKHT.*

Hiereus knocks and says:

*KONX.*

Hegemon knocks and says:

*OM.*

Hierophant knocks and says:

*PAX.*

Hegemon knocks and says:

*LIGHT.*

Hierophant knocks and says:

*IN.*

Hiereus knocks and says:

*EXTENSION.*



Officers remove scepters and sword from head of Neophyte. Hierophant shows the Lamp of the Kerux to the Neophyte and says:

*In all thy wanderings in Darkness, the Lamp of the Kerux went before thee, though it was not seen by thine eyes. It is a symbol of the Light of the Hidden Knowledge. Let the Neophyte be led to the East of the Altar.*

Hegemon leads the Neophyte to the North and East, placing them in line with the invisible “Middle Pillar”, and halfway between the Altar and the Pillars.

Hierophant:

*Brother Hiereus, give the Secret Sign, Token and Words, together with the present Password of the 0=0 Grade of \*\*\*\*. Then place him (her) between the Mystic Pillars and superintend his (her) fourth and final Consecration.*

Hiereus passes by North to the Black Pillar and stands on the East side of it, facing the Neophyte. Hegemon takes up similar position by the White Pillar. Hiereus gives sword and banner to Hegemon and then stands in front of and facing Neophyte, passing between the Pillars to do so.

Hiereus:

*Brother (Sister) \*\*\*\*, I shall now proceed to instruct you in the secret Signs, grip and Words of this Grade. Firstly,*

*advance thy left foot a pace as if entering a portal. This is the Step.*

*The Signs are two. The First or Saluting Sign is given thus: lean forward and stretch out both arms thus: It alludes to your condition in a state of darkness groping for Light. The second Sign is the Sign of Silence, and is given by placing the left forefinger on your lip thus: Left forefinger upon lower lip. It is the position shown in many ancient statues of Harpocrates and it alludes to the strict silence you have sworn to maintain concerning everything connected with this Order. The first sign is always answered by the second.*

*The Grip or Token is given thus: advance your left foot touching mine, toe and heel, extend your right hand to grasp mine, fail, try again, then succeed in touching the fingers only. It alludes to the seeking of guidance in Darkness.*

*The Grand Word is Har-Par-Krat, and is whispered in this position mouth to ear, in syllables. It is the Egyptian name for the God of Silence, and should always remind you of the silence that you have sworn to maintain.*

*The Password is \*\*\*\*. It is periodically changed each Equinox so that a Member who has resigned, demitted, or been expelled may be ignorant of the existing Password. I now place you between the two Pillars of Hermes and Solomon in the symbolic gateway of Occult Wisdom.*

Hiereus takes Neophyte by hands and draws them forward until he is between the Pillars. He takes back sword and

banner from Hegemon, returns to his position North of and close to the Black Pillar, and says:

*Let the final consecration take place.*

The Hall is purified and consecrated as in the Opening, except that the Neophyte is done at the end of it.

Hierophant:

*Sister Hegemon, I command you to remove the Rope, last remaining symbol of the Path of Darkness, and to instruct the Neophyte in the meaning of the badge of this Grade.*

Hegemon passes from behind White Pillar; hands scepter to Hiereus, removes rope, and gives the Sash of the Grade to the Neophyte.

Hegemon:

*By tradition, it is customary for the Neophyte to be invested with the Badge of this Grade. It is a sash with the symbol of the Order pictured on it. The symbol of the Order symbolizes Light dawning in Darkness.*

Hegemon returns to East of the Pillars, receives scepter from Hiereus. Then she goes back to the East of the White Pillar.

Hierophant:

*Let the Mystic Circumabulation take place in the Pathway of Light.*

Done.

Hierophant:

*By tradition, Neophytes sit in the Northwest section of the Hall.*

All members except the Hiereus and the Hegemon are seated. The Hiereus and the Hegemon return the parts of the Mystic Repast to the Altar before sitting in their stations.

Hierophant:

*The Threefold Cord bound about your waist was the image of the threefold bondage of morality, which among the uninitiated is termed earthly or Material inclination, that has bound into a narrow place the once far-wandering Soul; and the Hoodwink was an image of the darkness, of Ignorance, of Morality that has blinded men to the happiness and Beauty their eyes once looked upon.*

*By tradition, the Altar in the center of the Hall is Double Cubical. It is an emblem of visible Nature or the Material Universe, concealing within herself the mysteries of all dimensions, while revealing her surface to the exterior senses. It is a double cube because, as the Emerald Tablet has said, "The things that are below are a reflection of the*

*things that are above.” The world of men and women created to unhappiness is a reflection of Divine Beings created to Happiness. It is described in the SEEPHER YETZIRAH or Book of Formation as “An Abyss of Height” and as “An Abyss of Depth,” “An Abyss of the East” and “An Abyss of the West,” “an Abyss of the North” and “An Abyss of the South.” The Altar is by tradition colored black because, unlike Divine Beings who unfold in the Element of Light, the Fires of Created Beings arise from Darkness and Obscurity.*

*On the Altar is a White Triangle to be in the image of that Immortal Light, the Triune Light, which moved in darkness and formed the World out of Darkness. There are two contending Forces and one always uniting them. And these Three have their Image in the Threefold Flame of our Being and in the threefold wave of the sensual world.*

Hierophant stands in the form of a cross, holding the Banner of the East, and says:

*Glory be to Thee, Father of the undying. For Thy glory flows out rejoicing to the ends of the Earth.*

Hierophant reseats himself and says:

*The Red Cross above the White Triangle is an image of Him Who unfolded in the Light. At its East, South, West, and North Angles are a Rose, Fire, Chalice of Wine, and Bread and Salt. These allude to the Four Elements, Air, Fire, Water, Earth. The Mystical Words KHABS AM PEKHT are*

*ancient Egyptian, and are the origin of the Greek “KONX OM PAX,” which was uttered at the Eleusian Mysteries. A literal translation would be “Light Rushing Out in One Ray” and they signify the same form of Light as that symbolized traditionally by the Staff of the Kerux.*

*East of the Double Cubical Altar of created things are the Pillars of Hermes and Solomon. By tradition, there are scenes from the 17th and 125th Chapters of the Book of the Dead painted on them. They are the doorposts of the Gateway of the Hidden Wisdom. They are the symbols of the twin powers of Day and Night, Love and Hate, Work and Rest, the subtle force of the Lodestone and Eternal out-pouring and in-pouring of the Heart of God. By tradition, upon their summits are twin lights, veiled in red, showing that the Pathway to Hidden Knowledge, unlike the Pathway of Nature--which is a continual undulation, the winding hither and thither of the Serpent--is the straight and narrow way between them.*

*It was because of this that I passed between them, when you came to the Light, and it was because of this that you were placed between them to receive the Final Consecration. Two contending Forces and one which unites them eternally. Two Basal angles of the Triangle and one which forms the apex. Such is the origin of Creation—it is the Triad of life.*

*My Throne at the Gate of the East is the place of the Guardian of the Dawning Sun.*

*The Throne of the Hiereus at the Gate of the West is the place of the Guardian against the Multitudes that sleep through the Light and awaken at the Twilight.*

*The Throne of the Hegemon seated between the Columns is the Place of Balanced Power, between the Ultimate Light and the Ultimate Darkness. These meanings are shown in detail by the traditional insignia and colors of our robes.*

*By tradition, the Wand of the Kerux is the beam of Light from the Hidden Wisdom and his Lamp is an emblem of the ever-burning Lamp of the Guardian of the Mysteries.*

*By tradition, the Seat of the Stolistes at the Gate of the North is the Place of the Guardian of the Cauldron and the Well of Water--of Cold and Moisture.*

*By tradition, the Seat of the Dadouchos at the Gate of the South is the Place of the Guardian of the Lake of Fire and the Burning Bush.*

*I declare, in the name of the Lord of the Universe, Who works in Silence and Whom naught but Silence can express, that \*\*\*\*, who will henceforth be known to you by the motto \*\*\*\*, has been duly admitted to the 0=0 Grade as a Neophyte of \*\*\*\*.*

*Brother Hiereus, I delegate to you the duty of pronouncing a short address to our Brother (Sister) on his (her) admission.*

Hiereus:

*Brother (Sister) \*\*\*\*, it is my duty to deliver this exhortation to you. Remember your Obligation in this Order to secrecy—for Strength is in Silence, and the seed of Wisdom is sown in Silence and grows in Darkness and Mystery.*

*Remember that you hold all religions in reverence, for there are none but contains a Ray from the Ineffable Light that you are seeking. Remember the penalty that awaits the breaker of His Oath. Remember the Mystery that you have received, and that the Secret of Wisdom can be discerned only from the place of balanced Powers.*

*Study well the Great Arcanum of the proper equilibrium of Severity and Mercy, for either unbalanced is not good. Unbalanced Severity is cruelty and oppression; unbalanced Mercy is but weakness and would permit Evil to exist unchecked, thus making itself, as it were, the accomplice of that Evil.*

*Remember that things Divine are not attained by mortals who understand the Body alone, for only those who are lightly armed can attain the summit.*

*Remember that God alone is our Light and the Bestower of Perfect Wisdom and that no mortal power can so more than bring you to the Pathway of that Wisdom, which he could, if it so pleased him, put in the heart of a child. For the whole*



*is greater than the part, so are we but Sparks from the Insupportable Light which is in Him.*

*The ends of the Earth are swept by the borders of his Garment of Flame—from him all things proceed, and unto Him all things return. Therefore, we invoke Him. Therefore even the Banner of the East falls in adoration before Him.*

Hierophant:

*Before you can ask to pass to a higher Grade, you will have to commit certain rudiments of Occult Knowledge to memory. A manuscript lecture in these subjects will be supplied to you by the officer in whose charge they are. When you can pass an examination in this elementary Qabbalistic Knowledge, you will inform the Member in whose charge you are, and arrangements will be made for you to sit for examination. If you are found perfect, you will then apply for admission to the next Degree. Remember, that without a Dispensation from the voting members, no person can be admitted or advanced to a Grade of the First Order. Remember that your admission to this Order gives you no right to initiate any other person without Dispensation from the voting members of this Order.*

*By tradition, the Kerux gives a speech to the Candidate, after showing them a glass of clear water, to which a clear solution is added that causes the water to look like blood.*

*He says: Nature is harmonious in all her workings, and that which is above is as that which is below. Thus also, the*

*Truths which by material Science we investigate are but special examples of the all-pervading Laws of the Universe. So, within this pure and limpid fluid, lie hidden and unperceived of mortal eyes the elements bearing the semblance of blood, even as within the mind and brain of the initiate lie concealed the Divine Secrets of the Hidden Knowledge. Yet if the Oath be forgotten, and solemn pledge be broken, then that which is secret shall be revealed, even as this pure fluid reveals the semblance of blood.*

*Let this remind thee forever, O Neophyte, how easily by a careless or unthinking word, thou mayest betray that which thou hast sworn to keep secret and mayest reveal the Hidden Knowledge imparted to thee, and implanted in thy brain and in thy mind. And let the hue of blood remind thee that if thou shalt fail in this thy oath of secrecy, thy blood may be poured out and thy body be broken, for heavy is the penalty exacted by the Guardians of the Hidden Knowledge from those who wilfully betray their trust.*

Hegemon superintends the signing of the Membership Roll.

## Business Phrase

All Outer Order lodge business should occur in the Neophyte Grade.

## Order of the Business Phrase

Minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

Account of any members in distress.

Reading of communications.

Reading of bills.

Reading of applications for membership.

Reports of interviewing committees.

Voting on applications for membership.

Reports of other committees.

Business held over from pervious meeting.

New business (Resolutions).

Treasurer's report.

Good of the Order (Community Announcements).

Lecture/Instructional Program/Work of the Grade

{If at the end of this phrase, the Rose, Lamp, Chalice, and Paten have not been placed back on the Altar, then it is done so at this point.}

### Closing of the Neophyte Grade

Hierophant knocks, then rises and says:

*Hekas! Hekas! Este Bebeloi!*

*Brothers and Sisters of the \*\*\*\* Temple of the Order of the \*\*\*\*, assist me to close the Hall of Neophytes.*

All rise.

Hiereus knocks.

Hegemon knocks.

Hierophant:

*Brother Hiereus, see that the Hall is properly secured.*

Hiereus does so, then says:

*The Hall is properly guarded, Brother Hierophant.*

Hierophant:

*Brother Hiereus, assure yourself that all present have beheld the Golden Dawn.*

Hiereus:

*Brothers and Sisters, give the Signs.*

This is done.

Hiereus:

*Brother Hierophant, all present have been so honored.*

Hierophant:

*Let the Hall be purified by Water and Fire.*

This is done as in the Opening.

Hiereus: *I purify by Water.*

Hegemon: *I consecrate by Fire.*

Hierophant:

*Let the Mystical Reverse Circumambulation take place in the Pathway of Light.*

All members walk around the Altar, counterclockwise, making the Sign of the Enterer when passing the Throne of the East. All pass around three times.

Hierophant:

*The Mystical Reverse Circumambulation is accomplished. It is the Symbol of Fading Light. Let us adore the Lord of the Universe.*

All rise and face East.

Hierophant:

*Holy art Thou, Lord of the Universe! (All salute).*

*Holy art Thou, Whom nature hath not formed! (All salute).*

*Holy art Thou, the Vast and the Mighty One!* (All salute).  
*Lord of the Light, and of the Darkness!* (All make the Sign of Silence).

All turn to center and salute as in Opening.

Hierophant:

*Nothing now remains but to partake together in silence, of the Mystic Repast, composed of the symbols of the Four Elements, and to repeat our pledge of Secrecy.*

All are seated.

Hegemon lights the lamp on the Altar.

Hierophant puts down his scepter and returns the Banner of the East to its place. Goes West of the Altar, faces East, and gives the Sign of the Enterer. Hierophant then says:

*I invite you to inhale with me the perfume of this Rose, as a symbol of Air.*

*To feel the warmth of this sacred Fire.* (Spreads his hands over it).

*To eat with me this Bread and Salt as types of Earth.* (Breaks and dips bread into the salt and eats).

*And finally to drink with me this Wine, the consecrated emblem of Elemental Water.*

(Drinks from cup after making a Sign of the Cross with it. All subsequently make the Sign of the Cross with cup before drinking.)

Hierophant passes to the East of the Altar, going clockwise, and administers the Repast to the next member, raising and handling elements. The Saluting Sign of the Enterer is made by each member as they get to the West of the Altar and face the East. The Sign of Silence is made by each in turn as Administrator, in reply to the Sign of the Enterer. The officers partake first, then the members.

When the last member partakes, they hold the cup on high and say:

*It is finished.*

Then they go to the East of the Altar and make the Sign of Silence.

All rise.

Hierophant:

*Tetelestai.*

Hierophant knocks.

Hiereus knocks.



Hegemon knocks.

Hierophant knocks and says:

*KHABS.*

Hiereus knocks and says:

*AM.*

Hegemon knocks and says:

*PEKHT.*

Hiereus knocks and says:

*KONX.*

Hegemon knocks and says:

*OM.*

Hierophant knocks and says:

*PAX.*

Hegemon knocks and says:

*LIGHT.*

Hierophant knocks and says:

*IN.*

Hiereus knocks and says:

*EXTENSION.*

All make signs (both parts) toward Altar.

Hierophant:

*May what we have partaken of sustain us in our search for the QUINTESSENCE, the Stone of the Philosophers, True Wisdom, Perfect Happiness, the SUMMUM BONUM.*

If the Hall is not reserved exclusively for Temple purpose, the LBRP should be done before all disrobe and disperse.

## About the Author

Growing up interested in esoteric philosophy, Morgan Drake Eckstein had studied several spiritual traditions before learning about the existence of Golden Dawn. In 1992, he became a member of an independent Golden Dawn lodge, in which he attained the Grade of Adept Minor before its disbandment. In 2000, after involvement in several other Orders, he became a founding member of Bast Temple (Denver, Colorado), the mother lodge of the B.I.O.R.C. He has served as an elected officer of the B.I.O.R.C. since its inception.

In his mundane life, he recently shook off the stigma of being a high school dropout, becoming a forty-year old college student. He lives in Denver with his girlfriend,

taking care of multiple cats. There he putters around in his garden and library when he is not doing his homework or engaged in his career as a freelance writer.

This promotional preview copy is provided by [Morgan Drake Eckstein](#).

You can find the latest news about this title, other titles by the same author, and various thoughts about Golden Dawn, Wicca, and the Western Mystery Tradition on his blog, Gleamings From the Dawn at:

<http://gleamingsfromthedawn.blogspot.com/>

If you live in Denver, Colorado, and are interested in working the Golden Dawn system, please consider joining Bast Temple (BIORC).

<http://basttemple.com/>