ACOLYTE INITIATION MYSTERY

(E.S.S.G) 2 = 9

I Consecration of the Quest. II Acolyte Initiation III Acolyte Mystery

1. Introduction

The Acolyte is kneeling, facing the Eastern Watchtower. A veil has been placed upon his/her head to obscure but not blind the candidate from the following proceedings. The Acolyte is situated thus in the center of the magick circle.

2. In the Temple: Lady and High Priestess of the Grail 5=6

Priest of the Grail 4=7
Priestess of the Grail 4=7

Spiritual Warrior of the Grail 3=8

The Altar has been made ready. The grail has been veiled and placed upon the altar before the kneeling Acolyte.

The Four Officers of the Grail along with all honored assistants circumambulate deocil around the magick circle. They say to the Acolyte as they slowly walk:

Grail Priest - Whatever you do, from now and into the future - remember to keep pure your intentions. This is indeed a very grave time with a heavy weight of responsibility and an impossible task - to be pure in intent. Yet you must persevere, acknowledging your faults and continuing the upward climb.

Lady - Open your heart to the spirit of the Graal. For a closed heart cannot endure the anguish of the spiritual ordeal of transformation. Remember that your search is for the beloved, that pure essence of the Feminine Spirit which is lacking in our barbaric era. We have lost an important part of the spirit which gives inspiration, joy and ecstasy. Also know that a closed heart has not the light of hope, so be open, O heart of the Acolyte!

Grail Warrior - I tell you, my ward, that unless you are prepared to fight for the truth, the good of the soul, and the light and purity of the spirit, evil and darkness shall be your only companions.

Grail Priestess - Seek to know yourself and you shall find the answer to the endless enigma.. "Who am I?". find yourself and you shall be found, love yourself and you shall be loved, know yourself and you shall understand. The answer is in you!

Lady - The karma is set loose and so another intiate of magick is born. For this is the path of the becoming and the way of knowing. The hidden message of your heart holds the keys to the greater mysteries and these bring the joy and the ecstasy of the spirit made flesh. For behold the beauty of womanhood and its secret ways.

Grail Priest - This path of magick is now laid out before you, and destiny awaits the impact of your decisions. Know that the sisterhood of the Grail and the brotherhood of the lance are always with you. Together may we find a means of spiritual resolution.

The circumambulation is completed and the Lady removes the Grail from the altar and proceeds to the Western Altar and Shrine of the Grail and stands with the Grail in her hands held out in front of her, with her back to the Shrine. The Priest Kneels in front of her and the Priestess at his right and the Warrior at his left. The other members keel in the outer periphreum of the magick circle. The Lady removes the veil from the Grail and reveals consecrated wine within. The Priest then kisses her feet, knees, belly, breasts, and lips. He then kneels before her in adoration and says:

Grail Priest - I call thee, O Marah Sophia, lady of the inspiration of spiritual ecstasy. We seek for the gaining of the threshold of the mystery. Therefore we invoke thee in the flesh of thy chosen lady, to become a sacrament of the Grail and to channel for us the grace and blessing of the absolute. Give us thy blessings, O pure and noble one, speak words of wisdom and inspiration so that we may know the secret way. Through thy wine are we made one with thee and thou art one with us.

Lady - I am the pure and lovely spirit of she whose heart is the graal for all humanity. The light of love burns, showering us in its eternal blessing. Like the moon I shine forth in the darkness, illuminating the way.. like the sun I make everything clear and understood. There is no heart turned against me, nor is there any dissent. For I hold the hearts of all people in my own heart - the world container - the Graal of life and death, and redemption. Through Mara-Sophia, I bless _______, our brother/sister of the Graal Heart.

The Priest then makes the sign of the equal arm cross upon the Lady standing before him. With his right hand he touches her forehead, solar plexus, right shoulder, left shoulder, and centers the focus of power upon her heart, intoning the name *Marah Sophia*.

Then when the above invocation is completed, the Lady proceeds over to the still kneeling Acolyte and removes her veil. She then stands before the Acolyte holding the Grail out to her. The Priest and others stand behind the Acolyte facing the Lady. The Lady takes some wine with her fingers and sprinkles some of it upon the head of the Acolyte.

Grail Priest - Whom does the Grail serve?

Lady - It serves the initiate upon the path of spiritual union.

Grail Priest - From whence did it come?

Lady - From the womb of the Great Mother.

Grail Priest - To whither does it go?

Lady - To the salvation of all humanity.

Then the Lady serves the Acolyte from the Grail, and she drinks from the wine therein.

Lady - Know that the vessel is too subtle to retain any single form for long. The Grail is a symbol of symbolism itself.

Then the Priest, Priestess, and Warrior lay their hands upon the Acolyte each in turn, blowing their breath upon her head and charging her with their power. The Lady then hands her a Lily and Rose entwined together. Then the Acolyte takes a parchment which she has prepared, and reads the Dedication of Self contained therein, and she is bonded by her word and therefore is her word a law upon herself. This is acknowledged by all as they bow before her.

Lady - I am Mara Sophia, the great Feminine Spirit of the universe. Today you have dedicated yourself to the positive work of magick, and therefore you have begun the path which will lead to union with the absolute. Let all other diversions be cast aside.

Then the Lady lays her hands upon the Acolyte, blowing her breath upon her head and charging her with her power. Then all members help the Acolyte to rise and give the embrace of welcome.