

INSTALLATION OF THE OUTER QUORUM

(E.S.S.G) Official Common Temple Liturgy

1. Introduction

This ceremony is used to open up the temple for a business meeting, in which various issues, items of business and community matters are discussed, new members admitted, new rituals and practices discussed and voted upon, changes in organization or liturgy, or even temple direction. Penalties and cases of severe adjudication are also considered within the sacred space created by this meeting, as are all binding decisions and declarations.

2. Opening of the Outer Quorum

In the meeting hall, herein called the domain of the lodge, are the officers and members of the temple:

Most Worshipful Magister - Red Maltese Cross
Right Worshipful Hierius - Black Celtic Cross
Auctor/Summoner - Golden Eye of Horus
Sentinels - Male/Thunderbolt Female/Chalice

There can be up to four sentinels, representing the four elements. Each person is dressed in a dark formal outfit, suits and ties for men, dresses or power suits for women. The officers wear a jewel representing their office, and the magister wears a ceremonial top-hat (if a man) or a veil (if a woman).

The three officers sit together at a table in the western side of the lodge, with the Magister sitting the center, and the Auctor is at his/her left, and the Hierius is at his/her right. The sentinels are dispersed to the four quarters, with one of them stationed at the door nearest his/her quadrant. The rest of the temple occupy chairs in the empty areas, forming a ring. In the center of the lodge is a lectern facing the West, and on the western wall are two banners, one with the lamen of the Order, and the other representing the temple. There may also be a third - the flag of the nation in which the lodge resides. The Actor has pens, pencils and paper in front of him/her, as well as the Tarot and a magick mirror or shew stone. The Hierius holds a wand, and the Magister has a gavel and a bell or gong, which is used to produce the knocks.

The members of the temple enter the lodge in the order of the Magister, Hierius, four Sentinels, the members of the temple, and followed by the Auctor, carrying his/her books of notation and treasury notes (these are always kept in his/her possession. The Auctor closes the door and makes the sign of the closing of the portal. The four Sentinels make the sign of the invoking pentagrams at each of

their four quarters. The Auctor assumes his/her place, and the meeting comes to order.

All stand to attention as the Magister says the following:

M.W.M. - [Knocks] **Fratres et Sorores of all grades of the E.S.S.G. in the outer, let us begin the convocation and open the exoteric gate that we may meet and know the matters of the heart, soul and mind.**

The Magister looks to the Hierius, and says: *M.W.M.* - **Are all present proper members of this temple, knowing its secret sign and password?** The Hierius replies: *R.W.H.* - **I shall determine if it be so.** The Hierius then stands and beginning to his/her left, discreetly asks each member sitting in the ring for the sign and password of the temple. If a member does not know the sign and password, the Hierius shall say to the Magister: *R.W.H.* - **Master, one of the seekers does not know the sign and the password, shall he/she be forsworn and vouched for, or shall he/she be removed from our company?** If the member be spoken for and known by the company of the temple, the Magister shall: *M.W.M.* - **Give him/her the sign and password so he/she may be admitted amongst us.** The Hierius discreetly gives the person the sign and password, and makes the sign of the equal arm over them. Or if the person be deemed unworthy, then the Magister shall say: *R.W.H.* - **The seeker is not lawfully amongst us - Sentinels, show him/her to the door!** When all are examined by the Hierius, he/she shall return before the Magister, and say: *R.W.H.* - **All are found correct and admitted to our group soul.** The Magister shall reply: *M.W.M.* - **Oh Brother/Sister, utter the sacred invocation!**

R.W.H. - **In the name of the Lord of the Universe, and by command of the very honored Magister, I reveal the mysteries of Compromise and Agreement, and the gateway to the soul of the Eggregore is herein revealed.**

M.W.M. - **The gateway is the great and compassionate Spirit of our Order. For it brings us together in brotherhood and sisterhood and chooses the direction that is the path of rightness and equality for all standing herein. In this fashion are all truths pronounced, and all words of binding necessity.** [Knocks]

Auctor - **Let all words said herein be noted down for consideration and also for posterity, let all decisions be made in unity and consensus. May we abide within this secret lodge in peace, and speak the truth from our hearts without fear of tyranny or coercion. As it is said - so shall it be written. I shall have the sacred mysteries now revealed!**

Eastern Sentinel - **Four are the letters of the name of the Infinite Thought.**

Western Sentinel - **Twelve are the mansions of the secret and unknowable Inner Kingdom.**

Southern Sentinel - **Seven are the rays which emanate from the Cosmic Jewel.**

Northern Sentinel - **Three are the veils that occult the unseen light of the Bornless One.**

***R.W.H.* - Sixteen are the forces that express the ultimate feeling of eternal bliss.**

***M.W.M.* - Eleven are the masters who shall guide our wanderings and guard our integrity as we proceed from the darkness into the light. From them I receive my honor and to them I give my oath of fealty.**

***All* - So Mote it Be.**

The R. W. H. points to each Sentinel, East, South, West, and North.

***R.W.H.* - Behold, the four Sentinels who guard the Quadrants. They are like the Watchers of old, who taught the Ancient Magickal Mysteries.**

***M.W.M.* - Why are you so placed?**

***Eastern Sentinel* - To mark the rising sun, as the sun rises in the East to open and enlighten the day, so as our Most Worthy Magister brings forth the light of Gnosis. I am called power and mercy and abundance, and I am the expounder of the mysteries. [Salutes East]**

***M.W.M.* - Why are you so placed?**

***Southern Sentinel* - To mark the sun at its meridian, to call our magi from labor to rest and from rest to labor again, that profit and pleasure may result. I am called growth and healing and inspiration, and I am the expounder of all philosophy. [Salutes South]**

***M.W.M.* - Why are you so placed?**

***Western Sentinel* - To mark the setting of the sun and to close the ceremony at the Most Worshipful Magister's command after having seen that every frater and soror has had their due. I carry the sword of judgement in the evening twilight, which is in the west, and I am called fortitude. [Salutes west]**

***M.W.M.* - Why are you so placed?**

***Northern Sentinel* - To mark the sun at its nadir, to watch over our magi as they rest and dream; forever sending forth the light which casts away the darkness of despair. I am called insight and truth and love. I hold the secret key to gnosis. [Salutes North]**

***M.W.M.* - Why are you so placed?**

***Auctor* - To mark the sun in its eclipse, to behold the gate in its opening, to read the augurs of wisdom placed therein. For I am the dweller of the threshold and my lesson is the mastery of fear and passion. [Salutes Ultra-Point]**

The R. W. H. salutes the Southeast Angle.

***R.W.H.* - Behold, before us stands the magus and we are prepared to receive the magickal mysteries which shall be our sustenance, our shield and our guiding light.**

The M. W. M. salutes the Western Quadrant.

***M.W.M.* - Behold, before us appears the dawning of the new Aeon. This Eosmas shall challenge us, demanding a continual expansion of our spiritual awareness and causing us to serve the interests of the absolute as we learn by knowing and teach by living.**

The Auctor salutes the Northeastern Angle.

***Autor* - Behold, before us is the limitless and inexhaustable source of all manifestation. Let this source be our heritage, and the achievement of this heritage shall be our ordeal. For those who have joined into the unity of the source suffer not in the toils of existence, but exult and rejoice in the joy of life!**

***M.W.M.* - [Knocks] The Secret Quorum is herein established. Let us then, open the gateway to our eternal discernment.**

All sit at their places - the Hierius returns to sit at the right of the Magister. The Magister places either his hat on his head, or dons the veil. All bow for a moment of silent prayer and meditation.

The Magister then gives three long knocks, and the official business of the temple is engaged.

***M.W.M.* - My esteemed Auctor, open the books of the temple and let us determine who is with us in this sacred quorum.**

The Auctor reads the roll call of all members of the temple, active or inactive, and individuals either acknowledge their presence, saying the word *Aye*, or there is silence (which is a *Nay*), or someone speaks for the individual. An inactive member is marked as such by the Auctor (unless he or she appears to the group and has been admitted to the meeting). When the roll call is completed, the Auctor says to the Magister: *Auctor* - **Most Worthy Magister! All temple members are present and accounted for. Let the books show who is thus present for this quorum.**

Then the Magister says: *M.W.M.* - **Let those who are either guests amongst us or new members present themselves before us.** The guests and new members stand and proceed, one by one, to the lectern, and there introduce themselves (if visitors, where they are from), and stating the nature of their business (new members just say I am a new member of this body).

The Magister then says: *M.W.M.* - **Let us now direct our attentions and seek the mercy of the Absolute Spirit to make good all infirmities of the body, mind and soul. Let all ill balance**

out to the good, and all injustices beget justice. Members of the temple may now stand and when called upon by the Magister, share their knowledge of other members or close associates who are sick or distressed. When the last member has had his/her say, the Magister says:

M.W.M. - In the Name of Powers and Mystery of the Absolute - I bless these devoted members with the Holy Spirit of the Absolute - May the Bornless One see them right!

At this point, the meeting proper begins. The Hierius says: *R.W.H. - Let the meeting begin. Auctor, please read the minutes from the last meeting.* At this point, the Auctor runs the meeting until all business is completed, or until more grave matters need to be decided and adjudicated. The order of business handled by the Auctor follows.

Reading of Communications or relevant Bylaws. Reading of applications of membership to the temple. Committee reports are requested - the heads of committees go the lectern to read their reports. Business issues from previous meetings are read so that discussion may continue (not at this point in the meeting.) New business is proposed for discussion - the Auctor decides what should be discussed in this meeting or shelved for the next meeting. The Auctor then reads the report of temple finances. Then announcements are made for future activities - events and initiations, seasonal ceremonies, ritual magick and other items. The dates for these events have all been previously determined, and just noted as reminders. The business meeting is now turned over to the Magister.

The Magister now proceeds through each of the issues of business, starting with the oldest and proceeding to the newest. Each item is outlined or discussed first by the person represented as the champion for it (and if he or she is not present, then that item is either shelved for a future meeting or determined to be a dead issue, and struck from the list of issues). Then the Magister invites other members to discuss the issue. The Hierius acts as parliamentarian, selecting the members to address the temple body, and determining how much time each person gets for voicing their opinion. When a person speaks to the temple body, he or she stands at the lectern in the center of the lodge and speaks without interruption. When all have spoken, then the Magister asks the members if consensus is determined. If all say either Yea or are silent, then the Magister brings the issue to a vote. All are then invited to state their position, one by one, by the Hierius. The Auctor tallies the votes and makes certain that either all agree or a majority agrees and none disagree. A single disagreement will cause a default. Then the Magister must determine in the same manner if the issue is worthy of tabling and discussing further at a later date. The issue is either tabled or removed from the list. Certain individuals may be tasked to bring additional information, and these are all noted by the Auctor. The Auctor also keeps track of the time for the meeting, and when it has come to a point not five minutes before the allotted time, then the Auctor shall conveniently intervene and remind everyone that the time for the meeting has ended. The issue still being discussed is automatically tabled, and the members then end with a moment of quiet.

All stand as the Magister prepares the quorum for its ending.

M.W.M. - [knocks once] - We began this Quorum in good faith, and all has proceeded according to our consensus - all to our complete and eternal satisfaction. So Mote It Be.

Auctor - **The quorum is closed. The matter is concluded. The books are sealed shut. Yet no banishment can ever erase what has occurred, for it continues endlessly unto eternity.**

M.W.M. - [Knocks once.] - **Let us return to the world of humanity and bring with us the spiritual knowledge which we have collected unto our hearts.**

The Auctor salutes the Northeastern Angle.

Auctor - **Know the source! We return with the knowledge of our place in the cosmic scheme. We are made humble by its vastness and we are fulfilled through its limitless resources.**

The M. W. M. salutes the Western Watchtower.

M.W.M. - **Be awake! We return with ours eyes open, our ears unobstructed, our heart ready to receive and our mouth closed and silent lest idle speech profane the mysteries.**

The M. W. H. salutes the Southeast Angle.

R.W.H. - **We begin the great work and we complete the ordeal at hand. The concourse of forces flow through the spirit and mind of the Infinite One, to whom we are aligned. Always let our single purpose in life be to discover our ultimate union with thee.**

M.W.M. - [Knocks once.] - **Fratres et sorores of all grades of the E.S.S.G. in the outer, let us end the quorum and seal the sacred gateway so that its presence is unknown and unknowable to the profane.**

R.W.H. - **In the name of the Lord of the Universe, and by command of the very honored Magister, I bind the mysteries of Compromise and Agreement and the gateway to the soul of the Eggregore is sealed. Yet the mysteries continue.**

Northern Sentinel - **Three are the veils that occult the unseen light of the Bornless One.**

Southern Sentinel - **Seven are the rays which emanate from the Cosmic Jewel.**

Western Sentinel - **Twelve are the mansions of the secret and unknowable Inner Kingdom.**

Eastern Sentinel - **Four are the letters of the name of the Infinite Thought.**

R.W.H. - **Sixteen are the forces that express the ultimate feeling of eternal bliss.**

M.W.M. - **Fratres et sorores, so I stand. Our quorum is opened. The books are closed. Our undertakings are completed. May our labors thus ended in order, be continued in harmony for the enrichment of all.**

All - **So Mote It Be.**

The Sentinels then proceed to the door, surrounding it, and then making the sign of the opening portal gesture before it. Then the Magister proceeds to open the door, and the four Sentinels proceed before him/her through the door, where the Magister follows, and then the Hierius. The temple members proceed out through the door, followed at last by the Auctor, carrying his/her books and turning out the lights and closing the door.