

ADMISSION BY IMPUTATION

Adjuvant: Companion Dirigent, N. N., a candidate for membership in this lodge, stands outside its door.

Dirigent: By what right does (he/she) seek admission into the lodge?

Secretary: Companion Dirigent, (he/she) has submitted a warrant from the Council of the Stone attesting to his status as Initiate by Imputation, and has been duly elected to membership in this lodge.

Dirigent: Then let (him/her) be welcomed among us. Companion Summoner, retire from the lodge and prepare the candidate for admission. Companion Adjuvant, take charge of the door.

(Summoner leaves in form, hoodwinks candidate, and gives one knock at the door when ready. Adjuvant meanwhile goes to the inner door and takes Sentinel's place.)

Adjuvant: (upon hearing Summoner's alarm) Companion Dirigent, the Sentinel returns with the candidate.

Dirigent: Permit them to enter.

(Adjuvant does so, and returns to his seat. Summoner and candidate face Adjuvant.)

Adjuvant: Who is this that you bring with you?

Summoner: A candidate for admission into our lodge.

Adjuvant: Does (he/she) come here freely and without constraint?

Summoner: (He/She) does.

Adjuvant: Has (he/she) been tried and found worthy?

Summoner: (He/She) has.

Adjuvant: It is well. Let the candidate be placed in the midst of the lodge. (Candidate and Summoner go to the center of the hall and face Adjuvant.) N. N., by the permission of the Council of the Stone and the approval of the members of this lodge, you have been offered membership in _____ Lodge #__ of the Companions of the Stone. Is it your free choice to accept this offer?

(Candidate answers.)

Adjuvant: Before you may receive the secrets and privileges of an Initiate Companion of the Stone, and stand among us as a

member of this lodge, you must bind yourself with a solemn obligation -- an obligation which will not conflict with the duties you owe to your faith, your community, your family, or yourself. With this assurance, are you willing to take the obligation?

(Candidate answers.)

Adjuvant: !!! (knocks) Then place your right hand above your heart and repeat after me:

I, N. N., hereby promise and bind myself, now and in time to come, to observe and uphold faithfully the laws and regulations of the Companions of the Stone, and of this or any other lodge of the Order with which I may be associated.

I furthermore pledge myself to consider the members of this Order as my friends and companions, and to help, if it is in my power to do so, any member of this Order, or any person under its protection, who is in danger or distress. I will not wrong in any way the Order, a lodge or a member, nor will I circulate or listen to gossip, slander or personal confidences concerning any member of the Order.

I furthermore promise never to reveal to any person the rituals, signs, grips, and passwords of the Companions of the Stone, except when properly authorized to do so, nor to expose documents belonging to the Order or any of its lodges to anyone not specifically authorized to receive them. I will use utmost discretion in speaking of the Order, its teachings, and its activities to any person outside it; and should I leave the Companions of the Stone at any time, either voluntarily or otherwise, I will consider this pledge of secrecy and discretion to remain fully binding.

I further pledge myself to carry out to the best of my ability the studies and work of my Degree, and to apply what I have learned in accord with the dictates of conscience and the teachings of the Order's secret wisdom.

To the faithful performance of all which, I pledge myself, in the name of the Lord of the Universe, who works in silence and whom nothing but silence can express, and in the presence of the Guardian Companions of the Stone, upon whom I call as surety for my pledge.

Adjuvant: In that name and that presence, I call you from the darkness of the world to the light of the Stone.

(Sentinel removes blindfold.)

Adjuvant: ! (knocks) Companion Summoner, escort our Companion to the desk of the Secretary, where (he/she) will sign the members'

register of this lodge, and then introduce (him/her) to the Adept Dirigent for instruction in the secrets of an Initiate Companion.

(Summoner does so.)

Summoner: (standing at center of hall, with candidate) Companion Dirigent, I introduce to you our Companion N. N. (He/She) has been obligated, has signed the members' register of this lodge, and now seeks instruction in the secrets of an Initiate Companion.

Dirigent: Companion N. N., as Adept Dirigent of _____ Lodge # ___ of the Companions of the Stone, I welcome you among us. The Companions of the Stone are companions on a quest; we join together in the search for that Mystery symbolized in the language of alchemy by the Philosopher's Stone. As a member of this Order and this lodge, you will be called upon to assist your fellow seekers according to your ability, just as you will receive such assistance as we can provide. As companions on this quest, we make use of certain words and signs of recognition. These words and signs I will now communicate to you.

(Dirigent proceeds to instruct the new Companion in the knocks, signs and password of the Order according to the Unwritten Work. Summoner then brings the new Companion to the Dirigent's chair, and the Dirigent here gives instruction in the grip of the Order. While giving it, the Dirigent shall say the following)

Dirigent: This grip is a symbol of faithfulness, and we trust that you will always give and receive it in that spirit.

(Summoner and new Companion return to center of hall.)

Dirigent: When entering a lodge that is open in the Outer, you will announce your presence at the outer door with one knock or ring of the bell. The Sentinel will attend to the alarm, and you will answer the challenge with the password. You will then be permitted to enter the lodge. Upon entering, you will advance to the center of the floor and present the signs to the Adept Adjuvant, who will acknowledge you as a Companion with the same signs.

When leaving a lodge that is open in the Outer, you will advance to the center of the floor and present the signs to the Adept Adjuvant, who will reply with the same signs. The Sentinel will then permit you to leave.

You will now demonstrate the signs to me.

(New Companion does so.)

Dirigent: (replies with signs) We trust that the signs of Fidelity, Friendship, and Secrecy -- fidelity to the laws and

principles of our Order, and of your own conscience; friendship toward all Companions of the Stone, and all who are under the Order's protection; and secrecy toward the outside world concerning the mysteries of the Order -- will be shown as clearly in your actions and your character, as in these symbolic motions.

Dirigent: !!! (knocks) Companions, I present to you Companion N. N., and commend (him/her) to your friendship and protection. (General applause.) ! (knocks) Companion Summoner, give our new Companion a seat in this lodge.

(New Companion is seated.)