

The Structure and Work of the COTS

A lecture presented to Emerald Lodge #3, COTS, 27 February 1998
Companion Jerome

1. The Nature of the COTS
 - A magical initiatory teaching order
 - The work of the order requires personal experience and systematic training
 - Level of activity within the order depends on work accomplished
2. Grades and Organizational Levels
 - The double ladder
3. Grade Structure and Functions:
 - First Degree — comprehensive training in the core curriculum of the system
 - 1° — basic practices of the tradition
 - Grade of Earth — geomancy, sacred geometry
 - Grade of Air — ceremonial magic
 - Grade of Water — divination
 - Grade of Fire — alchemy
 - Second Degree — significant independent creative work within the system
 - Third Degree — participation in the central experiences of the system
4. Organizational Structure and Functions
 - Subordinate Lodge — instruction and initiation
 - Grand Assembly — governance and direction of the Order
 - Third Degree bodies — initiation and participation in the core mysteries
 - Adept Working Groups — research into advanced aspects of the system
 - Affiliate Bodies — other ritual workings in harmony with the COTS system
 - Council of the Stone — oversight of ritual and curriculum
5. Interfaces Between Grades and Organizational Levels
 - First and Second Degrees — subordinate lodge only
 - Third Degree — Grand Assembly, Adept Working Groups
 - Affiliate Bodies — governed by members under GA supervision