

# ROSICRUCIAN INITIATION

A SEALED BOOK OF INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR NEOPHYTE INITIATES



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The Department of Publication  
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The NATIONAL ROSICRUCIAN LODGE  
of The Ancient and Mystical Order Rosae Crucis  
Jurisdiction of North America

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# ROSICRUCIAN ILLUMINATION

A SEALED BOOK OF INFORMATION  
AND PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTION



by  
SRI. RAMATHERIO

THIRD EDITION

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The Department of Publication  
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THE SUPREME GRAND LODGE  
of The Ancient and Mystical Order Rosae Crucis  
ROSICRUCIAN SQUARE, MEMORIAL BOULEVARD \*  
TAMPA, FLORIDA, U. S. A.

IMPORTANT!

## THE FIRST LAW

The first law of our work is *secrecy* and *confidence*.

This book is a *secret book*, containing matter not usually published for the masses and not intended for all eyes to see. It is sent to you *sealed* and is *LOANED* to you in *confidence*. It is for your eyes only. Therefore, you are *not* to loan it to any one else and it must be returned to the Supreme Grand Lodge when you are through reading it.

Let the *first law* be your rule and guide in all matters pertaining to the Mastership of nature's laws and principles.

## THE FIRST WORDS TO THE READER THE REVELATION

YOU HAVE BROKEN THE SEAL!

Your quest has opened these pages.

The reading of this Book may be the turning point in your life!

It may prove to be the most vital factor in your future career!

Thousands, in many lands, have lifted their hands and voices in tribute to the Light that sheds its rays from these pages.

Its mission is to introduce to you, in a personal, private manner, a glorious work in man's behalf.

You shall learn, *at your own demand*, of The Invincible Empire, the Empire that has existed for ages; older than that of any nation of people, older than any political hierarchy.

This Empire of Directors of human achievement and advanced civilization, this Invincible, Unconquerable Assembly of Master Minds leading and guiding the destinies of men and women to success and noble attainment,—this sovereignty of international influence, is known as the AMORC.

Perhaps never before has such a message come to your hands as is contained in the following pages; it is doubtful if such an opportunity to change the course of your life and receive such willing assistance will come to you again.

The un-sealed Book, with its Open Path, is before you!

You have broken the Seal of its privacy and seclusion! You have asked for, and received, the privilege of reading and discerning this Key to the happy and successful realization of your innermost desires.

*Read Carefully each Page, each Paragraph!*

Place yourself in a quiet, restful mood, alone if possible, and permit the author to reveal to you the picture, the plan, the purpose leading to attainment, power, success and—Illumination.

This Book is gladly loaned to you. It is for your eyes only; it carries with it the cordial invitation to attune yourself with The Invincible Empire and conquer!

Start with the next page, and without missing or passing a word or line, in orderly progression follow the development of its unique message.

You are a privileged seeker, indeed, and the AMORC welcomes you within its private domains.

PROFUNDIS XIII.

## THE MEANING OF THIS MESSAGE

It is no simple matter to present to the seeker or investigator a true picture revealing all the facts and minute details of so vast and vital an organization as that most popularly known as the Rosicrucian Fraternity. A thousand years ago the greatest masters of thought and pen pictures found it so. Sir Francis Bacon, while international chief of the various continental Rosicrucian organizations, found it necessary to write and have published a number of books under distinctive titles adequately to reveal to the worthy seeker the real nature of the Fraternity.

Lord Bulwer Lytton resorted to a method typical of the means used before and after his time and wrote a novel called "Zanoni" in which he cleverly revealed the existence, teachings and activities of the Rosicrucians of his day. In more modern times we have had the novels from the pen of Marie Corelli in which the Rosicrucians are mentioned frankly and their beneficial teachings and endeavors are beautifully expounded.

### SHARING ITS BENEFITS WITH ALL

A thousand books in the past thousand years have mentioned the Fraternity or described the work of one or more of its great leaders. No organization in the world, aside from the Essenes and Therapeuti of the Holy Land, has been so generally known for ages and yet evaded the skill of the writer's pen to do it justice. Perhaps this one feature alone is responsible for the public's classification of the Fraternity as a **very secret society**. As we shall see, however, the organization has never attempted to hide its existence, and, contrary to the principles of secret societies, endeavors in every possible way to **share its benefits and powers** with every worthy and sincere applicant.

Just how successful the present writer may be in presenting this revelation of the work of the Rosicrucians of today, will be indicated by the degree of interest it arouses in **your** heart and mind, and the response which **you** manifest as the "inner urge" is strengthened by what is made plain between the lines of printed words.

### THOUSANDS ARE SEEKING

Thousands in every section of the world today are inquiring for and seeking after precisely what the AMORC offers. We know this from the letters received daily from every part of the civilized world. Never before in the history of civilization has there been such an awakening to the higher things of life, and never has there been such an **universal** call for association with those who know and can reveal the many fundamental principles, laws and forces that make one man, or one woman, more healthy, successful, and happy than another.

The AMORC stands today, as did its ancient parent bodies, as one of the most vital, constructive, re-creative force in the world devoted to the personal and national benefits of mankind. Because this is so, it has the endorsement, enthusiastic support and happy cooperation of men and women in every walk of life, in every profession, art and science, and in every civilized land of the world.

### THE OPEN PORTAL TO LIFE

This, then, constitutes our introductory outline of what we would have you consider as the open portal to a newer life. Please bear in mind that where the word AMORC is used in the following pages, it refers to the present day Rosicrucians, the Rosicrucian Order of the Aquarian Age.

As you turn the pages of this book and read its gradual unfolding of fact and fancy, tradition and history, may YOU discover **The Path** that beckons you to leave the trammelled highways and walk in Peace Profound to Glory!

—THE AUTHOR

## A GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST

As intimated in the foregoing introduction, the Rosierucians or "Brethern of the Rosey Cross," have been known to historians for centuries. There is hardly an encyclopedia, dictionary or reference work of a general nature or devoted to the antiquity of the sciences, arts, medicine, literature, religion, ethics or advancement of humanitarianism in civilization, that does not refer to the Rosierucians.

The name of the Brotherhood and its various symbols have been used in veiled or open ways by thousands of writers and as Lord Bulwer Lytton said, "a halo of glory" has always surrounded the name and activities of the Rosierucians.

### ROSIERUCIAN BOOKS ARE RARE

In the book shops of rare books and manuscripts in the principal cities of the old world and in many in America, those publications which contain the facts and original prints of the Brotherhood are listed as the most valuable publications. Libraries composed of such works have been accumulated by some governments at an enormous expense.

Strangely, many of the modern encyclopedias continue to reprint the blind or veiled history of the Fraternity which appeared in the "Chambers Encyclopedia" many years ago when the organization was so secretly operated that it was thought to have passed out of existence. A notable exception—and there are a number—is the recent edition of the *New International Encyclopedia*, published by Dodd, Mead and Company of New York, wherein the *Imperator*, or Chief Executive of the AMORC, is mentioned as an authority on the subject and history of the Rosierucians.

### THE ROSIERUCIANS AND FREEMASONS

In the archives of nearly all other fraternal organizations the history and unique activities of the Rosierucians are preserved. Especially is this so with regard to the Freemasonic body which was at one time closely allied with the ancient Rosierucians, and today that body preserves a testimonial to its high esteem of the ancient Fraternity by the use of the Rosierucian name (*Rose Croix*) and symbols in the Eighteenth Degree of the A. A. S. R., and many of the officers of this world-wide organization are high officers of the AMORC today.

The late Dr. Olin S. Wright of Florida was such a one. He was not only a member of the Supreme Council 33rd of the Southern Jurisdiction of the A. A. S. R. in America, but held the very high and distinctive titles of First Grand Equerry and Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the 33rd and Last Degree of the A. A. S. R., and was also the Grand Inspector General and chief executive of the Illuminati of the AMORC in America, and an active member of the Supreme Council of AMORC up to the hour of his passing.

### ROSIERUCIANS ADVANCED SCIENCE

It appears as a very notable fact that in every country where great strides were made in civilization the historians of the time made reference to the evolutionary effect of the Rosierucians and their teachings upon the people as a preliminary step to the advances made. Many are the references made also in books dealing with chemistry, medicine and surgery, music and astronomy, giving credit to the profound knowledge of the Rosierucians and the important effect of that knowledge upon the advancement of these sciences.

To suggest even a partial list of the eminent characters who have been notable figures in the Fraternity would take many more pages than I am limited to in this book. Suffice it to say that the Rosierucian Fraternity traces its real and traditional history so far back into the past ages that it is lost in profound mystery, but ever sheds around it a glory of achievement for its members and a wondrous light of attainment for the nations. Today

the spirit of their great work carries on throughout the world in the work of the AMORC. What that work is and what it can mean to you will be explained on the following pages.

#### THE PRESENT DAY ROSICRUCIANS—THE AMORC

The AMORC, as an international organization, is not a relic or continuation of the ancient Rosicrucian Lodges. It is a logical, natural and systematic development of the Rosicrucian principles and ideals as laid down in the past by the greatest of the Rosicrucian leaders and evolved by the master-teachers of the ages intervening.

#### WHY THE AMORC LEADS

An illustration of the importance of this fact may be seen in the comment of thousands who have pursued the present-day teachings of the AMORC, which comment may be summarized in the words of a former high officer of another school of philosophy and metaphysics in America: "Man has evolved in the past several hundred years through definite cycles and stages of mental and spiritual awakening and comprehension, just as he has advanced in scientific achievement and attainment. Those thoughts, those principles and those ideals which were vital and guiding to him five hundred or even one hundred years ago are obsolete now, some even impracticable. That school of thought, that system of instruction, that course of practice in life which has not evolved and advanced step by step with man's evolution, is passe today. AMORC is notable for its advancement and its foresights in keeping many steps ahead of man's present stage in civilization, so that today the Rosicrucian teachings and benefits offered by the AMORC constitute a goal to approach, an ideal to hold before us,—a true leadership to follow."

#### NOT THE TEACHINGS OF ONE PERSON

There are systems of philosophical and higher-thought instruction in the world today which were outlined or prepared by one or more founders, discoverers or leaders, systems which were prophetic and ultra modern in their day, but because the founders of such systems made no provision for the advancement of the teachings or the gradual growth and evolution of the system, they stand today as monuments of good in the past but inadequate and inefficient today.

The child of today is taught in school, in high school and in special courses, those subjects which were select and advanced subjects for the evolved adult of a hundred years ago. To adhere to the philosophic or scientific teachings of the ancients, no matter how remarkable they may have been in their day, would be equivalent to teaching and promulgating dead languages as a vital factor in our modern life.

#### MOST ADVANCED OF ALL TEACHINGS

The AMORC of today preserves and presents in the most impressive and helpful manner every law and principle that was known to and used by the ancient Rosicrucians and which made them famous as the forerunners of all scientific, occult, metaphysical and practical schools making for man's greater growth and development. Each year of the past five hundred years or more has seen additions made to those fundamental teachings. Each month of the past hundred years has seen the ancient system of instruction and cooperative benefits improved, modernized, and advanced.

During the past fifteen years the evolutionary growth of the plan of AMORC has been phenomenal. In every field of endeavor, in every art, science and domain of thought, AMORC has taken great steps forward until today its knowledge of certain laws of nature, activities of the human mind, powers of personal forces, manifestations of principles and possibilities of unsuspected agencies, is far in advance of man's general evolution and greatly in the lead of all other schools or movements.

#### A GLORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT

In other words, AMORC, typifying the Rosicrucian spirit, represents today the very soul of the Rosicrucian Fraternity of all ages,—the most advanced



## ROSICRUCIANS CALLED TOGETHER

After being duly prepared and inducted into the principles and powers of Rosicrucian activities, this American proceeded to call together other Rosicrucian students and workers in America, and in the Spring of 1915, after the customary six years of announcement, investigation and test, forty-eight men and women selected from many branches of activities covered by the AMORC plan, held a special session for the purpose of arranging a mass meeting.

## ROSICRUCIAN MASS MEETING

A few weeks later such a meeting was held in New York City and over three hundred well known occultists, metaphysicians, scientists and students of Rosicrucian work were present. To these Dr. Lewis presented his plans, together with certain resolutions drawn up at the previous organization sessions and also cable messages and letters received by others present, verifying the statements made in the plans for organization. After three hours of further deliberation a committee of sixty men and women was appointed to secure such additional verification of the plans as was found desirable, and to call another meeting within sixty days.

## THE HIGH COUNCIL MEETING

On April 1, 1915, such special meeting was called and constituted the first High Council meeting of the AMORC in the new epoch in America. Fifty-two of the sixty committee members were present and those absent sent communications of regret. Further cablegrams and letters were read by a number of the committee and there appeared in person a delegate of the Fraternity from India with certified and sealed documents, "jewels," and credentials to be delivered to the chief officers to be elected at this momentous occasion.

## SUPREME COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS

After preliminary remarks and a voluntary acceptance on the part of those present of the Oath of Allegiance as Officers, the committee was duly organized as The Supreme Council of the AMORC. Then followed the election of the chief executive officers, and by unanimous vote Harve Spencer Lewis, F. R. C., Ph. D., was elected Grand Master General. After the election of other officers, a Charter for the organization of AMORC in its present form was drawn up and signed by the Committee of Charter Members present. That document, highly illuminated and bearing the signatures of the Charter Members, is one of the most valuable documents in the possession and history of the AMORC.

## THE CONSTITUTION OF AMORC

A committee was also appointed to translate the ancient foreign rules and constitutions of the Rosicrucians and to modify the various regulations to meet present day conditions. This Committee made its report at the first Grand Convénion of AMORC held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for the whole week beginning July 31, 1917. At this Convention,—the first and most impressive Rosicrucian convention ever held in the Western World,—there were delegates, officers and members with credentials from all the AMORC jurisdictions, as well as officers and authorities from other fraternal organizations. It was an occasion unequalled in the history of Rosicrucian activities in the world.

## A NOTABLE COMMITTEE

The Committee on the proposed Constitution of AMORC presented its report and the Chairman of the Convention appointed another committee composed of men prominently known in fraternal societies to study the former Committee's report, make a final draft of the proposed Constitution and submit it to the Convention for vote. Three days later the following committee reported that it had examined all papers, scrutinized every statement and approved of the Constitution as presented:

Dr. Charles D. Green 32°, Park Lodge 676 F. & A. M., Pa., Randolph Chapter No. 35, Ind., Penna. Consistory Valley of Pittsburg.

Charles H. Soelke, 32°, Old Glory Lodge 975 A. F. & A. M., Chicago Cicero

Chapter R. A. M., Apollo Commandery No. 1 K. T., Medinah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., Chicago, Illinois.

Omar T. Cruickshank, M. D., M. E., F. T. S., F. O.; Cyrus Chapter No. 280 R. A. M., Mt. Moriah Council No. 2, Chartiers Commandery No. 78, K. T., Penna. Consistory S. P. R. S.

L. A. Shoemaker, 32°, Hillsboro Lodge 25, A. F. & A. M., Tampa Consistory No. 1, Tampa, Florida.

Walter E. Hatch, 32°, McCandless Lodge, F. & A. M., 390, Pennsylvania Consistory, Valley of Pittsburg.

S. Lindsay Dorsey, Lexington Lodge No. 1, F. & A. M., Lexington Chapter No. 1 R. A. M., Webb Commandery No. 2 K. T., Lexington, Ky.

Edward L. Bork, Past Master Jefferson Lodge, 288 F. & A. M., Pittsburg, Pa.

Conrad H. Lindstedt, Past Master, Progressive Lodge 354 F. & A. M., New York.

Frederick C. Santaiello, 32°, Normal Lodge 523, F. & A. M., K. T., A. A. O. N. M. S., New York.

#### A VOLUNTARY ENDORSEMENT

At the close of their report, these men composing the above Committee made the following voluntary statement and signed it:

"We, the undersigned, as members of the A. M. O. R. C. of North America, find nothing in the teachings or ritual of the above named Order which conflicts with the teachings or ritual of any other organization with which we are affiliated. However, we have received such information from the teachings of the above named Order which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, is only obtainable in the AMORC, and having knowledge of its uplifting character, its patriotic and humanitarian principles, we take this means of expressing our appreciation of the Order."

All of these men have remained loyal to the principles of the AMORC and most of them are members of the Supreme Council today.

The Convention voted upon and adopted every phrase and word of the Constitution of AMORC as it is used today, wherein Harve Spencer Lewis is declared to be the Imperator of the AMORC because of unquestionable verification of his selection and appointment for such position and because of his election by the Supreme Grand Lodge.

#### CONTINUED GROWTH

In 1918 another Convention with a hundred delegates and officers was held in New York City and the Constitution was again examined and two unimportant amendments made to it. Since then the AMORC has grown to unexpected power and membership and the Supreme Council has become so large and of such an international nature that it is now known as the Supreme Council of the World with active members or Councilors in sixteen countries and representing the largest Rosicrucian membership the world has ever known. In this way has the ancient spirit of the Fraternity reincarnated a large body.

#### THE LODGES OF THE ORDER

Under the capable direction of the Imperator-Rex, Harve Spencer Lewis, F. R. C., Ph. D. AMORC has established or affiliated with Grand Lodges and Regular Lodges in all principle cities of the United States, Canada, Mexico, England, Australia, Europe, Africa, India and many Oriental countries and the West and East Indies. From the northern points of Alaska and Siberia to Johannesburg in southern Africa, the work of the Fraternity operating under its AMORC Charters or Charter from its Supreme Council of the World, continues and grows.

In many of the American cities it owns its own buildings or temples or the land upon which its structures stand. In other lands its members have built, without outside labor, its temples or assembly places. Most of its Lodge rooms are of Egyptian architecture and decoration.

## THE SUPREME LODGE

The Supreme Staff has changed its location a number of times in order to be closer to the activities in certain sections of the country. It was located in New York City for several years, then moved to California where, in the city of San Francisco, it remained for over six years, creating two Egyptian temples and greatly enlarging the work throughout the West. In many cities there are small groups of from ten to thirty members meeting weekly, while at the Lodges or Temples the membership is as high as one hundred and fifty men and women. These members enjoy the reading rooms, laboratories, lecture rooms, temple ceremonies and convocations each week. The average Lodge has as many as fifteen monthly meetings for various groups of members.

### ALLIED ACTIVITIES

Not all of the AMORC humanitarian activities or its constructional work for mankind is conducted under its own name. To avoid the appearance of self-advertising the AMORC conducts much of its work through other organizations or through bodies which it has specially organized. For instance, one year it financed the opening operations of the Egypt Exploration Fund in Egypt where the researches were conducted in the temples and buildings of an ancient Pharaoh whose work has contributed greatly to the advancement of civilization. It organized the American Philomathic Society in 1917 throughout the North American Continent to promote a love for research and study by means of public lectures and forums. This work is still continuing with great success.

It has established many small libraries in communities where no libraries existed. Some of these, like the one in Mexico, have become large foundations and bear the name of AMORC or of the Emperor, by courtesy. It has conducted Radio Services for several years for the sake of the shut-ins, and established the first non-sectarian Radio Church Service in the world when radio was just starting in its career. It has built radio sets for afflicted or confined persons and installed them in hospitals and institutions. It has made valuable contributions to the improvement of moving pictures and the production of better pictures, and numbers many directors, actors and actresses among its members.

### HUMANITARIAN WORK

It has conducted campaigns for various unselfish purposes, brought instruction and help into prisons and incurable wards of public institutions, established massage and other unique aids for the disabled soldiers and organized a staff of experts under an eminent New York specialist for the mental treatment of shell-shock victims. Many other similar activities are being conducted without identifying any of it with the AMORC.

Its members, nurses and doctors, have cared for victims and orphans of the World War in Europe and in countries affected by earthquakes and fires. Its scientific workers have made valuable contributions to mankind in recent years, many of them being reported in scientific publications throughout the world. Its highest officers, notably the Emperor, are its greatest contributors to the financial requirements of the Order, using their highly successful businesses to assist in carrying on the extra activities without burdening the members with more than their voluntary dues.

Such is the nature and work of the AMORC in the world today—a high tribute to the principles laid down by the early founders, and the devotion and greatness of its Emperor.

### THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER OF THE FRATERNITY

As one may sense from what has been said on the preceding pages, the Rosicrucian Fraternity ever was and still is, a very distinctive body so far as fraternal organizations go. In days gone by one of its outstanding features was its recognition of the equality of the sexes. This does not seem exceptional today, but in this Fraternity women have ALWAYS been eligible