



ROSICRUCIAN ORDER
CROTONA FELLOWSHIP.



THE ROSICRUCIANS.

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Suddenly and unexpectedly they appeared from out of the mists of time with a message for the world, and secretly their message interwove itself into the philosophies, religions and sciences.

The Freemason, the Druid, the Buffalo, all found it in their ceremonies and religious rites and through them all the Rosicrucian himself remained unknown.

Laden with priceless treasures from the East they swept across Europe and stimulated Chemistry and presented a system of medicine which is effective and beneficial to man. The message gave a mighty filip to Philosophy, for God was centred in that Philosophy.

It found the flaws in the religious teachings and pointed out the Esoteric truths of Christianity, for the Rosicrucians were, and are, what they claim, the Successors of a long line of Mystic ancestry, which comes from the Semitic Brothers of Light of the Antient West, and from the Great Master Christ who brought the Light of the Logos to his earth.

The Rosicrucian Fraternity is a secret one, but the why and the wherefore of that secrecy may not be apparent to the layman. Nevertheless, they work always for the good of mankind.

Solemn vows and pledges are taken by those who may be classed as Fratres of the Fraternity. Silently and secretly they work among man and spread their message from country to country, race to race, ever keeping in mind their great axiom—"Know all but keep thyself unknown."

Many are the investigators who seek for the origin of the Fraternity of Rosicrucians, and many are the disappointments, for they do not reveal themselves as Rosicrucians to the laymen.

Unparalleled in history is the influence these great men have held over mankind, for it is by silent working that they accomplish their objective, and in a secret manner are they known to each other.

All that is learned outside the Fraternity concerning its origin is misleading, for the Fratres are experts in the use of ciphers, codes and mystical symbolic writing. Ingenious are the codes, ciphers and symbols and they are changed from time to time in accordance with circumstances and environments when there is a necessity to change them and for special reasons.

The one who seeks the Rosicrucian must seek him in mind and Consciousness, for they are called in the thought of the earnest student, for there is another axiom which says: "When the disciple is ready the Master shall be there." Many will scoff at this statement, but the truth of it is well known to those who have sought and found.

We must approach the Mysteries as we would approach the Altar of God.

A Fellowship of Occult Students does not make a Rosicrucian Fraternity, but in its midst there may be a Frater, and as a Frater he will be unknown until he is found on his own level of Consciousness.

After such knowing, recognition on the physical plane is an easy matter, for the Disciple will attract his Teacher. This may happen outside of any Occult Order, but it is only on rare occasions it does so happen.

The glorious symbol of the Fraternity—the Rose Cross, is shown in a variety of forms, but that in nowise alters its meaning, for it can be read in a seven-fold manner.

When we gaze upon the Cross with the seven roses floating, as it were, around it, we see the symbol of a great mystery and the mystery becomes deeper when we seek to unfold its meaning when it is shown resting on a Pentagram.

In one interpretation the Pentagram represents the Logos and man, and the Cross the burden of life or the Universe.

The seven roses represent the seven pathways to the interpretation of life in varying stages and on finer planes of matter.

The antient symbol is ever-present in the minds of all Rosicrucians for to them it is a beacon of light and that light ever illuminates the darkness of despair. In that symbol may be found the symbolism of Kosmos and Man, for its interpretation gives the key to destiny. In this symbol alone may be known something of the value of the secrecy of the Rosicrucian ciphers, for it had helped to convey the message for centuries to the peoples of Europe.

Science, religion and philosophy are concealed within the petals of the roses, and history may be read in the cross and star. In the whole of the symbol may be found the great secret of the Rosicrucians, the reading is simple but very cleverly concealed.

It is, then, through the interpretation of the symbolism that we may find the antient landmarks of the Rosicrucians and thus take one step towards the Great Fraternity, for indeed the Rosicrucians have left, and still do leave, landmarks to prove that they have been active in various countries of Europe.

All that the Manichees and the Egyptian magicians possessed the Rosicrucians are heir to. From the Great West, ages ago the knowledge was taken to the East, and back to the West must those teachings go. Already this is well marked, for the Rosicrucian message has extended from the Far East, through European countries, to Britain. It will soon return to the Far West, plus the realised experiences which the message gives. It is during the return that great changes take place among nations and peoples.

Verily the mystery of the Antient Egyptian Sphinx and Great Pyramid will cease to be lone witnesses to the enigma of all this and its solution. Fourfold was the unfoldment during the travel Eastward and threefold shall it be during the return.

But a short cycle shall pass and then man will know more of his destiny than he ever dreamed of. Life is an Initiation, a struggle for the mastery of the elements. The Rosicrucians have spoken of a Great Initiation, that, too, is a fight for the mastery

of the elements, though in a more capable and effective manner. Mankind has but poorly mastered the earth, air and water; they have not even subdued a little fire, but the trial is coming. America shall know this trial, all Europe shall know this trial, every religion, philosophy and science shall know this trial, for truth must be made manifest and not withheld from those who desire to know things.

We seek for the Elixirs of Life and the Philosopher's Stone and yet we do not know how to separate the wheat from the chaff of life's secrets. These truths are already at our command but we see them not. Such things are known only when the elements are mastered, for each element gives its own elixir, its own stone and we become the wiser for knowledge of same. It is not in vain that the Rosicrucians have laboured, for their's is a Divine message and their knowledge is practicable and adaptable to all ages and all races; it is the Alpha and Omega of destiny and a glorious sun radiates its light across the pathway, and darkness is unknown, for the light is ever seen in the darkness.

When the cycle moves Westward let us be prepared for the Masters shall arise from the most obscure place and their light will shine through and into the darkest corners of the Earth; it is then we shall realise who and what the Rosicrucians are.



