



THE CIRCLE OF THE HORIZON IS THE EARTH AND SKY'S EMBRACE

SKY'S EMBRACE

A Publication of Horizon Lodge, OTO

A RIVER OF STARS: THE SAINTS OF E.G.C. BY KELLEY BEEBE PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND LAO-TZÛ

This is the first of a series that will explore the Saints who are listed in the sixth Collect of Liber XV. The focus of this series will not be an exposition of their biographies; Wikipedia can provide that information. Rather, it will be my exploration of their contribution to Thelema.

THE DINOSAURS

This series begins at the beginning of the Saints list, with a group Aleister Crowley calls the Dinosaurs. He says in *The Book of Lies, Chapter 7*:

"None are They whose number is Six: else were they six indeed. Seven are these Six that live not in the City of the Pyramids, under the Night of Pan.

*There was Lao-tzû.
There was Siddhartha.
There was Krishna.
There was Tajuti.
There was Mosheh.
There was Dionysus.
There was Mahmud.*

But the Seventh men called PERDURABO; for enduring unto The End, at The End was Naught to endure."⁽¹⁾

In the commentary to this chapter, Crowley says, *"They are called Dinosaurs because for their seeming to be terrible devouring creatures. They are Masters of the Temple . . ."*⁽²⁾

If you count this list and come up with eight like I did, don't despair. Further in the comment, Crowley says, *"They are called Seven, although they are Eight, because Lao-tzû counts as nought, owing to the nature of his doctrine."* Therefore, we will start with Saint number 0, Lao-Tzû.

LAO-TZÛ



Lao-Tzû is the author of the Tao Te Ching, which sets forth the principles of Taoism. The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy says this about him:

"Philosophical Daoism traces its origins to Laozi (or Lao-Tzû, in the "Wade-Giles" system of transliteration), who flourished during the sixth century B.C.E., according to Chinese tradition. According to some modern scholars, however, Laozi is entirely legendary."⁽³⁾

At any rate, whether real or mythical, Lao-Tzû was said to be a keeper of archival records at the court of the Zhou dynasty. He is said to have been an elder contemporary of Confucius.

Crowley says of him: *"First then I speak of Lao-Tze, whose word was the Tao. Hereof have I already written much unto thee, because His Doctrine has been*

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OPENING REMARKS BY JON SEWELL
NOVEMBER LODGE MEETING

DO WHAT THOU WILT SHALL BE THE
WHOLE OF THE LAW.

WELCOME TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF
HORIZON LODGE,

Before proceeding with the meeting proper, starting with the approval of the minutes of last months meeting, I would like to thank every member of this body for taking the time to come out and support our Lodge through your presence, your participation and your financial patronage.

It has often come to pass that we have too many pressing matters at hand to focus directly on the spiritual aspects of our work, and for my own part I see this as an over-sight, because our spiritual development is most intimately entwined with our reason for existence, and we overlook this to our detriment.

Therefore, I would like to offer some nourishment for the spirit, food, air, water and sunlight as it were, before we proceed.

From *Liber Aleph* (which is delivered as the advice from a father to his magical son):

“Now therefore that thou art come to the Age of Understanding, do thou give ear unto my Wisdom, for that therein lieth a simple and direct Way for every Man that he may attain to the End.

Firstly, then, I would have thee to know that Spiritual Experience and Perfection have no necessary connection with Advancement in our Holy Order. But for each Man is a Path: there is a Constant, and there is a Variable. Seek ever therefore in thy Work of the Promulgation of the Law to discover in each Man his own true Nature, that he may in due Season accomplish it not only for himself, but for all who are bound unto him. There are very many for whom in their present Incarnations this Great Work may be impossible; since their appointed Work may be in Satisfaction of some Magical Debt, or in Adjustment of some Balance, or in Fulfilment of some Defect. As is written: Suum Cuique.” (“to each his own”, see Order of the Black Eagle)

Continuing from Liber Aleph:

{chi}

DE VOLUPTATE POENARUM

Go forth, o my Son, o Son of the Sun, rejoicing in thy Strength, as a Warrior, as a Bridegroom, to take thy Pleasure upon the Earth, and in every Palace of the Mind, moving ever from the crass to the subtle, from the coarse to the fine. Conquer every Repulsion in thy self, subdue every Aversion. Assimilate all Poison, for therein only is there Profit. Seek constantly therefore to know what is painful and to cleave thereunto, for by Pain cometh true Pleasure. Those who avoid Pain physical or mental remain little Men, and there is no Virtue in them. Yet be thou ware lest thou fall into the Heresy which maketh Pain, and Self-sacrifice as it were Bribes to corrupt God, to secure some future Pleasure in an imagined After-life.”

I bring these two concepts to the table, because each in its own way has its bearing directly or indirectly on our work as a Lodge.

The first assures us that we do not offer a path that everyone may follow to enlightenment; the second that the challenges we face in the course of our effort are our only reward.

We set a table with our finest and invite mankind to the feast, not because we expect them to join us, but on the off chance that they might; and when the time comes to clear the tables, we should cultivate the same pleasure that we enjoyed during the banquet! Not because heaven will reward us, but because every challenge breeds in us the strength to more effectively and joyfully face the next challenge!

Now to speak plainly, I speak of promulgation and challenge because our Lodge has had several months where our dues income has fallen below our expenses. While this type of fluctuation is normal, I would be remiss were I not to mention these facts, and call our attention to the lessons they contain. Allow me to be clear: the drop in income is due to the hard times that some of our members face, and the lack or continued interest that others are experiencing. On those who suffer, we offer no condolence, for they need none. They are welcome at the banquet to celebrate with us, and when fortune smiles again upon

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them, it is our hope that they will remain and enjoy the celebration. For those who's Will draws them to another direction, we offer no recrimination, but celebration again, as they seek their growth and wisdom in whatever way is best to them!

41. The word of Sin is Restriction. O man! refuse not thy wife, if she will! O lover, if thou wilt, depart! There is no bond that can unite the divided but love: all else is a curse. Accursed! Accursed be it to the aeons! Hell.

42. Let it be that state of manyhood bound and loathing. So with thy all; thou hast no right but to do thy will.

43. Do that, and no other shall say nay.

For us that remain at the celebration, it is our joy to invite more to the table! Such wisdom as we have, we share. So is it with our joy.

It is with all this in mind that I again offer my deepest thanks to everyone who has come tonight, and every night, to support Horizon Lodge.

LOVE IS THE LAW, LOVE UNDER WILL.

The Order of the Black Eagle (German: Hoher Orden vom Schwarzen Adler) was the highest order of chivalry in the Kingdom of Prussia.



JON SEWELL is the Body Master of Horizon Lodge OTO, and a fine performer, singer, guitarist and composer. With his partner, Melissa Holm, Sewell is currently setting Aleister Crowley's Rites of Eleusis to music in a rock opera format.

The joy of life consists in the exercise of one's energies, continual growth, constant change, the enjoyment of every new experience.

To stop means simply to die. The eternal mistake of mankind is to set up an attainable ideal.

- Aleister Crowley

If one had to worry about one's actions in respect of other people's ideas, one might as well be buried alive in an ant heap or married to an ambitious violinist. Whether that man is the prime minister, modifying his opinions to catch votes, or a bourgeois in terror lest some harmless act should be misunderstood and outrage some petty convention, that man is an inferior man and I do not want to have anything to do with him any more than I want to eat canned salmon.

- Aleister Crowley

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DAUGHTERS OF LILITH

I recently had the opportunity to sit down over dinner with Sr. Egypt and discuss Daughters of Lilith and the Invocation of Sophia ritual planned for this coming April. The following interview transpired via email shortly after our dinner, in order to answer some questions I had heard in the community at large about Daughters of Lilith. -Sr. Melissa

DAUGHTERS OF LILITH (DOL) HAS BEEN MEETING FOR OVER TWO YEARS NOW. WHAT WAS THE ORIGINAL IDEA THAT INSPIRED IT?

DOL was Sr. Shellay's brainchild. While she was body master she asked me to manage a women's mysteries group and I accepted. The objective was to create a group that would attract women to Thelema and the OTO; and to be utilized as an outreach tool. I have recently begun counting heads at Mass and so far my statistics indicate that attendees are 66% male and 34% female, the last Mass included the Mass team was 9 males to 6 females. I am not sure why Thelema or the OTO (at least in the Pacific Northwest) has such a ratio, whereas other mainstream religions tend to have a higher ratio of women to men. As a woman I find the concepts of Thelema to be very empowering; and in a post-Women's Liberation Movement era I wonder why there isn't a higher attraction for women in general for Thelema or the OTO.

HOW LARGE IS THE GROUP?

DESCRIBE YOUR PARTICULAR ROLE IN DOL.

DOL is a small group. We don't have a membership, so there is no roster; and we don't have any sort of initiation like in a sorority. I just contact my sisters and arrange to do ritual at a given time and day. Those who are interested in the communication simply include themselves into the activities. For instance, one of my objectives was to find a ritual dress for the Sophia ritual, a sister and I spent an evening shopping for the dress, talking about Sophia and other girl talk. It is [about] comradeship. My particular role is to manage DOL. Originally, DOL was a women-only group, but it has recently opened up to include men.

CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE REASONS FOR THE CHANGE?

When DOL was initially instituted there was no particular plan on how it would operate. The object though as I have said is for outreach, to make available another resource to people's interest. People I have met that are into Thelema or the OTO have a diverse interest in the esoteric, some people are attracted to Enochian, some to Qabalah, some to Kundalini, some to Goetia, the list goes on; DOL is another tool for the community at large to access OTO and Thelema within their specific interest range.

A local body that offers to people a variety of topics to engage in creates a broad spectrum to attract people. A majority of my time spent on DOL, has been at home writing articles. I'd figure that writing about a feature goddess would be a good avenue of getting out to the general community, those who are interested in the Divine Feminine, that there is a now a group in the Puget Sound area not only talking about women's mysteries but are doing ritual that has New-Aeon inclinations.

Shellay and I always knew we wanted to do ritual when we first started talking about putting this group into action. So I had two objectives outreach and ritual. I personally like talismanic magic and Qabalah so the set of rituals we decided to do was to explore the Divine Feminine in context with ascending the Tree of Life.

HOW ELSE HAS DOL EVOLVED OR CHANGED SINCE ITS INCEPTION?

One of the ways DOL has evolved since its inception is the timing. At first we were doing a social one month and the next month a ritual. At that time Sky's Embrace was being published bi-monthly and I was timing the ritual to fall shortly after the article of the feature goddess was published. That was too much for me to handle, then Sky's Embrace went from bi-monthly to quarterly publications so then we did two socials and one ritual during the quarter with the ritual again being held shortly after the article was published. During the days when the Temple was on Capitol Hill, the socials were being held at different

locations, such as bars and friend's houses. One of my favorite memories is having a friend host a slumber party social, I had a great time; we watched Bridget Jones Diary and drank champagne. At these socials, the residential men would be there and we had great conversations about the Divine Feminine. It seem[ed] to me there isn't really a need to for a women's-only group,[and] I haven't meet anyone that needs a women's-only group, but that there is a need to explore the Divine Feminine in a contemporary context.

WHAT IS THE FOCUS OF THE GROUP TODAY?

The focus of the group presently is to do more outreach. We have neared the end of our ascension up the Tree of Life. We have completed two rituals for Malkuth (Shekinah & Lilith) and a ritual for the Sephiroth between Yesod and Binah for a total of nine rituals so far. With the majority of the articles done and extending the rituals out to every six months or so will give me more time for outreach. The feature goddess currently is Sophia for the sphere of Chokmah.

FROM TIME TO TIME, A NEW SIGIL FOR A FEMININE DEITY APPEARS AT HORIZON. CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THEM?

I like talismanic magic. Each of the sigils is based on the 22-petaled rose; the name of the goddess is laid upon the rose. So for example the talisman that has the sigil Lilith, starts with the letter Lamed on the outer ring of the rose, next is Yod, Lamed, and Yod, all on the outer ring; lastly to Tau on the middle ring.

WHAT HAPPENS AT A TYPICAL MEETING (OR SERIES OF MEETINGS THROUGH THE QUARTER)?

The meetings are geared towards the featured goddess and towards getting ready for the ritual.

TELL US ABOUT THE INVOCATION OF SOPHIA, PLANNED FOR APRIL 7, 2012.

The Invocation of Sophia will be a Eucharistic rite. There will be a reception following the ritual. And I am encouraging everybody attending to dress up; this will be a formal/semi-formal event. The ritual is scheduled for Saturday April 7, 2012.

WHEN THE CYCLE OF RITUALS IS DONE, WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

When I first started this cycle of rituals, I only thought about doing the spheres that had planetary associations. Once I got going I became hooked and felt that I needed to include Chokmah. I am not sure about what to do for Kether. I don't have any ideas what happens when we have completed the Tree of Life. I will cross that bridge sometime in 2013. Maybe I will have gotten some inspiration then. I would be interested in doing a set of rituals revolving around inspirational incarnate women; I am particularly fond of Jeanne d'Arc and Eleanor of Aquitaine. I am also amenable to what may inspire other people and bring their vision of a feminine archetype into a ritual format; I would like to be supportive and collaborative of bringing their ideas to fruition.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE GROUP ACCOMPLISH IN THE FUTURE?

I am open to suggestions about what the future holds for DOL. After the current cycle is complete perhaps some else would like to pick a feature goddess and design a ritual around her and be the Master-of-Ceremonies. I would also be interested in traveling to other local bodies on the West Coast, with our ritual team doing the rite for them.

IS THERE ANYTHING MORE YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE ABOUT DOL?

I am delighted that I have had an opportunity to manage DOL; I would not have spent the time researching and reflecting on the goddesses that I wrote about without this impetus. They (goddesses) have definitely have influenced my life in unexpected ways. I feel I have a better understanding of them and I am convinced that they don't want to be stuck in antiquity, but they are timeless and their energies are still available to people in this day and age.

lost or misinterpreted, and it is most needful to restore it. For this Tao is the true Nature of Things, being itself a Way or Going, that is, a kinetic and not a static Conception. Also He taught this Way of Harmony in Will, which I myself have thought to show thee in this little book. So then this Tao is Truth, and the Way of Truth, and therefore was He Logos of His Aeon, and His true Name or Word was Tao.”(4)

Crowley believed that in a previous incarnation he had been a student of Lao-Tzû by the name of Ko Yuen. The Tao Te Ching’s influence on Crowley in the years after his reception of the Book of the Law probably cannot be overstated. As Crowley himself says in the introduction to his interpretation of the Tao Te Ching (Liber CLVII):

“From 1908 to 1918, the Tao Teh King was my continual study. I constantly recommended it to my friends as the supreme masterpiece of initiated wisdom . . . I felt myself impelled to undertake the task of presenting Lao Tze in language informed by the sympathetic understanding which initiation and spiritual experience had conferred on me. During my Great Magical Retirement on Aesopus Island in the Hudson River during the summer of 1918, I set myself to this work.”(5)

In reading Liber CLVII, I came across several intriguing parallels between Crowley’s wording and the wording of Liber XV. Even more interesting is to read an “un-Thelemic” translation of the Tao Te Ching, then read Crowley’s translation of the passage and see if there are connections there to Liber XV. I will cite one brief example below:

Tao Te Ching(6) Chapter I:
The tao that can be told is not the eternal Tao
The name that can be named
is not the eternal name
The unnamable is the eternally real.
Naming is the origin
of all particular things.
Liber CLVII(7):
The Tao-Path is not the All Tao.
The Name is not the Thing named.

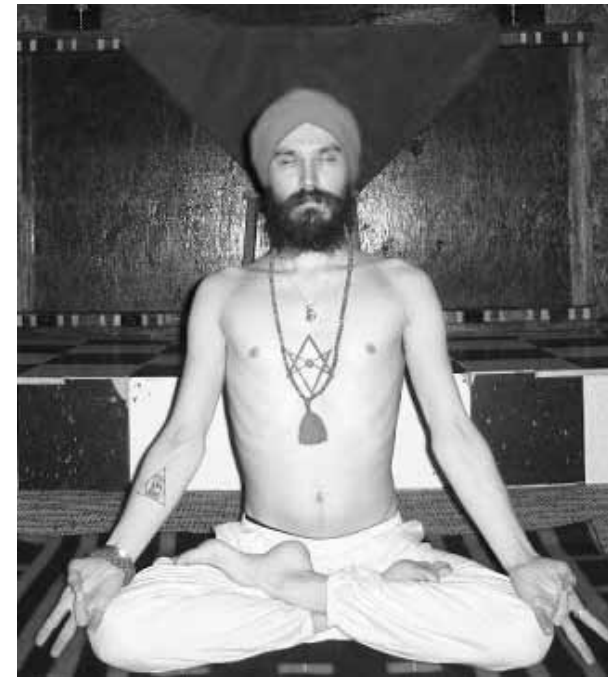
*Unmanifested, it is the Secret Father of
Heaven and Earth;
Manifested, it is their Mother.*

Liber XV(8)
III: OF THE CEREMONY OF THE INTROIT
The VIRGIN: Greeting of Earth and Heaven!

It would be an interesting and enlightening exercise to compare the three texts and may shed light on a few of the mysteries of Liber XV.

- (1) Crowley, Aleister. *The Book of Lies Which Is Also Falsely Called Breaks*. San Francisco, CA.: Red Wheel/Weiser LLC, 1981. p. 24.
- (2) Ibid p. 25
- (3) “Laozi (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy).” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. 5 May 2007. Web. 13 Dec. 2011. <<http://171.67.193.20/entries/laozi/>>.
- (4) Crowley, Aleister. *The Book of Wisdom or Folly, Liber Aleph Vel CXI*. The Hermetic Library at Hermetic.com. Web. 13 Dec. 2011. Chapter 69. <<http://hermetic.com/crowley/book-of-wisdom-or-folly/tbwf2.html>>.
- (5) Crowley, Aleister, writing as Ko Yuen. *THE TAO TEH KING, a New Translation*. *Equinox* Vol. 8 No. 3. Introduction. <<http://hermetic.com/crowley/libers/lib157.html>>
- (6) Lao Tzu. “Tao-Te Ching.” *academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu*. Brooklyn College, 1995. Web. 13 Dec 2011.
- (7) Crowley, Aleister, writing as Ko Yuen. *THE TAO TEH KING, a New Translation*. *Equinox* Vol. 8 No. 3. Chapter I. <<http://hermetic.com/crowley/libers/lib157.html>>
- (8) Crowley, Aleister, writing as the Master Therion. *Liber XV*. <http://hermetic.com/egc/lib15.html>

KELLEY BEEBE is an active member of Horizon Lodge, and enjoys exploring Runic Magick and the lives of our Gnostic Saints.



FRATER KIRET TEACHES KUNDALINI YOGA ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT THE TEMPLE



“Ritual” by James F. Dalton

A Breath Into the Void... My Memory

A singular person on the brink
Every step of our lives we walk this way
Rarely pause to think
A moment of clarity
Occasionally will breathe
To pull us forward
Bring us to our knees.
So precious is this life
All we have to give
So few exemplify
What it means to live
Silver laugh and sparkling eyes
Dancing into play
A gift of boundless joy
But no one’s here
To stay
Each moment passes
Each day full of cares
At most try to keep in touch
Living best to share.

A voice that haunts and lirts pulling at the soul
An impact that will long be felt and in passing
leaves no hole.
We are already fading as soon as we are here
But some are so vibrant even in absence
they are near.
Bind yourself in love and light
Drink deeply of life’s truth
I will sing your soul in flight I will know your
youth.

- Jasmine Selene

JANUARY 2012 HORIZON CALENDAR

The Official Agenda of Horizon Lodge O.T.O.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1. Liber XV The Gnostic Mass 3pm Daughters of Lilith 5pm	2.	3. 7pm IV/PI Practice	4. Kundalini Yoga with Fr. Kiret 7pm - 10pm Donations to Horizon Oasis are welcome	5.	6. Enochian Group Ritual 8pm-11pm All are welcome	7. EC Meeting Online
8. EC Meeting Online (cont'd.)	9. IV/PI Practice 7 pm	10. Book of the Law Discussion Group 7pm - 10pm All are welcome	11. Kundalini Yoga with Fr. Kiret 7pm - 10pm Donations to Horizon Oasis are welcome	12. Free Class: Magic in Theory & Practice 7pm - 10pm Br. Kolson	13.	14. Liber XV Gnostic Mass 6pm MOVIE NIGHT Crowley and Parsons Documentaries 8pm
15.	16. IV/PI Practice 7 pm	17. Free Class: Discussion Norse Runes Sr. Kelley 7-10pm	18. Kundalini Yoga with Fr. Kiret 7pm - 10pm Donations to Horizon Oasis are welcome CrowleyMas	19. Monthly Lodge Meeting Tyled to 1st Degree 7pm - 10pm	20.	21. 2nd Degree Exemplifications
22. Liber XV The Gnostic Mass 2-5pm All are welcome.	23. Reiki Circle: Open to members who practice reiki 7pm - 10pm	24. Temple Cleaning Party PITCH IN! 7pm - 10pm	25. Kundalini Yoga with Fr. Kiret 7pm - 10pm Donations to Horizon Oasis are welcome	26. IV/PI Practice 7 pm	27. IV/PI Reception Open to members and their guests	28. IV/PI Setup 12pm IV/PI Initiations 3:30 pm
29. IV/PI Teardown 12pm IV/PI and above only	30.	31.	1. Kundalini Yoga with Fr. Kiret 7pm - 10pm Donations to Horizon Oasis are welcome	2.	3. Enochian Group Ritual 8pm-11pm All are welcome	4.

Key: Public Events / **Private Events** / *Outside Events (not hosted by OTO)*