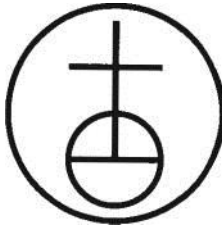


LETTERS

LETTERS

CATHAROSE DE PETRI



1997

ROZEKRUIS PERS - HAARLEM - THE NETHERLANDS

International School of the Golden Rosycross
Lectorium Rosicrucianum
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Preface

THE UNDERSIGNED HAS TRIED TO answer as clearly as possible the many questions which can arise not only in pupils of a Spiritual School, but also in people in general. The questions have been incorporated in the answers which follow.

The main purpose behind many of these replies is to advise the reader to overcome his nature-born character.

However, to be able to do this, it is necessary not only to have a good understanding of 'the Life', and the willingness to put it into practice, but also an awareness that we are `supported' inwardly, in keeping with magnetic radiation-laws which come from the gnostic astral field to those who strive for soul-liberation.

Some words of thanks and appreciation are due to

my brother in the spirit, Mr P van der Kooij, for editing this book of *Letters* and preparing it for publication.

July 1986

CATHAROSE DE PETRI

1

The Cathar Cross

IF THE UNDERSIGNED REMEMBERS correctly, the Cathar Cross originally had three cross-beams, each of which had a clear symbolic significance.

The influx of the Spirit, flowing in at the top of the cross as a vertical current, spread throughout the uppermost cross-beam. Then the radiation of the Spirit flowed downwards to the second crossbeam, which symbolically represented the soul.

The love-radiation of the soul made itself discern-ible via the middle cross-beam, and at the same time it acted as an intermediary between the third and lowest cross-beam — representing the material body — and the highest cross-beam — symbolizing the inflowing divine Spirit.

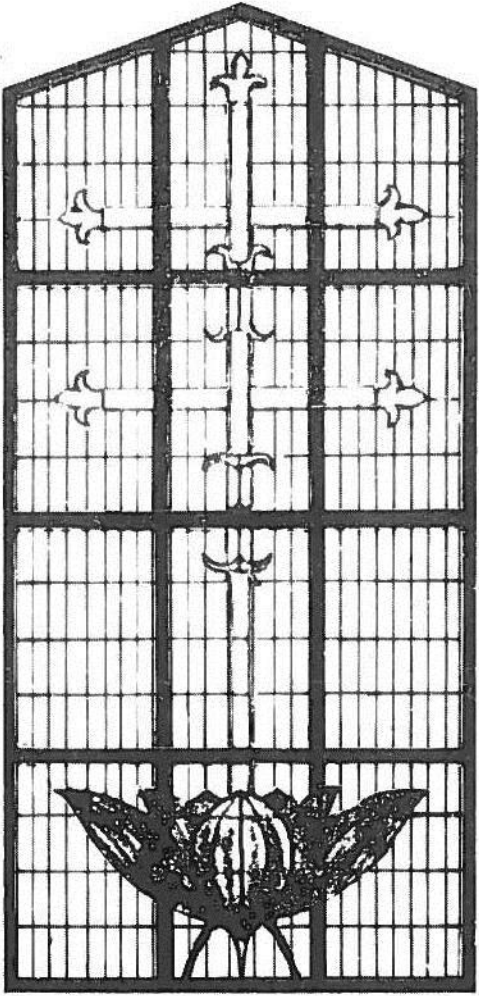
Later, the lowest cross-beam was taken away,

because for the Cathar who lived a pure life in matter it was the soul alone which formed the basis for this life. For the Cathar, the encapsulated personality living on the horizontal plane no longer held sway. That is why in the picture you now see only two horizontal cross-beams.

The cross of the young gnostic Brotherhood is resting on a lotus, to express the love of Christ for the whole world. In this way, East and West have been united.

The embellishments running vertically between the upper cross-beams join the two together to form a unity. They indicate that both beams have received the fullness of the vertical influx of divine power.

The two horizontal embellishments placed on the vertical beam mark the original position of the third or lowest cross-beam.



*The disintegrating radiations
of Aquarius*

I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO TRY and give you a satisfying answer to your letter. I emphasise the word `try', because I can only answer to the extent that my consciousness and insight allow.

You know that there are solar energies, planetary energies and zodiacal energies. Well, we can view the solar system as an astral system, to which we are connected by means of our astral body.

The solar system is in a state of continuous, twofold motion. This motion is the basis of all manifestation. If we were to ask, 'What sort of motion is it?' it would be sufficient to refer to the Christ. The Christ is called the Solar Spirit.

What Christ is, wills and does, can be expressed in the words `primary plan-fulfilment'. And

plan-fulfilment means: world liberation, world redemption, world fruition. So there exists another Order, calling and awakening us, and that other Order *is* present.

We react to the solar system by means of vibrations. Vibration is the movement of the atoms which make up our bodily systems and keep them together. Any increase or decrease in the rate of vibration of the atoms will change the nature and characteristics of the form manifested.

What is it that changes? Our psyche, and hence primarily our mentality. Our mentality is always open to vibrations via the psyche. Every atomic influence is ensouled. The nature we live in is ensouled, and thus the type of ensoulment to which we are susceptible will depend on the quality of our own ensoulment. This momentary state is what determines our relationships, tendencies and affinities.

The initial goal within the solar system is the preparation of the personality. A creation will be preserved as long as there remain even a few within it who are capable of converting their 'potential' into positive results.

Times are accelerating. Since the development of the world and humankind is proceeding at a far faster rate than could have been imagined, it can certainly be said that these processes are `imminent' or 'in progress'. However, we cannot predict or ascertain their vibration and pace, because these things depend on many factors far above and beyond the level of our world.

The Apocalypse of the new era *has* begun. The inner aspect of the Sun has revealed itself to humankind, as the positive beginning of the new age.

During the last quarter of a century, the way things are done in all fields has changed entirely, and this process of change is still going on. The human psyche, too, is undergoing total transformation. Humanity has come to the end of a course of development, a course which has brought it to a nadir, a nadir of consciousness.

The `upward' development is introducing humankind to a bodily state which is much more tenuous, more etheric; in other words, the process of spiritualisation is beginning. There is much

more to be said about this, but what has been said already is enough to show that the Age of Aquarius has a higher rate of vibration than previous periods of time. As mentioned before, everything is accelerating at the moment.

If, under the influence of the new course of development, a person is impelled towards the liberation of head and heart but is unable to react, or reacts in a negative way, then what is manifested will be the opposite of what was intended by the Solar Logos.

In our Spiritual School we put it like this: we are doing everything we can to form a select group of pupils who are capable of drawing many people along with them in their ascent, and helping them to enter the Age of Aquarius in peace and joy.

The ability to react positively to the radiations of the Aquarian Era necessitates a new state of consciousness based on the renewal of the desire-life, the mentality and the will. The way the thyroid gland functions in the average person does not yet permit positive reaction to the Aquarius radiations. So Aquarius certainly imposes definite

requirements on every human being.

Initially, the Aquarius radiations are having a breaking, disintegrating effect on humankind. At the same time they are causing the radiations of dialectics to be thrown into disarray, which is affecting each person individually via the astral self. In this way the forces of life and death are currently operating far more powerfully in human beings than has ever been the case before.

And that accounts for the situation in which humanity finds itself at this moment, a situation in which it is being affected more strongly by the powers of liberation, *and* by the influences of the adversary.

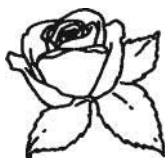
It is partly because of the disintegrating Aquarius radiations that the world and humankind are going adrift.

They can lead to a rapid degeneration of the human heart. Remember: because the heart is changing, its radius of action is becoming wider. This means a more rapid development, but that in turn means that it can also degenerate much faster, leading to a speedy descent into the past, into a

primeval, Lemurian state, but with our present level of intelligence.

Our mistake lies largely in the fact that we are working too much with our old methods and our old criteria. The world is changing, and along with it all of humankind. And along with humankind we, too, are changing, be it in a positive or in a negative sense.

That is why we can only carry within us the fervent prayer that we may be drawn upwards in a positive way by the powers of liberation.



To a seriously ill pupil

THINKING OVER EVERYTHING YOU have been through in the last few years, it is not so easy to write you some comforting words about it all. Nevertheless, despite your bodily suffering, one bright point of light is very close to you, and that is the fact that your mind is still capable of understanding everything consciously, which enables you to continue living your life in a purposeful way.

As time goes by, you will probably be forced to withdraw more and more from disharmonious dialectical life. This will make it easier for you to adapt your inner state to the requirements of soul rebirth, so that you will be able to experience the soul's radiations in your respiration field much more quickly than a normally healthy person.

You will be more capable of consciously `lifting

up your eyes to the hills from whence your help comes'. For, as a serious pupil of the Spiritual School, is there not present in you that intense longing for the soul-renewing life?

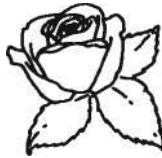
The undersigned knows full well that daily life sometimes oppresses you, and that everything sometimes seems just too much to bear. But still, you must not become despondent. Keep your gaze fixed on the one immovable goal that radiates in Christ Jesus our Lord. For that is the one basis from which you, as a pupil, can safely start.

In your deepest essence, you can be compared with a living tree whose roots no longer find support in the earth. With all the energy it has left in reserve, that tree is giving forth its last fruits. You, too, will need to learn to live off your last reserves with the minimum expenditure of energy. That way, you will be enabled to go on building consciously on the genesis of the new soul-being, which will fill your whole life. Then, despite all the physical pain and purification, that will be your divine fruit.

Try to see this as the last goal of your life. Remember that, ultimately, your help `comes from the

Lord who has made heaven and earth. He will not suffer your foot to be moved; He who keeps you shall neither slumber nor sleep'.

In this faith-filled knowledge, you will be enfolded and overshadowed by the firmament of the New Covenant, and you will experience its vibrations throughout your bloodstream. Many loving thoughts and feelings accompany this letter, that your life may be bearable and that, despite all the distress and physical pain, your path to victory may be assured.



Who are our debtors?

GENERALLY SPEAKING, A DEBTOR is a person who owes someone something. However, the word `debt' can also be identified with `sin'. Self-knowledge leads us to insight regarding the true source of our sin; it enables us to discern the real `debtor' as an inhabitant of, among other things, the blood and respiration-field of every human being.

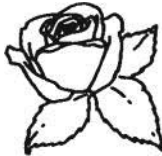
In this context we can consider verse 3 of the *Rosa Mystica*, in which the `debtor' is identified as the microcosmic adversary, the auric being.

When the will of the Father (the divine will) and the love of the Son (the love-radiation Christi) truly gain dominion over the personality-being, this releases a Light whose radiations cause the microcosmic `debtor' to diminish. In other words, the more we free ourselves from our karmic ties,

the less power the debtor will be able to exert.

It doesn't take long to write this down, but before any results are evident — in the structure of the imperishable Soul, for instance — rather a lot has to happen!

That is why the application of the Christ's law of love, which dissolves all contradictions into a higher unity, is the only basis for attaining genuine liberation from this nature.



Liberate yourself from your blood

THE PHYSICAL BODY IS ENSOULED by the blood. Life resides in the blood, which we can see as an electric fluid.

The human being lives by means of the blood, which brings to expression his entire etheric and astral state as well as his mental disposition. The blood's type, quality and power determine a person's character and behaviour; they determine his whole being. So the human being is entirely controlled, regulated and driven in a direction which is predetermined by the blood.

The human seed is a distillation of the energies contained in the blood. The child in the mother's womb develops from the essence of the parents' blood. And also, during the gestation period, the mother's blood circulates in the child.

So when the physical body is born and, after another seven and fourteen years respectively, the etheric and astral bodies are born as well, the human being who has manifested in matter is bound to be the clear image of his parents as regards his blood and therefore his life.

No one can escape the shackles of the blood without very radical changes in his life. Your parents and your ancestors, right back to the beginning of the dialectical human manifestation, are all linked to you — and you to them!

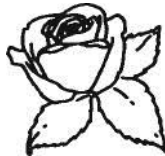
Along with your nation, your race, and all the races combined, you belong to one great community of the blood, and all the consequences of this are infused throughout your being. It is easy to say, 'I have dissociated myself from my family, from my race; I am free from my blood', but this is a mistake, because your blood is not free from you.

So what is our task in life? It is to lead every creature to the approach to life ordained by God. How can we do this? By setting the example ourselves. How do we set such an example? By

following the path on which the human being can become a child of God again.

You have within you the power and abilities necessary to do this; to awaken as a true human being, in keeping with the plan of the Creator, and within the great family of humankind.

When you attain *that* awakening, you will be a living example for all your fellow human beings. Then it will not be a matter of *wanting* to be an example; you will *be* one, because of your inner state. A quite different blood magic will then emanate from you and, in this way, you will gradually be freed of all ties of the blood and of karma.



The manifestation of a new era

To the pupils of the Lectorium Rosicrucianum

THE MANIFESTATION OF A NEW ERA has begun. And it is during this era that the Christ-radiation will reconnect humankind with the imperishable, eternal life, by means of a creative synthesis of the original, divine laws.

Christ says, 'Many of the last shall be first', and we see these words being confirmed day by day. That is why we Rosicrucians have the greatest interest in the ever increasing multitude of men and women who, although they do not know Christ, are nevertheless opening up a path to Him through their self-sacrifice, through their unstinting efforts made without counting the cost to their personal ego. They will be first, for through their great love for humanity they are unleashing the great law, the Christ.

It is for this reason that the servants have been

entrusted with the task of establishing the Mystery School of the Golden Rosycross in the world of time.

However, this must have a beginning and, seen from the point of view of time and space, it must also eventually come to an end. In Paul's second letter to Timothy, chapter 4, verses 3-4, it says, 'For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own likings, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander into myths'. Let it not be like that for you, servants and pupils of the Spiritual School. It need not be, for if you are able to attune yourselves properly to the living heart of the magnetic radiation field of the School, you will vibrate in harmony with it. And the spirit of truth will enable you to recognize your Self in your own innermost being. Then the Brotherhood of Life will reveal itself clearly to you as active light-power.

The *Fama Fraternitatis* describes this tremendous struggle of the Brotherhood of Light, to bring forth out of darkness and barbarism people who are sufficiently developed to be able to open up a

pathway for the rest of the human life-wave — a pathway leading to the scintillating vistas of a higher turning on the spiral of development.

Another effect of the power of Christ's love-radiation will be that you, as pupils of the Spiritual School of the Golden Rosycross, will be brought closer to one another, on a firmer basis than ever before.

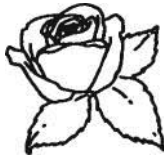
Evil can only maintain itself within you if you offer it habitation, if you let it in. If, in Christ, you drive it out, then the reign of darkness within you will be at an end! That is why we are summoning you to your task of head, heart and hands, to become a fiery emblem amid the darkness of this world, linked with the Lord of Love.

What the personality-being has not been able to attain through intellectual reasoning, will then be achieved by the power of divine love itself — at least if your personality is open for this love power.

Make the miraculous flower within you into a

radiant Rose of the gnostic mysteries. Be faithful!

We pray with all our heart that you will be able to experience these things consciously.



The neuro-detector

AS WITH ORDINARY, DIALECTICAL people, nervous disorders can also occur in seriously striving pupils of the Spiritual School, with all their harmful consequences.

Nevertheless, we need to make a clear distinction between these two cases. For the information supplied by the neuro-detector will need to be interpreted in quite a different way in the case of an ordinary person of this nature than it will in the case of a pupil who is undergoing the process of transfiguration.

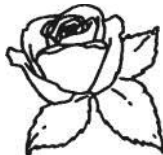
This is because the changes that take place in a pupil's blood, nerve-fluid, endocrine system, serpent fire and consciousness transform his or her entire etheric field. The psyche and mentality are also subject to change. So the neuro-detector

could well register these changes as disturbances in the circulation of the pupil's nerve-ether.

So if, as a result of such a test, the pupil were to undergo a course of neuro-therapy, it would be quite possible that many of the new building substances accumulated in the purified respiration field would be destroyed.

In this context we would like to recommend that you read *A New Call of the Sevenfold World-Brotherhood*, a talk given in Wiesbaden on 3 and 4 September 1952 by J van Rijckenborgh. In it, you will undoubtedly find an answer to your question.

As you know, the Rozenhof never gives medical advice, which is why every pupil of the School is responsible for his or her own decisions when it comes to medical questions. When the physical body is ill, it is a perfectly responsible decision to consult a doctor.



Tension before a temple service

WHENEVER YOU ARE SUBJECT TO influences which have a higher rate of vibration than the activities of your nature-born state — and that is always the case whenever you are concentrating intensely on a temple service you are about to hold — an enormous tension-field will develop around you as a tightly packed concentration of ethers.

This could be viewed as a vibration-field out of which you are in fact not yet capable of living consciously. In such a situation you are still participating in ignorance, just as — in Christ — you will one day participate consciously, we hope, in the universal Truth.

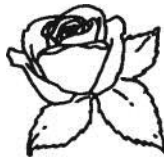
So in the etheric concentration which has developed around you, truth and ignorance meet. In other words, a vertical current of energy meets

a horizontal one. A vertical influx of divine energies strikes a horizontal state of ignorance.

In this way you are enlightened by the mystery of Christ, albeit in ignorance at this stage. You feel you are under an enormously high tension and you experience this physically as violent trembling.

But as soon as you begin saying the ritual of the service, that divine power receives the opportunity to discharge itself. The powerful charges around your body are decreased by the saying of the ritual. That is quite logical, for whenever we speak, energy is released at the same time.

So you see, there is no reason whatever to be anxious about this. On the contrary, you should see it purely and simply as a grace, that the tension-field which develops before a temple service makes it possible to experience it as 'new' and 'full of expectation'.



The cause of physical weakness

IF I AM NOT MISTAKEN, YOUR TIRED-ness is caused by a fairly serious weakness of your body. The cause of this weakness is not known to me, but still, it is a fact that every effect of human life in dialectics can be traced to a spiritual cause.

Our distress often stems from the inner knowledge that we are separated from the life of the spirit-soul, and that our whole existence in dialectics is a road of trouble and sorrow.

So there is only one solution, for you and for everyone: to grasp the helping hand offered by the gnostic Brotherhood, because only the sanctifying and healing power of the Light can give you the help you so much need in your distress.

Yet it must also be said that when we invoke the

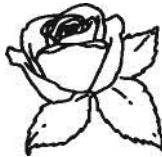
power of the Christ-radiation, the response is not always pleasing to dialectical people. Why not? Because Christ and his Kingdom belong to a quite different order of existence. As someone who has been introduced to the knowledge of salvation, you are aware of this. Nevertheless, the Gnosis is there for every thirsting soul. The all-encompassing divine love-radiation frees much that is still bound in human hearts.

Hold fast to that knowledge, because one day, if you persevere on the path, this radiation-fullness will arise in your soul, too, and you will hear the voice of the Holy Spirit-Fire. So try to understand what the Logos of the plan asks of the soul person, namely, a deepening of the inner life. And try to live accordingly. You will then become adapted to the requirements of soul rebirth and quickly experience the soul's radiations in your respiration field.

As a serious pupil of the Spiritual School, you, too, experience the urge and the yearning for the renewing life of the soul. But the fact remains that everyday life can sometimes be so oppressive that there are moments when everything just becomes too much.

Yet, throughout all this, you must keep your gaze firmly fixed on the one immovable goal that radiates in Christ Jesus our Lord. That is the one safe basis from which a pupil can always start.

In this firm conviction of faith you will be enfolded by the firmament of the new Covenant, and you will experience its vibrations throughout your bloodstream. So keep your sights fixed hopefully on the help of the Gnosis.



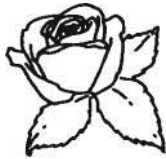
Musical compositions

IT IS POSSIBLE THAT A COMPOSER OR musician blessed by the Gnosis may serve as a focus for rays emanating from the harmony of the spheres, from the essence of the primal melody's sevenfold pattern. Such a musical genius might well be able to place every note in its proper place, although we must add in the same breath that the divine sphere does not easily allow itself to be limited.

But to be able to tell whether the gnostic plenitude is indeed reflected in a sublime classical musical repertoire, one would at least have to know that plenitude in its entirety.

However, it is also possible that, at the moment when you were listening to the sublime music described in your letter, your vibration level was

similar to that of the composer. This would quite naturally result in a very harmonious and sublime experience which people might well regard as unexcelled.



The inner laws of the Spiritual School

IT IS A BASIC ASSUMPTION FOR THE undersigned that the inner laws of the Spiritual School are respected in every way. The inner laws are based on the power of the nucleus and its effects throughout the various aspects of the sevenfold Spiritual School.

So we need to understand that a gnostic Spiritual School is not a personal concern. When a Spiritual School is fully developed it has a sevenfold Living Body. This is composed of living stones, of several thousand souls who expect their entire salvation from the living Christ. It is to Him, to the living Christ, that such a Spiritual School belongs, and only in His astral power, in His glorified blood, can the great work of liberation be realized.

That is why the true servant will never place him-

self centrally, even though he devotes himself one hundred per cent to the work of the Spiritual School. Just like the Christ, the true servant says, 'Of myself I have nothing. Everything I possess, everything I say, I have received from the Gnosis, from the Brotherhood of Life, which concerns itself with me through the intermediary of the young gnostic Brotherhood'. Or, as Jesus the Christ once said: 'All that I possess, all that I say, I have received from my Father who is in Heaven'.

This is the profound meaning and foundation of Christ's words, which the servants teach and demonstrate with their lives: 'Lord, not my will, but your will be done'.

When a grain of seed from the heart of the universal Gnostic Chain is sown in the dark soil of the nature of death, we know that the entire manifestation of salvation lies hidden in that life-principle. So the life-principle is the starting point and cannot be ignored.

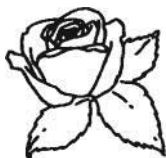
And so, once upon a time, there was a pupil who thought she would walk the soul-liberating path. Before she set out on that path, everything necessary for its practical realization already lay hidden

in the heart of the Spiritual School. She promised 'obedience to the holy, universal work'. And she once hoped fervently to be able to help support the work of the Spiritual School with all her love-power, so that the manifestation of the living spirit-soul could become a harvest-feast for the salvation of seeking souls from the night of time.

But what has become of all that? She resigned from pupilship because, as she wrote, there is for her 'a beginning and an end to the path of the Spiritual School'. The undersigned makes no judgement about whether or not her decision was a conscious one. Whatever the case, the fact remains the same — that by taking this decision she has excluded herself from the merciful radiation of the School's magnetic power-field. It only remains for the undersigned to wish with all her heart that one day, at the right psychological moment, she will be able to regain her pure orientation and a good understanding of things.

We said just now that, 'the inner laws are based on the power of the nucleus and its effects throughout the various aspects of the sevenfold Spiritual School'.

One of the implications of this concerns the phase of preparatory pupilship. The School does not ask anything of preparatory pupils, nor does it bind them to any requirements, because as candidate-pupils they are still only in the phase of orientation with respect to the Spiritual School, its teachings and practice. That is why the leadership of the Spiritual School will never put any responsibility on the shoulders of a preparatory pupil. For this reason, the above discussion does not refer to preparatory pupils.



Some words of profound gratitude

*To the pupils in all working fields of our
sevenfold Spiritual School*

WITH GRATEFUL FEELINGS AND thoughts the undersigned looks back to the first week of February, during which pupils of all the School's working fields testified so dynamically and positively, in speech and writing, of their love, faithfulness and commitment to the Spiritual School and its leaders.

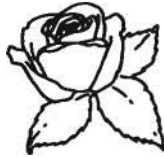
This testimony has profoundly strengthened the radiation-values of the Brotherhood of Life so that:

faith in the power of Christ is great,
hope is dynamic,
and *love* has taken on a world-encompassing significance more far-reaching than ever before.

That is why the undersigned would like to take

this opportunity to record her appreciation and immense gratitude.

Heartfelt thanks are also due to the pupils in the Temple Choir and to all the other friends whose contributions made the ritual creative expression service* in the main Temple in Haarlem such a great feast and an unforgettable experience.



* A Temple ritual in which gratitude was expressed by pupils through various performing arts such as singing, ballet and so on.

The path of liberation

YOU ARE STILL YOUNG. FULL OF idealism, you would like to see and conceptualise the entire path of liberation from beginning to end.

But it's not as simple as that! To walk the path means to follow a systematic process, which necessitates a pure approach to life. So it is not enough only to absorb intellectually what is said during services, even though it is possible for a certain understanding to arise as a result of intellectual reasoning.

But the main thing is to gain consciousness of the path of salvation. The great task of a Spiritual School is to convey the message of living salvation contained in the Gnosis to all who want to raise themselves from the life of the material soul into the life of the spirit-soul, through a process of transmutation.

If you have understanding, and if you are gnostically sensitive, the leaders of the School will be very glad indeed, for they know that it will not be long before understanding and consciousness lead you to good results — to progress forward and upward in the gnostic mysteries.

The Spiritual School presents a complete doctrine of liberation to its pupils. If you cannot comprehend this doctrine, or not yet, then you will need to keep to the rules of the Spiritual School. These rules may not be deviated from.

Pure insight is needed to break through all the barriers the human being naturally carries with him. This must include insight regarding the gnostic astral field, and insight regarding the activity of the Spiritual School's magnetic body, which demonstrates its power to the group.

You will attain these things when you learn to live within the requirements set by the Gnosis. That is why you should first of all begin at the beginning, full of faith and trust. The primary basis for becoming conscious in Christ's light and power is faith. 'Your faith shall make you whole.'

Concern

THE UNDERSIGNED CAN UNDER-stand your concern about the purchase of building X. However, there are many important factors contributing to this situation which cannot simply be overlooked. We also have to take into account the arch-adversary, which has appeared in many guises throughout the ages and will continue to do so, even in our working field Y, where it is bound to attempt to undo as much as possible of what needs to be done.

So there is only one way, one method of removing all the uncertainty and confusion we feel. First of all, we need to try to approach the Kingdom of God within us in absolute self-surrender of the heart and with intense longing. We can do this by withdrawing from our own astral field, which belongs to the nature that deviates from God.

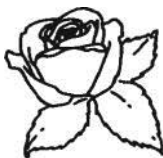
This is not an insurmountable obstacle for you. It has always been the task of all children of God. It is nothing more nor less than the path which Jesus the Lord, too, exemplified for us on his *via dolorosa*.

You will then enter a state which is rather like being in love. If you have ever really loved someone, you will know that the whole heart is absorbed and uplifted by it. It is with a love like that, that the heart devotes itself to the imperishable Rose, the principle of the divine life. And then, because this imperishable Rose of the Heart has been waiting for you for such a long time, a powerful connection will come into being. Only that love, that power, will be able to set you free.

The true servant will never place himself centrally, even though he devotes himself one hundred per cent to the work of the Spiritual School. Just like the Christ, true servants say, 'Of myself I have nothing'. With their lives, they teach and demonstrate the words, 'Lord, not my will, but your will be done'. We profoundly hope that on this sound basis the success of all our brothers and sisters will be complete.

Working field Y stands at the beginning of an enormous development of its world-encompassing labour for the School. That is why those who say they are linked with the others in unity must devote themselves actively and intensively to the work, and always stand firm, whatever happens in the Spiritual School. For anyone who genuinely participates in the inner grades of the Mystery School, there is no other way!

In the years gone by, you have proved you are able to stand firm as a rock throughout troublesome times, despite any difficulties in your health and your life, and despite any sorrow and purification. So be unwavering now, too, at this time which is so difficult for you, so that one day, together with all the others, you will belong to the harvest-feast, for the liberation of seeking souls from the night of time and... for your definite entry through the door of the holy Temple.



The higher self

THE TERM 'HIGHER SELF' IS SOMETIMES used to refer to the soul-consciousness of the personality, which is formed from the human being's willing, feeling, thinking and actions. This consciousness-soul is mortal.

In the final chapter of *The Coming New Man*, 'The Gift of Tongues', the higher self is described as the auric being of the personality, which opposes the incoming new magnetic energies.

However, this 'so-called' higher self is not what is meant. Here, we are discussing the new lipika of the auric being which has been kindled in the Divine Light.

When the light-vesture of the new soul-state has enveloped the personality, two new developments will result:

firstly, the Spirit with its sevenfold radiative-plenitude will be connected with the soul,

secondly, now that the mental body has been made complete by the soul and the Spirit, the personality-system will change and transfigure totally.

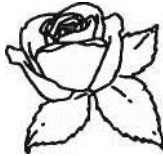
In this way the complete, threefold human being will be resurrected in the life-field of the true soul-being — in the holy land of the children of God.

Finally, we would like to refer to *The Coming New Man* by J van Rijckenborgh, part 1, chapter 5, 'No Bridge Between the Natural and the Spiritual Human Being', which discusses the human being's threefold consciousness or ego:

the first ego, seated in the head sanctuary, is equipped with an intellectual faculty of will;

the second ego, seated in the heart sanctuary, is also equipped with a faculty of will, which can be referred to as emotion or sentiment; it has nothing at all to do with the reflecting atom in the right heart ventricle;

the third ego, seated in the pelvic sanctuary, is organically connected with the liver solar-plexus spleen system; this central abdominal consciousness is the most fundamental of the three natural egos.



*The three essential principles
of the microcosm*

THE SPIRIT-SPARK, WHICH IS PRES-ent in the human being as a seed, can indeed be born as a spirit-soul by means of a developmental process. This is possible because the dialectical human being possesses a reflecting atom in his heart. If the heart is open for it, this reflecting atom — which is a principle of eternity — can react to the awakened spirit-spark atom in the microcosm.

The Aquarian Gospel of Jesus the Christ puts it like this: `Heavenly man, like every thought of God, was but a seed, a seed that held within itself the potencies of God, just as the seed of any plant of earth holds deep within itself the attributes of every part of that especial plant. So spirit-man, as seed of God, held deep within himself the attributes of every part of God. So God, the husbandman of everything that is, threw forth this

human seed into the soil of soul; it grew apace, and man became a living soul. Perfected man must pass through all the ways of life, and so a carnal nature was full manifest, a nature that sprang forth from fleshly things.'

So when the hidden God-Man awakens, the consciousness-soul belonging to the carnal nature gradually dies through the process of the endura, because the soul that has sinned must die.

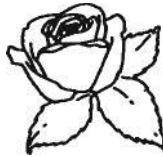
One can read a detailed description of the microcosm's fall in chapters 1 and 2 of *The Mystery of Life and Death* by J van Rijckenborgh. This booklet explains that the microcosm was originally a triune being consisting of three essential principles which functioned in harmony with each other. These can be referred to as:

- the spirit-soul — masculine — positive,
- the nucleus-soul — feminine — negative,
- the personal soul — neutral.

At the moment of the Fall, one of these principles was ejected: either the masculine one (the spirit-soul), or the feminine one (the nucleus-soul). It was at that moment that the separation of the sexes

occurred. The material human soul-being became di-une.

One might ask: 'Which principle carries the karmic experience?' It is obviously the neutral form, the personal soul, which does so. For more information about this you will need to study *The Mystery of Life and Death*.



*The present task of
the Spiritual School*

IN ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION THE undersigned would like to remind you of some words from the 'Declaration of the Brotherhood of the Rosycross'. This declaration makes it clear to us that the religious community of the Lectorium Rosicrucianum aims at the restoration and revivification of the original threefold Temple of God, which existed in human prehistory, manifesting itself to all of humanity and aiming to serve it.

This threefold Temple brought to humanity the royal and priestly original Religion, the original Science and the original Art of Construction.

Time after time throughout history (the last time was around seven hundred years ago) attempts have been made to forge this threefold

connecting link between the original divine nature and the nature of death, to vivify and maintain it. But time after time these activities have been prevented, destroyed and smothered in blood by various adversaries of the ultimate restoration of humankind.

If these words from the Declaration of the Brotherhood of the Rosycross find pure resonance within you, you will experience this calling voice as a power. Then you will know that the love-fire of the cosmic Christ pours its rays out over all who dedicate their whole state of being to the construction of a new Christ-Cosmos, giving themselves fully to this new day of the Lord.

The gnostic Spiritual School does not stand for initiation, but for total redemption, for the transfiguration of the entire human being.

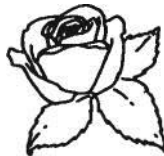
The undersigned assumes that, as a pupil of a bonafide Spiritual School, you, too, are aiming at the one goal, which is to become worthy of being admitted to the Chain of the Universal Brotherhood of Christ, which carries out the work of liberating the world and humankind. Every

pupil needs to make this one goal his highest priority, and then everything else will fade into insignificance.

We have profound respect for all the great ones who preceded us and who sought to serve humankind or actually did so. However, the young gnostic Brotherhood has to consider the period of time in which it is manifesting and to undertake the task which that particular moment requires.

At this juncture in time, the young gnostic Brotherhood sees itself faced with the fulfilment of a very urgent task: the task of doing all it can to release in human hearts the Christ-radiation and the entire magnetic potential of the universal Seven-Spirit.

So it is not possible for us to remain on the contemplative side of things, for that would in no way serve this special field of activity in the sense of Brotherhood and Love.



Living testimonies of the Light

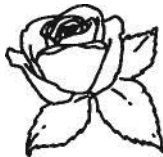
AT THE START OF THIS NEW YEAR, the undersigned would like to wish you, with all her heart, much good and many blessings not only for your souls, but also for your physical well-being.

For each one of you, may the New Year be the beginning of a totally new turning on the spiral of life. The Light of the Universal Chain of Christ's Brotherhood radiates throughout the Spiritual School's hierarchical unfoldment, and seeks to be active in every serious pupil. That Light wishes to participate continuously in our being, so that we will become living testimonies of the Light, the Power and the universal Prana of God.

The fact that in your working field, too, the pupils have gathered positively under the wings of this mighty Christ-radiation, is worthy of our pro-

found gratitude. For through the combined efforts of many of you, good and fruitful results have been attained in the development of your working field.

Thus it is together, in unity — for there is no separation in the magnetic radiation field — that we enter the new year!

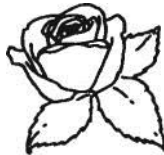


Faith

MANY HEARTFELT THANKS FOR the thoughts expressed in your letter. May the words of your mouth and the considerations of your heart always be pleasing to your soul, your Lord and your Redeemer.

Faith is a living, courageous and unshakeable trust in God's love and grace.

Therefore, you may rest assured that with the love of God, suffering is not the end of everything. God dwells wherever we allow Him to come in.



Working for a centre

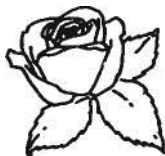
IF THOSE BELONGING TO A CENTRE work together in harmony, power is produced. And if the personal will is devoted harmoniously to the divine Will, neighbourly love will most certainly triumph.

There is a perfect, unlimited divine knowledge which entirely surpasses all ordinary human understanding. It arises from the eternal fount of all things.

So, ever-mindful of the need 'to lose oneself in the service of all', we can see the Aquarius-work as the only path that will lead to the liberation of the world and humankind. It is the path on which the true human being is awakened from the grave of imprisonment in matter.

That is why we keep on urging each other to carry

out the task of head, heart and hands: to become
— through our link with the Lord of Love — a
fiery emblem amid the darkness of this world.



Professing pupilship

THOSE WHO GENUINELY PROFESS their pupilship know that they have to free themselves astrally, etherically and physically, and also that they must liberate themselves from the lower mind. If you were to interpret the conditions of participation in professing pupilship only with the consciousness of your personality, it is clear that you would see yourself only as a 'shadow'.

Throughout the course of your daily life, no matter what you are doing, it is in fact always possible to keep the nucleus power in the background of your being and let it radiate in your heart, your mind, and your soul-principle.

You need to convert the sublime instructions into reality. To begin with, the most important thing is your inner orientation. Through your pure, inner

focus on the one, soul-liberating aim of life you are already responding in principle to the requirements of the threefold ministration.

As you continue with this, the process it causes to unfold within you will become much clearer, and your understanding of how such a soul-process develops will grow.

So just gently let go of the problem that has been occupying your mind, and keep your inner attention focused on following the liberating path. Then everything will fall into place at the right time. Try not to force anything.



The future

IN *THE ALCHEMICAL WEDDING OF Christian Rosycross*, J van Rijckenborgh has painted a scenario of the future which has so many facets that it can be seen from all kinds of angles. It could be said that, at the moment, humanity is in a phase of transition, which is why it has not so far been possible to imagine clearly exactly how the enormous electromagnetic radiation-power will be released when the time comes.

It is not yet possible to say when the time will be ripe for the kind of mighty, sweeping event you mention in your letter. But we can be certain that one day, mighty activities of the Light will bring about a tremendous process of purification in all who populate the earth at that time, as well as in those who inhabit other spheres of life.

Via its radiation-power, the sevenfold World Brotherhood will certainly play a major role in this. However, try not to see the Brotherhood as a form, but as a radiation of Light.

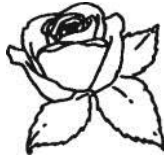
We need to see these things as a divine call. And we need to respond to that call. It, too, is a radiative activity, an intervention of the Light which comes to us by means of the Word originating in Christ.

Just sit down quietly and re-read parts II and III of the Epilogue of *The Alchemical Wedding*, and parts II and III of the section on *Armageddon* in *Unmasking*. Then your understanding of these things will become much clearer, also with respect to the perpetrators of the `great play'.

Any manifestation, whatever its form, will be difficult for the dialectical consciousness to understand if we compare different statements about it and try to give them a logical sequence.

Gnostic consciousness teaches discernment. As the soul-process advances, more and more clarity

will come into what at the moment seems obscure.
It is always better to gain insight into these things
through one's own efforts.



The Aquarian Gospel

THE STORY OF THE HEALING AT THE pool of Bethesda is indeed taken from *The Aquarian Gospel of Jesus the Christ* by Levi H Dowling (1844-1911).

In the introduction to this book it is explained that it is difficult to determine whether the contents are fact or pure prophecy. Certainly, we can read the same story in the Bible, in the Gospel according to John, chapter 5, verses 1-15. And in chapter 15 of *The Gospel of the Holy Twelve* we can read in a very much abbreviated form the same story about the healing of the leper and the cripple.

The story about the pool of Bethesda struck the undersigned very deeply at one time, which is why it was included in one of the rituals, with an acknowledgement of the source.

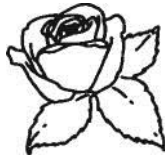
Descriptions of explorations into the religious field often run parallel, while nevertheless there can still be important, fundamental differences. However, to discern these one needs to be able to 'test the spirits, whether they are truly of God'. Or, as the translator of the book writes: 'If the words of the great ones are to find entrance in the hearts of matter-born humanity, there first needs to be a connection between them, a relationship'.

Many books currently in circulation are obviously occult, while others are evidently mystical. These are readily recognized and need no closer consideration. There are also books whose ideas emanate from faithful hearts, and to these the words apply: 'Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen'.

Before we can attain to universal knowledge, faith must at least have struck deep roots in the heart. Without the bridge of faith, no part of the divine abstraction, no part of divine love, and no part of higher reason will ever be consciously experienced.

The author of *The Aquarian Gospel* has indeed set

down many thought-images which are difficult to trace. That is why the Rosycross Press has decided not to publish it for the time being. Be that as it may, it is up to the individual to satisfy his own mind about whether to reject or accept the contents of this book.



The creative word

THE CONFERENCE MENTIONED THE unknowable holy power, Tao, which has brought the whole of creation into existence. In its manifested form, this activity is described as the Logos, or Word. Every human being, too, is constantly engaged in impelling his creative power into activity, by means of the spoken word.

Every living entity in the realms of this nature of death, every living organism, be it plant, animal or human being, is governed by one and the same law, namely that the fluid which ensouls it is a particular configuration of the magnetic forces of dialectics.

So there is not a single respect in which any of these entities, whatever their state, can be compared with manifestations in, from and

through the Gnosis. What awakens from the Gnosis, can only be manifested when everything that existed before has been crucified, dead and buried and cannot possibly be brought back to life again.

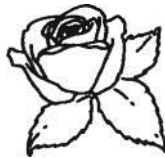
When Paul states that we will one day be able to put on the image of the heavenly one, he does not mean that we will one day enter the state of renewal as dialectical egos, but that, after the rebirth of the soul, our personalities — the three-fold ego of thinking willing and feeling — will temporarily be allowed to bear the new Soul.

Blood and consciousness are inextricably bound to each other. Through the process of change the foundations of the old existence are removed. This could be called a completely new form of metabolism.

So it is very important that we ask ourselves, 'What are the consequences of what I am saying? What will result from what I say?' The highest aim of every pupil should be to become capable of speaking the true, creative word, in the service of the group of pupils and humankind, and in the service of one's own microcosmic system.

But remember: without the unknowable Spirit no human being in manifestation, and not a single striving pupil, will be able to attain to the true use of the Word. Without the Christ, the Spirit cannot be released by means of the Word.

So raising the creative power to the level of the Word involves a process of total transformation. This process is explained in detail to pupils of the Spiritual School's inner degrees. If you persevere in your pupilship, this pathway will certainly not be withheld from you.



The gnostic fire

THE ESSENCE OF NEW SOUL-realization is brought very near to the serious pupil. However, when something of the soul has been realized, it is even more important to assess whether it is connected with the astral aspect of the new gnostic field of life.

The gnostic astral radiations, which are inhaled via the heart and the gate of the liver, produce a great deal of new, pure soul quality, which is then centralized in one of the cerebral cavities.

We can assume that the divine principle of the soul-body has been born in you. The fire of the Father, the root fire, has prized open the eternity principle, causing a certain amount of inner turmoil.

This turmoil is caused by the fire as it courses

through the human being. It is the fire that will accomplish the great transformation. It is the fire that will impel the candidate forward to realization. It is the fire-power that will make everything new.

Those who do not possess this gnostic fire will not be able to perform gnostic work. They will not be able to make service the keynote of their lives. This is because it is from within the fire of renewal that everything must begin and mature. It is the root fire that sets the heart ablaze.

The fire burns and consumes. You know that. So when the root fire, the fire of the Father, has been ignited in the human being, when he has set foot on the path of soul liberation, the burning process will begin.

The mystery-fire is the most important, the most sublime symbol of God, of the Spirit, of Gnosis, of the circle of eternity. The Rose in us is the potential God within. As soon as this holy fire begins to burn, a fire process arises. God Himself enters into you. God Himself speaks.

However, there are many dark elements in the

human being, because of his birth in nature. These dark elements are mingled with Light elements. But when the individual begins to walk the liberating path, the darkness in him is seized by the fire which has been ignited. That is how the fire process begins, and then the main thing is for the pupil to take care that he does not harm himself.

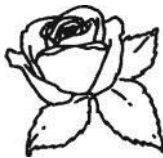
Finally your question: 'Can I contribute anything to this process apart from just allowing the fire-power to do its work in me? Should I, for instance, do something to increase the frequency or whatever?'

Dear friend, you are wearing a cloak, the cloak of your old state of being. Your pupilship is still tied to that cloak. It is not welling up from your deepest self. That cloak is the umpteenth veil between you and the Gnosis.

In such a situation, the Gnosis will remain a mystery for you, unless your thinking, your feeling, your will and your actions are completely attuned to the fire ignited in you. *Then* the power of the Holy Spirit can descend into the purified head sanctuary and, in the silence, the eternal,

omnipresent One, who exists outside of time, will be discovered consciously.

Apart from that, there is no need to do anything with your personality to supplement the process which has begun, other than focusing your attention consistently on the soul-liberating path, in the daily services.



The third soul principle

THE QUESTIONS YOU HAD (AFTER reading *The Mystery of Life and Death* by J van Rijckenborgh) and your difficulty in seeing just exactly what the author meant by, for instance, the expulsion of the third soul-nucleus from the microcosm, are probably due to your philosophizing too much during your reading.

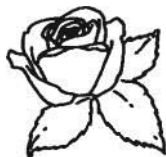
This in itself is not wrong, but in each chapter, Mr van Rijckenborgh covers the subject under discussion so completely that practically no questions are left open to the reader.

So it might be a good idea to sit down quietly and read through those chapters again. If there is still something that isn't clear, just let the matter rest until you feel urged to take it up again. On re-reading, you will undoubtedly receive a clear picture of what is meant.

The question of where the third soul principle was ejected from, you will find very clearly answered in chapter 1. It can only have been ejected from the microcosm. The third nucleus expelled itself from the self-creating system because of its centripetal energy.

You need to bear in mind that the teachings brought to humanity by the young gnostic Brotherhood are universal, and concern the liberation of the spirit-soul. This means that they are not always readily approached by the dialectical brain-consciousness and its rationalization-processes.

The points you make are very abstract. That is why we need to be rather cautious of the ability of the dialectical consciousness to reason things out. When we begin to reason in that way, we can all too easily lose ourselves in a labyrinth of ideas.



Classical homeopathy

IF YOU WANT TO STUDY CLASSICAL homeopathy, you have every right to do so. How well you feel in body and mind as a result of treatment cannot be assessed by anyone but yourself. Nobody, including the Spiritual School, will interfere in that.

However, it could be useful to learn to distinguish between how classical homeopathy works, and how the Spiritual School works with its pupils.

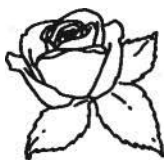
A Spiritual School works only on the spiritual, imperishable life-principle of the soul, which interpenetrates the physical body in the blood, the nerve fluid, the auric light-radiations and the Spirit-Fire.

It is generally understood that classical homeo-

pathic medicines are particularly active in the etheric body, because of their high potency.

If this is so, two different kinds of energy are active in the etheric body of the professing pupil who uses these medicines. This is because the pupil who professes his pupilship and fulfils the conditions required, invokes the radiations of the Light, anchors these energies in his being, and then is obliged to react to them. In this way, through his commitment to professing pupilship, he learns to invoke the powers of the Light.

So now perhaps you will see that two active energies — one strengthening the being of matter, and the other supporting the purely spiritual aspect in the process of transformation — cannot possibly coexist in the same respiration field. Why this is not possible is explained in more detail in the Inner School.



The centre committee

AS YOU KNOW, THE MANDATES given to workers in the Spiritual School last for one year. It is therefore to be expected that every year there will be changes in centre committees and other branches of the work. So the fact that this has not always happened, or only partially as in your centre, is an exception.

Every year workers are thanked in writing for the work they have carried out in impersonal service to the Gnosis and the Spiritual School. This gratitude is combined with the fervent prayer that the fire-power which impels the worker to soul-realization will continue to fill him in his further progress towards making service the keynote of his life.

You write that the total change of the centre corn-

mittee is incomprehensible to you. However, just let your thoughts, feelings, will and actions remain in absolute harmony with the holy fire once ignited in you. Then the power of the Holy Spirit will be able to descend lastingly into your purified head sanctuary. And, in the silence, the eternal, omnipresent One, who exists outside of time and is perhaps not understood, will soon be discovered consciously.

Is it not wonderful that some of your fellow pupils will also have the opportunity for a year or so to manifest themselves in a centre committee?

You and your fellow committee members have been allowed to do this in a way that inspired satisfaction and gratitude, and now a different committee is receiving the opportunity to manifest itself in this work. Surely this should not upset you?

All whom the leaders of the Spiritual School expect, in the Light of the Gnosis, to have some suitability for any particular task should have the opportunity to dedicate themselves to it in impersonal service.

A warning against negative thinking

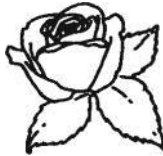
IT IS NOT EASY TO FORM AN ACCURATE impression of a particular life-situation. But if the situation is as you describe, you can be certain that you are protected in and by the magnetic body of the Spiritual School. However, much depends on your own inner orientation. Your respiration-field and your etheric field, and hence your psyche, can be seriously disturbed by negative thoughts and negative feelings. However, through your participation in the all-encompassing magnetic field you can considerably strengthen your inner faith.

Every pupil, including you, is touched by the radiation-field of the Spiritual School. So you are impelled by the love-power of Christ, and in this way you receive the helping power. Focus your attention on *that*, and not on negative illusions.

Then they will gradually disappear from your respiration field for lack of food.

Always be positive, no matter what happens, and remain full of love throughout your daily life. Stay true to your pupilship of the Spiritual School, and this will certainly have its consequences.

It is our heartfelt prayer that you will gain the right insight and that, through it, you will receive the strength you need to persevere, for the well-being of your family and, not least, yourself.

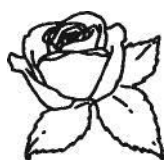


Perseverance

IT IS INDEED SOMETHING TO BE PRO-
foundly grateful for whenever a person
observes that his pupilship has progressed.
That could certainly be called a milestone in his
life. Passing such a milestone means knowing
that you have entered a new phase in your life.

But now the important thing is to remain focused
on the goal. For there is but one way that leads to
true life, and that is to follow the path in the truth
and in the life of Christ. Try to persevere in that.

However, you should carry out faithfully your
duties to your family and whatever other duties
may be asked of you as a result of your existence
in matter. Victory over ordinary dialectical life
will then be assured.



The cause of difficulties

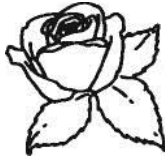
AFTER HAVING READ YOUR LETTER several times, I can draw no other conclusion than that you are making things difficult for yourself, and hence also for your pupilship. You are making everything much more complicated than it really needs to be. And it is your own thought life which is the cause.

I can understand very well that it is not easy to profess pupilship of a Spiritual School, which involves disregarding your dialectical self, but nevertheless you are drawing too many small, insignificant things into your personality.

I think, however, that behind all this is a greater cause, which you have not named, and of which the unpleasant things described in your letter are only the outcome. Remember that the cause of difficulties almost always lies in the dialectical

self — even though I do not deny that other people can also cause us great sorrow.

When you reach true insight with respect to your problems, you will overcome many, if not all of them, and your pupilship of the Spiritual School will undoubtedly give you joy.



Dreams

THE FACT THAT SOMEONE HAS crossed your path who has cured you of your illness is certainly something to be profoundly grateful for. We only hope and pray that this may prove to be of lasting value.

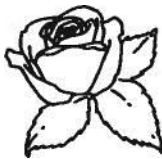
Understandably, it was not exactly pleasant for the person to whom you owe so much gratitude to hear that you no longer wish to have any contact with them now that you have found the Spiritual School.

However, this type of link cannot be severed straight away, especially on the etheric plane. Because of your link with this person it is quite possible that your dream was an experience of genuine contact. However, it is also quite possible that the person in question was unconscious of your dream, but that you yourself are maintaining

some sort of etheric contact via your thoughts and/or your consciousness, and your dream was the result of that.

Now that you are a pupil of the Lectorium Rosicrucianum it is fervently hoped that your pupilship will give you what you inwardly seek and yearn for.

The undersigned would like to advise you to leave your dream experience for what it is. Pay no further attention to it and do not feed the dream image either with your thoughts or with your feelings. Then sooner or later it will disappear from your respiration field. Try to persevere in your professing pupilship of the Spiritual School, and may this give you deep inner joy.



Hair care

THE WHOLE BODY IS A SYSTEM OF circulating energies: spinal, astral and etheric. If you read a chemistry book, you will find the scope of chemical possibilities quite dizzying; there are so many elements, and innumerable chemical compounds.

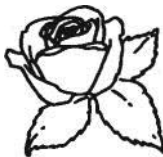
I do not know what compounds are used in 'permanent wave' solutions. However, if you want to have a perm, I suggest you speak to your hairdresser beforehand to let her know that you want the perm solution to be as weak and mild as possible.

Hairdressers themselves certainly know that perm solutions which are too strong or powerful can have a harmful effect on the hair.

As you may be aware, the hair and nails are called

the conductors of the vital body. So it follows that if the hair too often comes into contact with powerful chemicals, this can restrict the radiation of the vital body.

It is also logical that treatment with hair dyes and/or colour rinses can destroy the radiation field of the head sanctuary. Chapter two of *The Golden Rosycross* will give you more information about this.



Raw food

THE UNDERSIGNED WOULD PREFER not to enter into a long discussion for or against a particular point of view. You write: 'State of consciousness is state of life'. Indeed it is. But on what is your consciousness focused? Where does your life's centre of gravity lie? Is it in the dialectical field of existence? Or is it in the awakened soul within you, that yearns for the influx of the Spirit?

The gnostic teachings of all ages advise you to free yourself from delusion. Free yourself from your dialectical personality. Free yourself from all your mental tangles, which rotate unceasingly around your own axis. In other words, free yourself from your I.

You, who have been a pupil of the Lectorium Rosicrucianum for many years, surely you do not

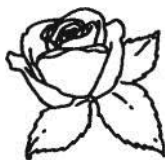
need a more detailed explanation of the teachings of liberation? You are familiar, aren't you, with the doctrine of transfiguration? The worker in God's vineyard knows that the Christ-Power works in such a way as to break up what is of nature in the human being. That is why, inwardly, we need to turn around completely. Such a reversal is not achieved merely by a diet of raw food.

The undersigned thinks she once read in the works of Dr Nolfi that a strict raw diet can strengthen the connective tissue to such an extent that it can completely contain cancerous growths in the human body. This alone is sufficient to prove that an exclusively raw diet is earth-binding or nature-binding.

In response to the heart's desire to receive 'the food that does not perish', or in other words, to be allowed to fill the respiration field with pure soul-ether, the radiations of the Spiritual School's electromagnetic field begin to work within the serious pupil. This process is diametrically opposed if we allow earthly things to become the focus of our lives.

Many people are gradually beginning to realize

that everything in this world is polluted and ill, even within the very seed. So it is perfectly alright to choose not to eat a particular food, whatever your reasons, but do not involve fellow pupils of the Spiritual School in that. The choice of what foods to eat is always strictly personal.



The astral self

AT THIS MOMENT IN TIME, THE Brotherhood of Life urgently needs servants so as to be able to go on maintaining contact with seeking humanity. All of us are standing before the great astral trial by fire. Humanity is right in the midst of the fermentation processes of the great transformation. That is why the Universal Chain of the Brotherhood of Christ needs a community that is aware of this, and lives and acts accordingly. As a participant in the Inner School, you, too, are called and chosen to do this.

But will you succeed? No stone is left unturned to deflect or neutralize a direct worker — and through him both the inner and outer work of the Spiritual School.

Who will win? Who will win *within you*? The

growing soul awareness in you? Or the human being of this nature?

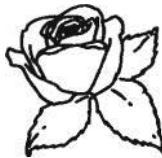
True faith originates in the soul and so: 'Even though your faith in the success of the Spiritual School, even though your faith in Christ's light and power, be as small as a grain of mustard seed, you will be able to move mountains'. So hold on firmly to this magic of faith!

The laws of the path of spirit-soul liberation are absolute and invariable. They permit no deviation. The moment we find ourselves trying to adapt and therefore to subordinate these requirements — the Christ's requirements — to our problems, difficulties and/or personal opinions, whether in our considerations, thoughts, feelings or acts of will, we need to reject and neutralize these influences at all costs.

You know that in our nature-born state, the astral self governs all our feelings and thus our heart; all our mental faculties and thus our head; and it also governs our entire will and thus our actions. The astral self is capable of confusing, blurring and frustrating all our good intentions and decisions,

thereby imprisoning anew whatever we have woven of our soul-light vesture.

The will, which works most powerfully in the pineal fire circle, needs to become subordinate to the divine Will. Then it can free our soul-light vesture from its cross and cause it to arise from its grave. It is in this way that we show ourselves to be true Rosicrucians.



*Under the Light and protection
of the Gnosis*

THE FACT THAT SEVERAL BRO-thers have had the opportunity to visit your working field for a fortnight certainly merits an expression of profound gratitude. The more so, because the visit gave them the chance to exchange thoughts with you about the kinds of problems that so often come up in the work of the sevenfold Spiritual School. But if the inner orientation of each individual servant, worker or pupil is sound, there will be no problem so great that it cannot be solved.

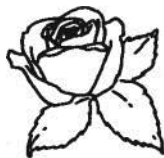
How wonderful it is, too, that through a small group of dedicated pupils of our Spiritual School, the northern and southern hemispheres have once again been linked through a bond of unity, freedom and love: the love which is wisdom, the love which is God. And the radiation-power of the all-encompassing magnetic field of the Spiritual

School will be poured out under such conditions, for the benefit of all.

In that power, it will be possible to resolve any difficulties which may have arisen, or may one day occur. May the solutions, then, be of *lasting* value! Otherwise the work of the Spiritual School will become like the labour of Sisyphus. And that would certainly not be in keeping with the divine plan.

You know, true faith originates in the soul. Our collective labour in the Spiritual School is the work of the divine Human Being. That is why the laws of the path of spirit-soul liberation are absolute and invariable. They permit no deviation.

So try to persevere in all good works — and the blessings of the Brotherhood of Salvation are bound to come.



Mental tangles

THE UNDERSIGNED IS CONVINCED that your intentions are good, and that this will eventually bring you to the correct understanding of things.

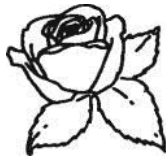
The problems that keep on cropping up for you in different forms are burdening your mind to such an extent that your thoughts are becoming increasingly jumbled. And this tangle of thought images cannot be unravelled despite the most logical reasoning. For you are skipping from one subject to another, jumping to conclusions which are pure conjecture. But this way of thinking will never lead you to a rational solution to the problems continually worrying you.

So the first thing you need to do is to try and bring your feelings and thoughts to rest. Become inwardly reflective, without allowing all those

mental tangles to gain the upper hand. Do not turn your life into a confusing tangle of thoughts.

Read the literature of the Spiritual School systematically. In it you will undoubtedly find answers to all your questions.

Teachings and life need to be brought into harmony. The undersigned hopes with all her heart that in the Spiritual School of the Golden Rosycross you will be able to find what your innermost being in fact so deeply longs for.



Marsilio Ficino

MARSILIO FICINO LIVED IN THE fifteenth century. He wrote a twelve-volume book that was published in Venice in 1495. His letters were written between the years 1457 and 1476. In these letters he kept up a philosophical correspondence with his contemporaries, among whom was Lorenzo di Medici. He had a great interest in astrology which brought him into conflict with the Church of those times.

In his letters he continually referred his fellow philosophers to the life of the soul and advised them not to limit themselves to the life of the I-being. He said: 'The body is a shadow of God, but the soul is His immortal likeness'.

Ficino was highly disciplined, perhaps because he

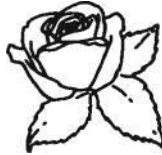
was deeply influenced by the philosophy of Plato. He was often satirical, too. For instance, he wrote in one of his letters:

'Just think how wrong is the way we live. For ignoble as we are, it is very difficult indeed for us to listen, although we ourselves, living in a shameful manner, hope to be listened to by God. Alas, we are just too stupid and unreasonable. We try to change God and not our behaviour. We try to convince others of what is good although we cannot convince ourselves of it. We have good in our mouths but evil in our hearts.

While we speak about virtue like a lyre singing odes we do not hear the sound of our own hearts. We are imitating bad doctors who cannot show in themselves the health they promise to others.

I would be so pleased, dear friend, if you would lend me your ears for a moment. Then I would readily and succinctly teach you rhetoric, music and geometry. Convince yourself of what is true, control the movement of the spirit, and let there be moderation in all your energy and all your actions. You will say this is difficult. It would not be so

difficult if you were to desire to live a good life
as fervently as you desire to live.'*



* Translated from the Dutch: *Het Brievenboek van Marsilio Ficino*, © 1979
De Driehoek, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, page 92.

*Do not love the world,
but love the Father*

YOUR MAIN QUESTION IS: 'SHOULD we not love the world in order to save it? Surely the aim of transfiguration is not simply to leave the world as quickly as possible?'

Out of pure love for humanity in its sunken state, the Spiritual School of the Golden Rosycross has already been working for some sixty years in this destructive and crystallised world. It has done its work in the light of the merciful and loving power of Christ, and in that power it has proved itself.

But generally speaking, the ways of the world and humankind tend to inhibit any purely Christo-centric impulse. That is why Gnostic work is safe only when it can reach a group of people who yearn inwardly for 'the Other One in them'. You know what that means.

The First Letter of John, chapter 2, verses 15-17, says, 'Do not love the world or the things in the world. If any one love the world, love for the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world passes away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides for ever.'

The Spiritual School knows that there is great distress and conflict among human beings. But humankind has forgotten that there is an imperishable, universal Truth and has lost its awareness of the unassailability of God's glory. And this estrangement between the world and the universal Truth is constantly increasing.

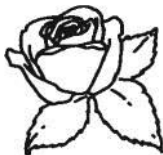
That is why there needs to be a new human group, with totally new strings to its bow. Such a group is to be found, thanks be to God, in the Spiritual School. And this School is like John — radiating with love for God, the Brotherhood of Christ and all mankind — and proclaiming in this world the transfiguration of the old human being into the new soul-being. This transfiguration means the rebirth of the absolute Being itself. And then God's grace will increase.

So do not be afraid: your faith will make you whole. For the seeking soul, the hope of life eternal actually becomes new life itself — and from that new life comes fulfilment.

As long as the human being has not yet attained inner certainty, doubt with respect to the actions of others will always arise.

Marsilio Ficino, a fifteenth century philosopher, once wrote to one of his friends: 'We try to change God and not our behaviour. We try to convince others of what is good although we cannot convince ourselves of it'.

Dear friend, may a conscious link with Christ's light-radiation become your share. Then you will one day see and understand why the Spiritual School of the Golden Rosycross disseminates the Universal Doctrine in the world in the way that it has done until now, and throughout the last sixty years, by means of its servants.



*The developmental process
followed by the pupil*

AS A SERIOUS PUPIL OF A TRANS-figuristic Spiritual School who has passed through the outer School, and has been admitted to the first phase of the Inner School, the Spiritual Leaders assume you have gained enough insight into the developmental process through which the Spiritual School of the Golden Rosycross is guiding you.

You know that pupilship of the Spiritual School involves your total state of being — including the etheric and astral bodies — in the process of transformation. Such a process of transformation has certain inescapable consequences for your approach to life.

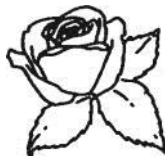
Have you ever asked yourself: `Where is the centre of gravity in my life? Am I obedient to material desires? Or does my centre of gravity

lie in spiritual development — as is taught, for instance, in the Spiritual School of the Golden Rosycross?'

These are questions only you can answer. So you are the only one who can really find the solution to your problem. If you accept this responsibility, you will also know what your reasons are for taking any given decision. That can only make you stronger inwardly, and your outward actions will testify of this.

The Spiritual Leaders of the School want nothing else than to promote your spiritual interests. The development of your pupilship is their only aim. And it is because the Spiritual Leaders of the School may not lay more on your shoulders than you can bear, that your progress through the various phases of pupilship is a matter for their judgement and responsibility.

May the right insight guide you on your path through life.



*Some characteristics of
the work of Fishermen*

IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT WORKERS ask themselves, 'How can we carry out our work as fishers of men in the right way in the coming times? The requirements of life in society are changing, and the human mentality is altering in a way that is not exactly to humanity's advantage.'

If, in contrast to this train of thought, we consider the requirements of the Spiritual School of the Golden Rosycross, we may state that the doctrine of the School as it is brought to seeking humanity needs to remain immutable — by which we mean 'true to itself' — because it is founded on a declaration of principles.

These principles define the whole aim and essence of the School — and the worker should keep strictly to them. For in them lies hidden the life-giving

essence of the entire Revelation of Salvation.

And if we may state that these principles are the nucleus underlying the Spiritual School, we will know that in them is contained everything necessary for the practical realization of our path. Indeed, it can be said that even before a seeker of the Divine Light joins the Spiritual School, salvation is already there waiting for him.

If workers are convinced of this, they will also be aware that it is from this nuclear essence that the magnetic radiation-processes emanate. This is why it is essential to *keep alive* a sensitivity and susceptibility to these energies and radiations which flow in via the all-encompassing magnetic body of the Spiritual School. Because *they* are what determine the life and the activity of the worker in God's vineyard.

If you want to find the right approach to the work, this fact is the basis from which you will need to begin. Then, together, you will be able to perform the outer work in harmony and unity.

It is important not to lose yourself in trivialities. And that you do not under any circumstances

change the Spiritual School's principles to suit the divided opinions of the public. The Spiritual School has attained a highly unique vibration key, which it uses in all its working fields to unlock the all-encompassing electromagnetic field.

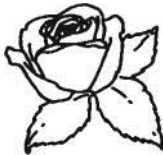
We are very much aware that the human psyche is in a process of total transformation. Particularly for young people, this is becoming, or in fact has already become, a serious problem. It is often explained in the Spiritual School in all possible ways that humanity has come to the end of a course of development, a course which has brought it to a nadir, a nadir of consciousness. This nadir is the foundation from which an upward journey will begin that will introduce humankind to a much more tenuous, more etheric bodily state; in other words, the process of spiritualisation is beginning. This will involve a further development of two senses, one in the heart and one in the head.

The undersigned does not know to what extent any given speaker meets the required conditions, or whether their spoken words and personal state of being are really a living testimony of them. However, it is a fundamental certainty that every

speaker needs to convey the pure principles of the Golden Rosycross in his lectures, without any deviation.

The Spiritual School's doctrine may not be altered to suit dialectical feelings and ideas, which are so relative. To want to do so would be to run the risk of losing sight of the doctrine altogether. Do not allow yourself to be diverted by dialectical trivialities, or you will soon find yourself in a cul-de-sac. The doctrine of soul liberation needs to break into time. And for a human being with a dialectical personality, this is a fact that can sometimes be very difficult to digest.

May the blessings of the Brotherhood of Life be your share, and may they be established in your soul as power.



The music of the Temple songs

WE WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN BY stating that everything which has its origin in the material field of life, however transparent or refined, is always limited by the laws of three-dimensionality. That is why such things can only be listened to and experienced with the I, with all its cultural gradations and variations.

Our reactions when listening to music remain dependent on the sounding board of the material-soul — the I-being — which receives and assimilates the sound-waves or musical notes. And the degree of technical perfection and purity with which these notes are produced will also vary.

When religious texts such as Temple songs are set to music, the composer will not be able to exceed a certain limit of attainment, whatever religious

and musical standards he has reached, and even though his attention may be utterly focused on the Gnosis. And that is why such a creation will always remain open to improvement.

This is one of the reasons why the musical accompaniments played during Temple services do not always sound as sublime and supportive of the Temple atmosphere as they might.

According to ancient wisdom, all music in the physical world is supposed to be an expression of vibrations from the etheric spheres. That is why Plato's words are so important. He says: 'The playing of music is a more powerful instrument than any other, because rhythm and harmony find their way into the innermost recesses of the soul, to which they attach most strongly.'

This concept is very relevant to our Temple work, because Temple work acts exclusively on the soul life of those present. And this is directly related to the etheric sphere with which the pupil is linked.

It is difficult to judge whether a person who has studied the laws of harmony has come into contact with the harmony of the spheres, with the seven

fundamental notes, or whether he has learned to understand the voice of the divine nature. If he had, though, his works would give evidence of it.

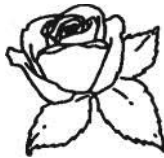
However, the fact that a particular musical issue caused such disturbance in the ranks of the Spiritual School that a worker turned angrily on his fellow workers and the School's Spiritual Leaders, is alone sufficient to prove that the situation does not possess a good signature, still less a good result. So the Spiritual Leaders are not willing at the moment to allow any alterations to be made to the School's Temple songs.

No one would deny that, as regards the harmony of the Temple songs, a few improvements could well be made. But these changes would have to be in harmony with the Temple atmosphere and the magnetic radiation-field of the Spiritual School.

So the person responsible would have to be capable of experiencing the Temple atmosphere and understanding what the magnetic radiation-field means to the Spiritual School and its pupils. He would also need to know that it is the Holy Spirit which is active in the radiation-field. This understanding would in fact be the first

prerequisite and the necessary starting point for all this kind of work.

Both the spoken word and musical sound vibrations are intimately related to the all-encompassing magnetic radiation-field, and nothing we do should introduce dissonance into it. If at any time it transpires that some musical alterations to the Temple songs would be desirable, the Spiritual Leaders will say so, after which the work can be undertaken in mutual consultation.



The influence of the planet Saturn

IT GIVES US GREAT JOY AND GRATITUDE to be able to tell you that, for some considerable time, the young gnostic Brotherhood has indeed been gathering a new harvest from the working fields, whose members will be companions in Christ. All who enter this new group will receive the power of the magnetic radiation-field of Christ, which is available in abundance to every genuine pupil. This power will raise such pupils — as to body, soul and consciousness — above the grip of nature, so that they cannot be affected by it any longer.

You, in particular, are working under the radiation-influence of the number eight. This means that from time to time you feel very strongly the influence of the planet Saturn, which, as you know, is symbolically represented by the number eight and, according to astrological tradition, is

the gate-keeper of the Temple. It is Saturn who keeps the keys to the Sanctuary.

Saturn, the last of the seven planets belonging to our system — the system of which the Sun is the centre — is called the planet of limitation, of testing and purification. As such it signifies those people and situations whose effects we experience as obstruction, opposition, affliction.

Saturn confines and limits all things and, precisely because of this defining action, it helps us to gain a clear image of the situations facing us. Saturn deprives us of our friends, our misleading pleasures, and delivers us — for good or ill — into solitude, so that in solitude we will be able to hear the Voice of the Silence.

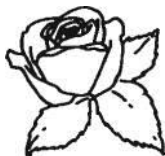
That is why, in fact, Saturn is the friend of those who, full of yearning, strive for pure insight, for the right understanding of things, for the renewal of their soul-life, for life-fulfilment.

But for those who seek only themselves and shun any kind of higher soul-life, Saturn becomes the implacable judge, who compels and destroys until... at last the human being understands his

language and intentions, and can bless the hand that guided him.

For only when we have understood the influences of Saturn can we cross to the other side of the threshold, and pass through his gate into the eternal, imperishable Light, the vibration-field of the immortal soul-community.

May the Spiritual School of the young gnostic Brotherhood soon begin to harvest the fruits of victory in all aspects of its work, not only as an organization, not only spiritually, but both. And may it stand indestructibly in the new era.



Cathars and Dominicans

GOD DOES INDEED SEND ONE AND the same Light-radiation out to everyone, but the human being can only react to it according to his own disposition and insight.

It is quite possible that in the past there may have been a time when there was very little difference between Cathars and Dominicans.

However, the process whereby an originally received spiritual gift is subjected to the phenomenon of `time' is a perennial occurrence in the world of time and space. It happens just as much today and will certainly happen in the future.

God is Love; that is an absolute fact. But the Love of God is reflected in a caricatural way by the human being because — as a creature of time and space — he lives in a polluted astral-etheric field.

We, pupils of a Spiritual School, live in two astral fields. With our higher being — our soul-being, the principle of eternity, the Rose, the heart, the nucleus of our higher soul-being — we live in the divine astral-etheric field, and with our material being we live in the dialectical astral-etheric-material life-field.

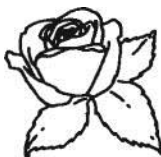
No one can deny the duality of this world: good — bad, light — darkness, love — hate: everything has an opposite. If we were to allow the Christ-Light to radiate out from the principle of eternity we have within us, if we were to live its teachings in deed and reality, we would certainly fulfil the true purpose of life in a very pure way. However, without opposition the human being never learns to know his own inner strength.

We can be certain that the Spiritual School of the Golden Rosycross has admitted many inhabitants of microcosms who are of Cathar origin. The phenomenon of `time' brings forth many people who are seeking fulfilment of life, some with a purely religious orientation, others with more occult or occult-religious inclinations.

We may see these aspects as just so many

bridges that will ultimately lead to the one goal: the homecoming of the spirit-soul. Some offer somewhat straighter routes than others, but all need to begin at the pure starting point expressed in the words, 'Not I, but the Other One in me'.

As long as the human being has not yet attained inner certainty, doubt with respect to the actions of others will always arise.



The one Way to Life

UNFORTUNATELY, THE UNDERSIGNED is not fully conversant with the contents of the book *Im Lichte der Wahrheit* by Abd-ru-shin (nom de plume of Oskar E Bernhardt, 1875-1941). However, after reading your letter, she did have the opportunity to examine its contents, albeit somewhat hurriedly, which is obviously not the best basis for forming a pure judgement.

The point of reading this book — and other books of its kind — is not so much to add to one's store of knowledge, but to see whether it is possible to reconcile `teachings' with `life'.

Our mental life, our whole conscious existence, needs to be focused on the divine Human Being which must one day take form in us.

If the undersigned has understood it correctly, Abd-ru-shin taught that the Spirit must be linked with the human being born of matter by means of pure faith.

From a certain level of consciousness, it is possible to detect a degree of similarity between this idea and the teachings of the School of the Golden Rosycross. However, this immediately raises the question of whether it is really possible for the Spirit to be connected with the human being born of matter, if the soul is regarded as secondary. For it is not, in the first place, the physical body which seeks the link with the Spirit, but the awakened soul.

In the radiation power of the universal truth there is but a single message: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life', says the Lord of all life. And, 'Without Me you can do nothing'. It is to this divine call that the seeking human being needs to respond. Pupils of a transfiguristic Spiritual School in particular should never lose sight of this sublime goal: to follow His path in His light, and in His truth to put into practice the one liberating life. For this is what enables them to tune into and

be helped by the magnetic radiation-laws which flow from the gnostic astral field to all who yearn for soul liberation.

There is but one Way that leads to Life, and that is to walk the path in the light of truth, according to Christ's example, and to persevere in that!

When a seeking human being has been handed the key to the soul-liberating path, and is unable to use it in the only correct way, confusion will inevitably arise.

That is why it is important to remember that Spirit, soul and body are united through the processes of transmutation (matter) and transfiguration (soul).

What is most important is the 'Other One' in us. *He* must increase and the ego, the Johannine self, must perish. It is not the self born of matter, but 'the Other One in you', the soul, that will bring about the link with the Spirit. So in this process the soul can never be regarded as secondary.

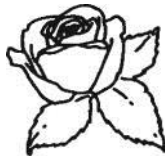
That is why, in the Spiritual School, the first priority is the awakening of the imperishable soul in the pupil's purified etheric life-field,

because only this can serve as a basis for the link with the Spirit.

There is a material soul and there is a spirit-soul. The material soul can live only within the limits of temporality, and that is why it can never lead us to liberation.

So try to discover for yourself the fundamental differences between the Spiritual School of the Golden Rosycross and many other movements. Then perhaps you will see why certain books are not included in our displays and why they are not discussed.

The question of whether there actually are any fundamental differences between the teachings of Abd-ru-shin and those of the Spiritual School of the Golden Rosycross is one the undersigned would like to leave to your own judgement.



Epilogue

To the reader!

MAY THE HOLY SPIRIT'S FIRE OF GRACE fill you. May the holy fire give you the power to purify yourself of all earthly impurities.

In the holy, gnostic Brotherhood, three mysteries are preserved, waiting to be revealed to each one of you:

- the mystery of soul rebirth,
- the mystery of the influx of the Seven-Spirit,
- and the mystery of transfiguration thus made possible.

Therefore, we give thanks to the Most High. Through His grace we have received the great and mighty Light of the Gnosis.

O Holy Name, Name to be worshipped,
by which God alone may be praised,
through the worship of our Lord,
Jesus the Christ.

Amen.

