

ARIES SOLAR FIRE RITUAL~ORATORIO

Processional: Alleluia

MC: We gather at a holy time,
A time propitious to invoke
The Cosmic Lord Unrelenting Will —
The Lord Who with His Fiat irresistible,
Propels the twelvefold Wheel to turn upon its evolutionary Path,
Thus plunging lives of vast or tiny scope into the Cycle of Rebirth.

Lord of the ever-new is He,
The Lord Who sums the harvest of the Great Wheel's past into a vibrant seed of
future life,
Then, plants that seed within the virgin soil of space,
To grow the forms of solar spheres and their attendant planetary orbs.

He, the Lord of Ideation,
Holding fast, as Law and Will, Original Intent of One far greater than Himself.
He, the Monarch of the Mind,
Our local Cosmo-sphere His Mind-Born Son.
He the Architect of pulsing life within the vast Zodiacal Sphere!
He, Director of the Cosmic Concept to be wrought into [experience](#) as the aeons
pass away,
And His the Will peremptory which bends all lesser wills unto that great Zodiacal Task.
Vast in power is He,
(Vast, at least, to those such as the tiny unit man, and e'en unto man's Planetary God),
Though truly in humility, He, the Lord of Aries, simply serves the
One Who stand to *Him* as Master,
"The One of Whom Naught May Be Said."

Aretian Lord! Alpha's Lord! Lord of Bold Commencement!
Teach us to begin in faith and pow'r
All that must be realized above —
And All that must be actualized below.
Teach us to inaugurate with courage
Our small part to play within the mighty Plan of God.

MC: We gather now within the stream of Solar Fire
Streaming from the constellation Aries,
For through our Solar Logos Blue pass all the Rays of all the Heavenly Twelve,
Thus, Solarized these Rays become,
Adapted for our better use upon this fragile Earth.
But from Aries — most of all from Aries — pours Electric Fire as well,
A Fire of towering and dynamic strength —
Demanding utmost caution of all those who place themselves within its roaring current,
For Fire Electric is the Fire of *Life*,
Endangering the form until the day has come when Spirit claims the right of its release.

And, yet, though peril stark attends the impact of Electric Fire,
Some definite beginning must be made by those seek ascent of Spirit,
For doubtless and with certainty,
The reign of form (in all its modes – its solar modes as well) must one day end,
Though dire the course of liberation to be borne.

Thus does Aries, Sign of all initiative
Signal the "Beginning of the End" that leads to resurrection and to Life,
Initiated through the application of Electric Fire.

MC: In silence and let us all revere the Foremost Lord among the Twelve,
He Who lights the holy Fire of Freedom setting all our world ablaze with Life –
He Who drives us through enslaved conditions 'till the wondrous day when we
return in bliss, *conditionless* and free!

Let us honor Aries

Lord of Electric Fire!

Invocation of the First and Seventh Rays

MC: Through the constellation Aries,
The Alpha and preeminent Pow'r among the twelve,
Pass two Rays upon the Line of Will —
The First and Seventh.

The First Ray Who with might declares the Law,
Who drives the spirit into form,
While ever poised supreme above the fray,
And then, when form has been fulfilled, extracts again the Spirit,
From its prison into synthesis and freedom,
Withdrawing 'fire immersed' into the one and only Fire Indivisible.

The First Ray is the foremost Ray of Fire. Aries!

And then the Seventh Ray,
Who, when expressing through the Holy Ram,
Compels below the rhythm which accords with higher Law,
For many customary rhythms do not so accord.
Order does this Ray demand and regimented life,
For each and all, at length, must march precisely to the beat of the Shamballic drum,
March in time,

For destiny, which cannot be deferred, awaits. (Pause)

MC: We stand within this dual stream
Of fiery Will Invincible, and of ordered, lawful Rhythm —
A Rhythm through which lawful Will is, in compassion, forced upon those subject
to its sway,
For these Two Rays pursue their task together,
Enforcing and upholding,
Giving strength and fiber to the lesser forms of life which must obey,
Guaranteeing that these lowly, slowly rising forms may win the day in strength and
in perfection.

MC: Let us breathe within our aura, the *scarlet red* of Ray the First (most powerful
in Aries) then with an OM direct it towards its healing mission on the Earth.

MC: Let us breathe within our aura, the *violet* of Ray the Seventh, then with an
OM direct it towards its healing mission on the Earth.

In concert with the Will of God we see these Rays, the red and violet, passing
through the constellation Aries (the Lord of Resurrection and Eternal Life), thence
passing thence to our home the Earth, Who suffers, long awaiting Its assured
upliftment into lighted, sacred life.

MC: At this our time of monthly invocation
We focus our attention on the Cardinal Cross of Heavens,
The highest of the Crosses Three,
Upon which e'en the Lord of Lords Himself, the Ancient Youth, stands firm —
Steadfast in His fixed intent to save and resurrect.
Upon this Cross dwell Those Who truly *live*.
The Ones Who hold the promise of what struggling and bemired man may one day
hope to be.

Cardinal Lives, lives forever *free* —
Free, at least, of those depressed conditions which oppress the man of Earth and form.
These greater Beings, too, must have Their struggles, but of such a kind that tiny
man can know but
naught, nor need he know for now.
The lowliest of Cardinal Lives stands, for man, upon a height supreme,
And thither must man rise in time.

Towards the Cardinal Cross man ever longs,
Though, in his primal phase, he knows it not,
For Man at Root is Spirit, and the Spirit must express in fullness —
This its chief demand.
The Cardinal Cross, the Cross of Spirit, is for Man-as-Spirit, home —
A home unto his *being* true.

The Spirit is the author of that urgent Discontent Divine,
Which drives the questing human being ever upwards to his destined lofty place,
Wherefrom, at last, a *ruler* he may be and not a slave —
Ruler of the lower spheres of subjugated durance.

Thus, let the Will be spurred to new exertions,
That Cardinal *life* may be attained.

Four Signs are found upon this first and yet the last of Crosses three —
The Cross of man departing from the Earth into the Kingdom of the Will.
But, Aries, first and foremost of the them all, is more potent at this time.

Thus, let us focus mind and Spirit on the Lord Whose Will,
which cannot be subdued, initiates the vast Zodiacal Round,
And on three circling Deities Who carry out that Will.

MC: The first a planetary Lord of war and fiery strife,
But of valor and bravery as well.
He the god Who plucks our courage,
So that we may face the foe and overcome.
The higher spheres of Cosmos sound as harmony resplendent
The lower spheres are spheres of war and battle unabating.
Whether or no one so desires, each and all must fight —
Fight their way to resurrection,
Fight for the right to ascend.
The Harmony of Heaven is won alone through war and strife,
And over all this combat Mars is Lord.

MC: The second planetary Lord
Is intimate unto the Solar Sphere,
Bearing seven times the solar light that travels to our little darkened Earth.
He the god of mind entire.
He a god of intuition.
He the swiftest of the local gods, Who in His wondrous speed unites all spheres
into a sudden oneness.
The radiance of His luminescence yields a calor hugely threatening to the dark of
ancient ignorance.
Incendiary mind, He ignites Illusion's Jungle, which for long had sealed the rays of
Solar Wisdom from man's sight.
He the fearless, clear-eyed, guiding god into the Mysteries of Life,
Demanding that each human being "Enquire the Way" and thus return to Source.

MC: The third and highest Lord is god of lightning, god of storm –
He who sets the "burning ground" ablaze with Fire Electric,
He who shocks all human beings to yield unto transmuting flame impurity and
dross, and thus be free!
He the Lord of Spirit,
Of the highest fire resident in man,
Demanding that this fire descend,
Imparting its intensity, its archetypal purity,
To ev'ry form below.
'Tis He Who Wills *vibrational conformity* of baseness to the heights.
He sets the tempo of the fiery dancing —
Faster ever faster 'till the spirit dances bliss within the form!

MC: Let us focus on the firm intent that all who breathe may one day know and do
the Will of God,
And in that doing find their freedom, even as they recreate the lower worlds as
God would have them be.

ALL or MC: In the center of the Will of God I stand.
Naught shall deflect my will from His.
I implement that will by love.
I turn towards the field of service.
I, the Triangle divine, work out that will within the square,
And serve my fellowmen.
MC: Together and as one,
We step within the aura of the Lord of Fiery Will,
And place ourselves within the mighty stream of Fire Electric.

In union with the first and most commanding Lord of all the Twelve,
We pledge to do our utmost to initiate on Earth the Plan of God.
We pledge to do the Will of Him Whose sacrifice preserves us from defeat —
The destitution of all those who, darkened, lose their way upon the Homeward Way.
We pledge to act with fortitude and virile power to drive the world towards its
salvation through
fulfillment of the Will Divine
May the strength required descend upon our lives!

SECTION II

MC: Let us seek the Root of Power —
The Root of *that* which drives the Dance of all the Worlds.
Is it found within a single form — even if that form be vast,
A form as vast as Cosmos? (*Pause*)
No. Never can this be.

Securely hidden is the ROOT of Roots.
Though ev'ry form of life wields pow'r —
Though ev'ry form, except the lowest, dominates a lesser form —
And every form seeks power so that it may rise to greater power and, thus,
ascend unto the FREEDOM which has ever BEEN —
Yet no form is root of its own pow'r!
No entity however great, is pow'rful in itself.

The power sought can never *REALLY* be its own.
For Entities are all un-REAL,
The **ROOT** of Roots is not!
The greatest of all Entities is but a mite compared to THAT which ever IS.

Power rests in BEING.
The DEITY SUPREME WHO has no name, and never will—
Is, *Alone*, SOURCE of every Power.

Fire in Cosmos is the Pow'r of pow'rs,
The One and Only Cosmic Life,
And yet a lesser Life compared to THAT — which is of Life the **LIFE ITSELF**.

Ever in the Cosmos shall our pow'r increase,
Until the power we possess is but the Power of the One.
Yet, powerless, are we, in *essence*, lest we know ourselves as THAT which lies at
Power's *Root*.

In Aries, we seek mounting power, and know our might will grow.
In Aries we become the Fire and rise into the Cosmic Flame.
This is good; So Be It!
But let us not forget the ONE ETERNAL LIFE WHO IS the LIFE of Fire, and the
ROOTLESS ROOT of Pow'r.
Infinitely more than Power,
Infinitely more than Fire,
Is THAT which we truly ARE

Song 1: The One Eternal Life

We sing the ONE ETERNAL LIFE
The ANCIENT ONE, the NAMELESS ONE
We sing the ONE ETERNAL LIFE
The ONE Who reigns forever

The LORD for aye stands firm
Unmoved and unafraid
The LORD OF LIFE for aye stands firm
The LORD Who reigns forever.

BEING cries aloud, "I Live"
"I Live throughout Duration"
BEING cries aloud, "I Live"
"I Live and reign forever"

Forever and forever
Forever and forevermore
We Sing the ONE ETERNAL LIFE
The One Who reigns forever.

The ONE Who reigns forever
The ONE Who reigns forever
We **are** the ONE ETERNAL LIFE
ETERNAL LIFE forever.
ETERNAL LIFE forever.

Meditation: In meditation deep,
Let us ponder the ETERNITY of **THAT** —
The ever-living GOD we ARE at ROOT.
Let us ponder GOD, the SOURCE of Fire. *(Pause)*

Is Eternity a concept we can grasp?
Does the word 'forever' force our mind into submission?
Are we daunted by the grandeur of the thought?
Or can we rise, at least, into some semblance of cognition? *(Pause)*

Are we this LIFE, or are we not? *(Pause)*

If we are, how must we think?
How must we live? *(Pause)*

What would it mean for us to "Live in the Eternal",
And "Know the SELF as One"?
Let us ponder.

MC: The Might of Fire when first interred in earth is blind and raging,
For Spirit ever struggles to be free.
It struggles for the life of uncontained expanse which well it knew before encased
in lunar life.
Thus early man, who driven by a fire more relentless than his feeble mind can know,
Turns fierce and savage – wild, extreme.
His cruel ways, in deepest truth,
Are but rebellion 'gainst the cold confinement of the Spirit Fire he *is*.
That fire would be free!
But the channel of intelligence which could provide that freedom in a way
respectful of the form,
Will not be built until the pole of Earth has turned upon itself at least a hundred times.
As yet, the Heart of Love beats not except, as heat, to hold the life in form.
The radiant fires of higher realms have darkened with their fall into the flesh,
And thus, the man, loving but himself alone,
Runs riot o'er the lives of others,
Who for him are but the means of coarsest satisfaction.
The little 'I', but barely formed, *is* selfishness supreme.
The fury of that selfishness is boundless.
Thus, many are the victims trampled under foot,
Victims of the frenzy of a self-gone-wild in predatory ignorance.
Madness reigns. Redness rules.
The Higher Dance of Life has now become the gross and violent dance of rage

SONG 2: The Dance of the Wild

I dance the dance of rage
I dance the dance of wild desire
Ferocious, savage my rampage
I dance the dance of raging fire

Dancing, dancing
Dancing upon the bodies I have trampled
Madly, dancing
I dance the dance of the Wild
I dance the dance of the Wild

I dance the dance of death
I dance in frenzy madly wheeling
I dance and I dance 'till I gasp for breath
The world around me spinning, reeling

Dancing, dancing
Dancing upon the bodies I have trampled
Madly, dancing
I dance the dance of the Wild
I dance the dance of the Wild

I dance my dance upon your life
Crushing you beneath my heels
My wrathful dance is the dance of strife
I stomp and care not how it feels

Dancing, dancing
Dancing upon the bodies I have trampled
Madly, dancing
I dance the dance of the Wild
I dance the dance of the Wild

Wildly, dancing , Madly, dancing,
Deadly, deadly, deadly dancing
Wildly, dancing Madly, dancing,
I dance the dance of the Wild
Wildly, madly, deadly dancing
I dance the dance of the Wild
I dance the dance of the Wild

Meditation: In meditation deep,
Let us ponder on a force so violent and so selfish that it cannot be contained —
A force which satisfies itself at any cost.
Though we would that it were otherwise,
This rampant force *still* lives,
Untransmuted, undirected,
Released in full through war.
Scan the world and see this rampant force. (*Pause*)

Scan the Self and understand ineradicable roots of that which hisses still within the lower psychic depths. (*Pause*)

How, then, shall the savage pow'r still running its destructive course within the hearts and minds of humankind, be redirected soundly unto greater, higher ends?
Let us ponder.

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: The ignorant and savage state which runs its heartless course throughout the aeons, subtly alters aspect, though the basic motive changes not.
Vicious selfishness still rules.
The red of wild desire becomes at once more lethal and refined.
Violence becomes an *ordered* way of life.
The murd'rous man now joins the ranks of those who share his love of blood,
Not only for his own defense,
But all the better to lay waste,
All the better to destroy.
War becomes the chosen means for seizing what the darkened heart desires.

Now the man is *justified* by those who march with him at arms.
Now he has a sanctioned reason to indulge in murder, pillage and rapine.
A bloody clot still blinds his eye.
Red still rules and runs his life.
Regret? Remorse? Why should he care?
Contrition? Conscience? What are they?
Might, the victor over Right,
He marches, without mercy, on the red, red Way of *War!*

Song 3: Marching To The Drum Of The God Of War

I march to the drum of the God of War
I march to the drum of wrath
I cut down all who stand before
I march upon my bloody path

Red, Red, Red is the Way of Desire
Scarlet Red is the Way of War

I conquer all upon my Way
I triumph swiftly o'er my foes
My enemies I boldly slay
None will live who dares oppose

Red, Red, Red is the Way of Desire
Scarlet Red is the Way of War

Flee me if you hope to live
Flee the fury of my fire
Mercy never, none I'll give
Flee before me or expire.

Marching, marching, marching to the drum of Red Desire
Marching, marching, marching to the drum of the God of War

Red, Red, Red is the color of the path of gore
Red, Scarlet Red is the color of the Way of War.
Red is the Way of War — Red is the Way of War
Red, Scarlet Red, is the Way of War
Red!
Red!
Red!

Meditation: In meditation deep,
Let us ponder well the organized brutality call "war".
Why does it arise? Wherein truly lies its cause?
What is its result? (*Pause*)

Is war an evil absolute, as cultured man so oft contends?
Or can some wars be justified? (*Pause*)
What of war within our very selves?
Do we fight? Should we fight?
Who or what the real ally or foe?
In silent objectivity, let us ponder deeply.

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: The Law of Karma is exact and cannot be denied.
Violence must come again upon the one who sent it forth.
Blood will flow from out the veins of those whose spears have plunged into their
victims' hearts.
Life by the sword is death by the sword.
The deadly thrust returns with equal fury.
Destruction breeds destruction,
This, this icy Law demands.
Justly, the offender is pursued.
He who warred for selfish ends relentlessly is overcome,
And made to feel the bitter pain remorselessly inflicted,
And thus a cycle ends.
Or does it end?
Will this retribution be the cause of further wars?
Or will it bring the hardened man to some degree of softness and of feeling for the
rights of those he
trampled underfoot when he *felt not*?
The purpose of the blow rebounding is to right the wrong of former days and to set
the balance straight,
But bitter pain must first be felt.
There is no other way.
Retributive destruction is the prelude to a better, higher, kinder way of life.

Song 4: My Enemies Have Destroyed Me

From the East, from the West, from the North and South
They pursued me,
They pursued me,
From the East, from the West, from the North and South
They sought me to destroy me.

From the land, from the sea, from the sky, through the fire
They pursued me,
They pursued me,
From the land, from the sea, from the sky, through the fire
They sought me to destroy me

Now I am repaid
Now I am repaid
For heartlessness and cruelty, I am well repaid

Now I feel the pain
Now I feel the searing pain,
My callousness, hard-heartedness have earned the hurt I sorely feel
Have earned the pain I'm forced to feel

At last I feel the pain——that I have given, given
At last I feel the pain that I have given, given, given, given, given, given, given
I sorely feel the rending, searing pain.

My enemies have laid me low
Have vanquished me their one-time foe
And naught of mercy will they show
My enemies have destroyed me

Destroyed me, destroyed me
My enemies have destroyed me

Destroyed me, destroyed me
My enemies, My enemies,
My enemies have destroyed me
My enemies have destroyed me
My enemies have destroyed me
My enemies have destroyed me!

Meditation: Let us ponder on the grim necessity of pain,
The imperative destruction of a way of life, and e'en of living form itself. *(Pause)*

Recall the past,
Recall a time of retribution when the wolves of fate were at the door.
Wherein lay original offense?
What needed be destroyed so that balance be restored? *(Pause)*

What was learned?
See with mindful clarity. *(Pause)*

Who or what can now be called one's enemy?
Does one *have* an enemy?
And if so, is the enemy of any use? *(Pause)*

Ponder on the purpose of adversity, e'en though it threaten everyone and
everything that we hold dear.

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: Retribution has its beauty unforeseen.
The bloody clot before the eye dissolves.
The bond of selfishness now broken if not utterly removed.
The driving fire burns just as fiercely but with note transformed, refined.
It rises through the newly unobstructed inner paths,
Stimulating higher thoughts, and motives of a nobler kind.
With selfishness now somewhat held at bay,
Low desire and aggression seen for what they really are,
The newborn man pursues a higher way.
His eye beholds a dawning light,
A vision of a Path to Virtue now appears.
The drums of war are silenced,
But the drum of zeal is beating still,
Calling forth a lighter, loftier rhythm from his pounding heart and restless feet.
Again a march begins.
Again the warriors march,
But towards a high ideal instead of ravage and rapine.
Hope born again of stark defeat,
The one reborn in pain —
Enemy no more of Light —
Marches towards the Light with highest hope.

SONG 5: Mars is the Lord of the March

A Light is dawning in the East,
A shining beam to show the Way
The splendor of the Sun released
Awakening a brighter day.

And my heart is beating
My hopeful heart is beating
And the drum of my heart beats a rhythm new
The rhythm of the march to the Light.

Yes, once again the march begins
But a march towards Goodness, towards the Truth
We're marching in the service of the Highest Light
And Mars is the Lord of the march

No more the way of hatefulness
No more the way of spitefulness
No more the way of selfishness
As we march towards the glory of the Light

And my heart is beating
My hopeful heart is beating
And the drum of my heart beats a rhythm new
The rhythm of the march to the Light

Yes, once again the march begins
But a march towards Beauty, towards the Real
We're marching in the service of the Highest Light
And Mars is the Lord of the march

Mars is the Lord of the march
Mars is the Lord of the march

Yes, Mars is the Lord of the march to Light
The god of zeal, the god of the Ideal
Yes Mars is the Lord of the march.
Yes Mars is the Lord of the march.
Yes Mars is the Lord of the march.

Meditation: In meditation deep,
Ponder on the high ideals which motivate all human kind.
Ponder on the vigor and enthusiasm spent to reach a distant longed-for goal.
See and sense the value of the driving March to Light. (*Pause*)

Then, focus on the nature of your own ideals,
For ideals in the truest sense, are of the soul.
What vision lies ahead for you? (*Pause*)

And is your ardor (born of higher Mars) keen and true and strong enough to help
you reach your destined goal? (*Pause*)

Are you, in soul and Spirit —
Marching to the inner drum of Love and Truth and Pow'r in rhythm right?
Ponder on the March to the East.

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: To pursue a goal unselfishly with faith and ardor
Is no guarantee that one will find the Truth.
Fervor and devotion —
Though antidotes to callousness and base desire —
Are insufficient means to free the man from Maya's snares.
Illusion yields not to hopeful fantasy,
For even vision ardently pursued may be illusive.
Envisioning a higher better way is good,
But rarely good enough to set the hopeful seeker free.
Chasing many insubstantial dreams which promise premature release,
He is forced to face obstruction still more hind'ring than his ancient selfishness —
The wall of his own ignorance —
The wall of darkened mind —
The wall of blatant misconception of the world—its lives, its ways.
The roaring power of Mars no longer serves to reach the *real* goal.
His former vision vanished,
Desolate alone,
The seeker knows himself ensnared within the Maya of the Mind,
Lost and all entangled in the Jungle of Illusion.

Song 6: Lost In The Jungle Of Illusion

The Light of Truth which seemed so clear
So utterly pristine

Inspiring me to undiminished faith
Has sadly, sadly dimmed.
And in its place — foreboding, anxiety and doubt
I am lost in the jungle of illusion
Lost in the jungle of illusion

The branches of the Tree of Knowledge seem to twist and turn
Weaving a design illusive, all in shadow and concealment
I cannot breathe for want of sight.

Deceiver,
Deceiver,
Fond deceiver of myself
False deceiver of all those who, hoping, asked of me the Way.
For aeons was I sheltered in a seeming sight of Truth.
A Truth which vanished sudden at my close approach
Taunting me, deriding me —
I, deluded, strangle in the shadows of the mind.

The viscous tendrils of illusion hold me fast
I cannot turn, I cannot see
The mocking lie I took for Truth imprisons me in sightlessness and gloom.

I am lost, lost,
Lost in the Jungle of Illusion

I am lost, lost,
Lost in the Jungle of Illusion

Meditation: In meditation deep,
Let us ponder on the nature of illusion.
Let us ponder on its subtlety.
Are we caught within its snares, yet know it not? (*Pause*)

Is our reading of the world a misconception based on errors rooted deep and undetected? (*Pause*)

Remember *disillusionment* —
How did it come into our lives? (*Pause*)

Do we welcome disillusionment though its dawning be through pain? (*Pause*)

Do we know the one illusion that debilitates us most, and what to do to end its strangling hold upon us?
Let us ponder deeply.

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: "The mind is slayer of the Real", 'tis said, and often true.
But mind **reveals** the *Real*, as well, when sparked by deepened insight.
Ordinary knowing never serves to end the bondage of the Knower to illusive mind.
The mind must reach a point of flaming fervent heat to set ablaze the Ancient Tree —
The Ancient Tree become a Jungle to the one who wills to know the very Root of Knowledge whence the Tree has sprung.

Knowledge used at whitest heat becomes the flame of intuition,
Liberator from the dreaded Jungle —
The Jungle of Illusion —
Consuming all obstructive tinder of the mind.

Then will separation be no more.
Then will end the blindness of perceived division.
Then will cause and its effect be swiftly seen as one.

Thus will vision come again—
Not the hopeful empty vision of a former guileless, puerile age,
But vision true —
A vision which alone appears but through the ministrations of the swiftest god,
The god Who rules all levels of the mind and makes them one.
Thus, the ancient Jungle of Illusion will dissolve in synergistic flame,
And Reason Pure ascend unto its true and rightful place within the consciousness of Man.

Song 7: (Mercury) The Path Stands Free

Mercury, bright Mercury
Flame of brilliance
Flame of Truth

Mercury, bright Mercury
Mind's resilience
Wisdom's youth—

So that I may see—
So that I may see—
May the jungle of illusion dissolve in flames
And the Path stand free.

Mercury, bright Mercury
Flame of Knowledge
Flame of Light

Mercury, bright Mercury
Uplift the veil,
Unblind my sight

So that I may see
So that I may see
May the jungle of illusion dissolve in flames
And the Path stand free

Mercury, bright Mercury
Visioner of Reality

Mercury, bright Mercury
Revealer of the Mystery

I would truly see---
Burn the web that I may truly see—

I see,
I see,
Freely, now, I see
The jungle of illusion dissolves in flames
And the Path stands clear, stands clear and free

The jungle of illusion has dissolved in flames
And the Path to God stands free.
The Path to God stands free.

Meditation: In meditation deep,
Let us ponder on the light of intuition,
On the flash transforming all the many into One. *(Pause)*

What would be the nature of our lives,
If the veil of dense illusion lifted?
If the spell of separation vanished in a suddenness of Sight? *(Pause)*

Suppose illumined mind were freed to serve the soul and spirit?
How must we use the brilliant Light of Mercury,
To banish all illusions which pervert our understanding of the Real.
Let us ponder.

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: Ruling now as once he ruled from brutish strength alone,
The one who has subdued illusion now emerges from his home of inner Light,
And governs well the lower, lunar form.
He the former man-of-passion knows dispassion and detachment.
He the former man-of-impulse knows a fiery-cool restraint.
He the erstwhile rebel 'gainst the Higher Will now wields the Law Divine.
He regulates his mind so that his thought and speech reflect essentiality, the
wisdom of God's Plan.
With fortitude and discipline,
He quells rebellion in the lower spheres.
The lower worlds become the fields for manifesting that which God, the greater
Soul, intends.
Forth he comes from the plane of mind
And rules the errant force which not long ago ruled him!

Song 8: I Come Forth And From The Plane Of Mind I Rule

I come forth
I come forth
And from the plane of mind I rule

I come forth
I come forth
And from the plane of mind I rule

Victor over darkness
Conqueror of night
Possessing radiant consciousness of freedom in the Light

I come forth
I come forth
The luminescent sphere I rule

I come forth
I come forth
The luminescent sphere I rule

Sovereign of emotions
Monarch of the mind
Established as the Knower — who long has sought that he may find

I come forth
I come forth
Creator of all forms below
I come forth
I come forth
The light of Reason to bestow

I come forth
I come forth
Emerging from the Heav'nly Flow'r
I come forth
I come forth
Conferrer of Triadal Pow'r

Vanquishing illusion
Dissipating gloom
Championing the Light of Will
Which opens wide the tomb.

I come forth
I come forth
I come forth and from the plane of mind I rule
I come forth and from the plane of mind I rule.

MC: In meditation deep,
Let us ponder order and control,
The rebellions in the world and in the self which must be quelled. *(Pause)*

Does imposition have no uses?
Must *all* impulse be expressed?
Is not wise suppression often needed so that greater values may emerge? *(Pause)*

Let us ponder on our lives.
What are the psychic, insurrective forces which we wisely should subdue if we
would progress?
What lesser lunar tendencies cry out for swift arrest? *(Pause)*

Have we the will to regulate the lesser lives though they demand expression
inappropriate?
Let us ponder on our willingness to *rule* and see the truth as now it stands.

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: The man of regulation has achieved a needed domination over form —
Contended well with all the wayward forces which would overthrow him as in
bygone days.
Thus, he is in control —
Of body and of mind.
But more, far more, there is to be attained.
The victory in Spirit which he seeks is not yet his.
In fact, the major battles lie ahead,
And all the wars of former years but served as needed training for the warrior on
the Higher Way.

Now his vision widens,
And his mind encompasses in clarity a destiny which may be his,
If will and perseverance fail him not.
Through Mars he has arisen from the baseness of his ego.
Through Mercury his mind has brightened into radiance, risen into power.
But Heaven is not his.
The fiery Kingdom is not his, and this he sorely feels.

To enter through the Fiery Gates he must be like unto the Fire.
To tread the burning ground, he now must burn.
But Fire will not descend upon the one who seeks it not, nor fails to understand
the dire cost.
The time for total sacrifice has come!
This he surely knows.
Thus prepared in Spirit and resolved in mind and will,
In sacrifice he calls for that which will destroy the man he was.
To the Lightning God, he calls —
To Uranus Who changes all forever.
He violently shouts for Heaven's thunderbolts, that he, himself, erupting into
flame, become the burning ground,
And burning thus may gain the right of entry through the closely guarded Portal to
the Kingdom of God's Fire.

Song 9: Fire On The Burning Ground

Send the lightning down down
Send the lightning down
Fire, fire, fire on the burning ground

Before me stand the gates of Heav'n
The Kingdom of the Will
Why should I not enter,
Of Life to drink my fill?

Send the lightning down down
Send the lightning down
Fire, fire, fire on the burning ground

To stand before the Lord of Lords
I'll gladly pay the price
Let my life erupt in flames
My will is bent on sacrifice!

Send the lightning down down
Send the lightning down
Fire, fire, fire on the burning ground

And once within the Holy Gates
Before the Lord of Might
I'll share with all the Fire of Life
A willing servant of the Right

For The Kingdom of Heaven
Suffereth violence
And the violent take it by force

Send the lightning down down
Send the lightning down
Fire, fire, fire on the burning ground

Storming
Storming
Storming the Gates of Heav'n

Storming
Storming
Storming the Gates of Heav'n

Send the lightning down down
Send the lightning down
Fire, fire, fire
Fire, fire, fire

Fire, fire, fire, fire,
Fire, fire, fire, fire,
Fire, fire, fire, fire
Fire on the burning ground
Fire on the burning ground
Fire on the burning ground
Fire on the burning ground
Fire on the burn-ing ground!

Meditation: In meditation deep,
Let us ponder on the fire which races through us,
The fire that we *are*.
Many are the fires within the little system we call Man –
The fires of Heaven and the fires of Hell.
Which ones do we use and why? (*Pause*)

Or do we often act unwisely,
Extinguishing the very flame which could and would consume our dross? (*Pause*)
How can the *righteous* fire within our lives arise and burn?
What must we do if we would *be* the "burning ground" itself? (*Pause*)

Let each of us demand the Fire of Heaven to descend!
Demand it if we *will*.
Demand it if we *dare*.

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: And when the Fire of Heaven descends, as ever when the call is true it must,
Will the man withstand the flame, or cry out for relief?
Will he be destroyed —
For lives set back in painful reparation?
Or will he rise empowered by the swift descending flame?
A certain answer cannot be foreseen.
Many call too early and cannot withstand the Fire.
Some call out in foolishness before the lower fires are quelled and relegated to
their proper spheres.
Surely none will bear the Fire unless the Fire of Sacrifice already burns within his
heart and mind.
The Fire of Will demands the Fire of Love,
Or it cannot hope to be received aright.
Love must be the vessel of reception —
The Grail beneath the Flame.

Thus low in prayer the man ascending bows,
And dedicates his growing power unto the Lord and Lords,
In strict fulfillment of that Greater Will,
So that the Fire of Heaven may be used for Heavenly ends upon the Earth.
To bear the Heavenly Fire demands the sacrifice of all.
Only he who bows in utter abnegation of the lesser self,
Can rise in resurrection to his Lord in the Fiery World.

SONG 10: Make of Me a Sacrifice of Fire

Make of me a sacrifice of fire
Make of me a sacrifice of flame
To the Lord of Lords
And to the little ones of Earth that He would save

Consume my dross upon the holy pyre
Consume my dross

upon the alter flame
And may the flame I must become enliven, enliven all the little ones of Earth
Raise them, lift them,
Raise them through the radiance of the flame I have become

May they live through me
As I have lived through Him – the Lord of Lords
Lord of the Venusian Flame of Love

Sacrifice me to the Flame of God
Sacrifice me to the God of Flame
Burning, burning, I burn for the Lord of Lords
Yearning, yearning, I yearn for the Lord of Lords

Make of me a sacrifice of holy living fire
Make of me a sacrifice of fire.

Meditation: In solemnity profound,
Let us search within to find the Will to Sacrifice.
Let us know the deep equality of Sacrifice, Will and Love (*Pause*)

Let us search ourselves profoundly,
And find all baseness we must give unto the flame,
If we would stand before the Lord of Lords,
And rise into the company of those who do His Will in Love. (*Pause*)

The seed must fall into the Earth.
Life continues thus.
The loving heart must shed its blood for all.
How may we become the fiery sacrifice, thus entering the World of Beauty and of Bliss?
Let us ponder deeply.

Group Stage Position:

MC: Of old, they drove the scapegoat forth into the barren wilderness.
They drove it with ferocity into the arid wastes,
Cursed, reviled, and spurned it,
The sins of all the people heaped upon its groaning back.
For thus the maddened people thought they could evade the karmic cost of evil
long amassed.
The one who wills to sacrifice his life for good is *also* banished from the throngs of men,
For they will not abide the presence of a human being who means them well.
They will drive him forth,
Or violently destroy him,
Thus, taking from him forcibly
All that he would gladly give in service to the race and to the Fire of Higher Love.
The Fire of Earth will not endure the presence of the Fire of Heav'n.
Extinguishers of darkness pounce upon the rising flame.
But greater is the Fire of Love than all the machinations of the ones it seems to
threaten so.
The more they strive to put it out,
The more it rises to consume the world.
Thus, is Love the Conqueror of all attempts against it.
Though his body be destroyed by those who hate the Love they fear,
Invincible is he who rises, as the Lord of Lords has risen,
Through the sacrifice of all.

Song 11: Into The Wilderness

They drove me into the wilderness
Heaping all their sin upon me
Heaping their sins upon me

But gladly I will take them
Gladly I will take them
Take them, take them
Receive them all within my soul.

For, though bitter be the burden
Though cruel and unjust the spite —

It is love I return
It is love I will return
Always and forever
In the name of the Great Sacrifice
Love alone I will return for hatred and abuse

They pursued me into the wilderness
Seeking again to destroy me
Seeking again to destroy me
But this time for the good that I have done and not, and not the ill.

Yet I will take their arrows
I will take their thrusts
Gladly will I take them,
Gladly will I take them,
Take them, take them
Receive them all within my bleeding heart—

For, though piercing be the pain—
Though fierce and deadly be the siege—

It is love I return
It is love I will return
Always and forever
In the name of the Great Sacrifice
Love alone I will return for hatred and abuse

It is love I return
It is love I will return
It is love and love alone I will return forevermore.
Love, Love, Love

Meditation: In meditation deep,
Let us ponder our ability to offer love for hate,
Goodwill for abuse. (*Pause*)

Can we fathom why it is that "hatred ceaseth not through hatred"?
Can we fathom how it is that Love forever conquers all? (*Pause*)

Is there aught in our experience that confirms that this is so?
Let us recollect and understand the Alchemy of Love.

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: Fire by its nature surges upwards.
Fire is of Heaven, and it rises to its Source.
The resurrecting one returns the gift of Fire unto the God Who gave it forth.
The one who gives his life to Fire, ascends in Fire unto the Fire.
This is the Law of Life.
This is the Law of Sacrifice.
This is the Law of those who choose to die that they and *all* may *live*.
Can revilement ever thwart them?
Can danger make them flee?
Can loss of love and all the heart holds dear make them retreat?

Fire calls unto Its own.
The man of fire ascends e'en though the boot of matter crush his neck beneath its heel.
Let those who would ascend unto the Lord of Lords through Being —
Declare for immortality and place their faith in Fire —
Declare for immortality—the overthrow of lying, jeering death!
Let the Fire they are, and have become through purity and truth
Forever rise despite all outward, downward draws,
Despite all subjugation.
Let resurrection swift become the rising and resounding note for all who love the
Lord of Life.
And love the Fire of Heaven in which He reigns!

Song 12: Forever I Shall Rise

Though in darkness dwelling
Forever I shall rise
The pow'r of death dispelling
Ascending to the skies

Death, Thou art thrown down, down
Death, Thou art thrown down.

Rise, Rise, Rise, Rise, Forever I shall rise.

What pow'r can death have o'er me?
As heavenward I rise?
Will not Fire restore me —
Eternal life my prize?

Death, Thou art thrown down, down
Death, Thou art thrown down.

Rise, Rise, Rise, Rise, Forever I shall rise

Life arises ever
Though Maya tell its lies
Death will conquer never
Immortal are the wise

Death, Thou art thrown down, down
Death, Thou art thrown down.
Death, Thou art thrown down.

Though in darkness dwelling
Forever **we** shall rise
The pow'r of death dispelling
Ascending to the skies

Death, Thou art thrown down, down
Death, Thou art thrown down.

Forever, Forever, Forever we shall rise, rise, rise
Forever we shall rise.

Meditation: In meditation deep,
Let us seek to understand the Laws which stimulate ascent,
And, opposed, the lower forces marshaled for destruction of the human soul.
Will we ascend?
Or be abjectly dragged below? —
Below into servility to ancient lunar life.
The fateful choice is ours.
Would we rise in flame?
Or be extinguished through the choice of lower, darker, fire? *(Pause)*

What must we do to live in Fire and thus to rise,
And in rising lift?
Let us ponder deeply. *(Pause)*

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: And if a human being ascend,
Whither the ascent?
What lies behind the great ordeal of leaving Earth behind in Spirit, even though
the body and the lesser man remain committed to a better and more vibrant life
for all below?
Why and whither the ascent which resurrection brings? *(Pause)*

Ascending brings the rising one into the company of all who serve with Light, and
Love and Pow'r the Lord of Lords.
Ascending brings the rising one into the Presence of the King.

For our Earth and for our globe—
He alone is King of Fire.
He the Fiery Synthesis, Aretian Youth of Endless Summers.
He, the Resurrection and the Life!

He who would ascend must pay the price as Christ has paid it —
Become the Living Sacrifice in order that the King of Kings may live and love
within Him, as He lived and loved within the Christ, Our Lord.

Thus, Resurrection is the Royal Road unto the Rising Son of Life!
Thus, Resurrection is the rising Flame unto the King of Fire!
May we bow low in understanding reverence before the Sapphire Throne of God
the King.

Song 13: The Youth Of Endless Summers

Before the Throne of God, the Sapphire Throne
We bow,
Low we bow in deepest reverence
We bow before the Throne of the Lord of Life,
The Lord Who reigns supreme o'er all the World

He the King of Fire
He the King of Resurrection
He the Rising Son of Life
Guardian of the long ascent of erring Humankind

He the Saving Heart of All
He the Loving, Saving Heart of All

Risen now we stand
Risen into glory, into Flame.
Immortal now, we pledge our lives eternal
To the Solar Youth
That all may rise as we have risen

We pledge our hearts to the Youth of Endless Summers
We pledge our fiery hearts to the Blessed, Radiant Youth
The Youth of Endless Summers
The Youth of Endless Summers
Endless Summers
Endless Summers
The Youth of Endless Summers

Meditation: Let us meditate in silence,
As if we stood within the Presence of the Youth Eternal,
King of Fire.

Group Stage Position—MC:

MC: Freedom of the higher spheres —
And helpfulness with unimagined potency within the lower worlds below —
These are now achieved.
The one who has ascended to the Presence of the Ancient and Eternal Youth,
Knows himself as LIFE itself!
The little self he was is left behind, below, negated through his understanding of
the Fire.
What is Life? What is Death?
Never as they seemed before.
Liberated now he stands,
Identified as Essence — pervading all the Cosmic Sphere.
What of joy? What of grief?
Can they be the same to him, now that he has risen into Life?
What of Good? What of Ill?
Can any of the opposites abide the thundering synthesis of Life?
No they cannot do so — not again throughout this Breath of Fire we call the
Cosmic Sphere.

Thus has real freedom come,
But in that freedom, what remains to do?
To serve, to love, to lift — indeed, all true,
But best of all — to *dance*!
The one who has become the Life,
The one identified *as* life,
Lives that Life through dancing.
The fiery one, the risen one,
Now Master of vibration,
Has become the Lord of Dance,
Has become (in inmost recess) **Shiva**, God of Life and Death.
Shiva — blissful Lord of fiery Cosmic *Dance*!

Song 14: Dancing The Dance Of Shiva

Dancing with joy upon the burning ground
Dancing Life,
Dancing Death,
Dancing, dancing to the thrilling Sound
Dancing the Dance of Shiva

Dance, Dance, Dance, Dance,
We Dance the Dance of Shiva
Dance, Dance, Dance, Dance,
We Dance the Dance of Shiva

Dancing the Cosmos into Sight
Dancing Time
Dancing Space
Dancing Sound, Dancing Light
Dancing the Dance of Shiva

Dance, Dance, Dance, Dance,
We Dance the Dance of Shiva
Dance, Dance, Dance, Dance,
We Dance the Dance of Shiva

Dancing the Cosmic Dance
Dancing the Universal Trance
Dancing the World's vast Expanse
We Dance the Dance of Shiva

Dance, Dance, Dance, Dance,
We Dance the Dance of Shiva

Dancing, Dancing, Dancing, Dancing,
Dancing the Dance of Shiva

The Fiery Cosmos is the Cosmic Dance
The Fiery Dance of Shiva!

Meditation: In meditation deep,
Let us ponder Cosmos.
Is it REAL?
Is it Not? (*Pause*)

Is it Fire?
Is it Dancing Fire?
What, indeed, is Fire? (*Pause*)

Let us see the vastness of the Cosmos as the one and only Dance of Fire.
And let us dance within the Fire we see.

Group Stage Positions—MC:

MC: What remains for us
But to praise the One and Only God of Fire –
To magnify the God of Fire with all our heart and soul?!
We who dwell within the Fire,
Are but that Fire Itself.
We who dwell within the One,
Have risen to *become* the One we are and always were.
From the Fire, through the Fire, to the Fire Who sent us forth.
What remains to do,
But rejoice in the Fire we are?!

Song 15: Sing Praise To The Might Of Fire

We raise on high our voices
In Praise of the Might of Fire
In Fire each soul rejoices
To the Flame all hearts aspire

The all-consuming God of Fire
The all-pervading God of Fire
The One Eternal God of Fire
Sing Praise to the Might of Fire

In Spirit roundly singing
In Praise of the Might of Fire
Our rousing song is ringing
In Praise of the Might of Fire

The all-consuming God of Fire
The all-pervading God of Fire
The One Eternal God of Fire
Sing Praise to the Might of Fire

To the Fire Who is God
To the God Who is Fire
Sing praise
Sing praise
Sing endless and eternal praise
Sing praise to the Might of Fire

MC: From Fire we came forth.
To Fire we return.
Countless, inexhaustible the dancing fires of Life -
Uncountable except to Him Who ever and alone remains the One.
And Who, indeed, is He? *(Pause)*

Fire are we and Fire we have ever *been* when *Cosmos* there has been.
And yet not always have we been the Fire,
For greater than the Fire is Fire's SOURCE, the SELF —
The SELF which we dare *not* call Fire,
For IT is NAMELESS ever,
And all naming but defiles IT into finitude.
Of that SOURCE must nothing more be said!

But when we are *in* Cosmos we are Fire.
And when we *are a* Cosmos we are Fire.
Fire of darkness, fire of form,
Fire of wisdom, fire of Spirit,
Fire indivisible which laughs division to obliteration!

From Fire we *come forth*.
To Fire we return.
As Fire we dance the Cosmos through the long duration of Its Breath.
Then, let us dance the Dance of Fire,
The blissful dance of Fire!
Let us *be* the blissful, deathless Fire!

(Pause)

Thus Then as Wisdom adds to Wisdom we may well and truly say:

MC: I COME FORTH AND FROM THE PLANE OF MIND I RULE
ALL: I COME FORTH AND FROM THE PLANE OF MIND I RULE

CONCLUSION

MC: Let us return to the magical circle of invocation.

MC: If anyone has aught to say for the welfare of the group and of the world, this is the time to speak. (Group Sharing may follow)

MC: Let us sound the ancient mantram of the new and dawning AGE.

ALL: THE GREAT INVOCATION

**From the point of Light within the Mind of God
Let Light stream forth into the mind of men.
Let Light descend on Earth.**

**From the point of Love within the Heart of God
Let love stream forth into the hearts of men.
May Christ return to Earth.**

**From the centre where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide the little wills of men —
The purpose which the Masters know and serve.**

**From the centre which we call the race of men
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out
And may it seal the door where evil dwells.**

Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.

Recessional: Alleluia