

Ars Almadel

Part IV
of the

Lemegeton

Ars Almadel -- Part IV of the Lemegeton

Transcribed from Sloane MS. 2731 and converted to Acrobat by Benjamin Rowe, July 1999. Afterword copyright 1999 by Benjamin Rowe.

Typeset in Adobe Caslon

Here Beginneth the The Fourth Part of this Book Which is called the Art Almadel of Solomon

By this art Solomon attained great wisdom from the Chief Angels that govern the four Altitudes of the World: for you must observe that there are four Altitudes which represent the four Corners of the West, East, North and South: the which is divided into 12 parts; that is, every part 3. And the Angels of every one¹ of these parts hath their particular virtues and powers, as shall be showed in the following matter &c.

Make this Almadel of pure white wax; but the others must be coloured suitable to the Altitude. It is to be 4 inches square, and 6 inches over every way, and in every corner a hole, and write betwixt every hole with a new pen those words and names of God following. But this is to be done in the day and hour of Sol. Write upon the first part towards the East, ADONAIJ, HELOMI, PINE. And upon the second towards the South part HELION, HELOI, HELI. And upon the West part JOD, HOD, AGLA. And upon the Fourth part which is North write TETRAGRAMMATON, SHADAI, JAH.

And betwixt the first and the other parts make the pentacle of Solomon thus: ☆, and betwixt the first quarter write this word ANABONA, and in the middle of the Almadel make a Sexangle figure ☆, and in the middle of it a triangle, wherein must be written these names of God HELL, HELION, ADONAIJ, and this last have round about the six-angled figure, as here it is made for an example.

And of the same wax there must be made four candles. And they must be of the same colour as the Almadel is of. Divide your wax into three parts: one to make the Almadel of, and the other two parts to make the candles of. And let there come forth from every one of them a foot made of the same wax to support the Almadel.

This being done, in the next place you are to make a seal of pure gold or silver (but gold is best) whereon must be engraved those three names HELION, HELLU-ION, ADONAIJ.

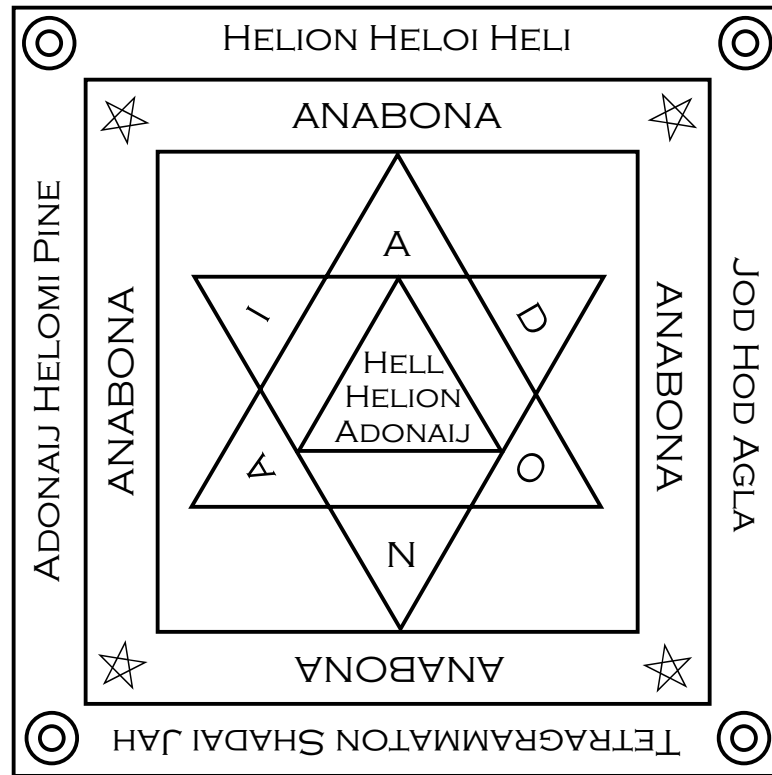
And note that the First Altitude is called Chora Orientis, or the East Altitude. And to make an experiment in this Chora it is to be done in the day and hour of the Sun. And the power and office of those angels is to make all things fruitful, and increase both animals and vegetables in creation and generation, advancing the birth of children, and making barren women fruitful.

And their names are these, viz: ALIMIEL, GABRIEL, BARACHIEL, LEBES, HELISON.

And note you must not pray for any angel but those that belong to the Altitude you have a desire to call forth.

And when you operate set the four candles upon four candlesticks, but be careful you do not light them before you begin to operate.

1. A long dash is in the original at this point. Inserting the word "one" would seem appropriate, as there is otherwise no reason to distinguish these 12 parts.



Then lay the Almadel between the four candles upon a waxen foot that comes from the candles, and lay the golden seal upon the Almadel, and having the invocation ready written upon virgin parchment, light the candles and read the invocation.

And when he appeareth he appeareth in the form of an Angel carrying in his hand a banner or flag having the picture of a white cross¹ upon it, his body being wrapped round with a fair cloud, and his face very fair and bright, and a crown of rose flowers upon his head.

He ascends first upon the superscription on the Almadel, as it were a mist or fog.

Then must the exorcist have ready a vessel of earth of the same colour as the Almadel is of, and the other of his furniture, it being in the form of a basin, and put thereinto a few hot ashes or coals, but not too much lest it should melt the wax of the Almadel. And put therein three little grains of mastic in powder so that it may fume and the smell go upwards through the holes of the Almadel when it is under it.

And as soon as the Angel smelleth it he beginneth to speak with a low voice, asking what your desire is, and what you have called the princes and governors of this Altitude for.

Then you must answer him, saying: *I desire that all my requests may be granted and what I pray for may be accomplished: for your office maketh it appear and declareth*

1. An equal-armed cross is drawn in the manuscript, following the word "cross".

that such is to be fulfilled by you, if it please God, adding further the particulars of your request, praying with humility for what is lawful and just: and that thou shall obtain from him.

But if he do not appear presently, then you must obtain the golden seal, and make with it three or four marks upon the candles, by which means the Angel will presently appear as aforesaid. And when the Angel departeth he will fill the whole place with a sweet and pleasant smell, which will be smelled for a long time.

And note the golden seal will serve and is used in all the operations of all four Altitudes.

The colour of the Altitude belonging to the first Altitude, or Chora, is lily-white; the second Chora a perfect red rose colour; the third Chora is to be a green mixed with a white silver colour; the fourth Chora is to be black mixt with a little green or a sad colour.

Of the Second Chora or Altitude

Note that the other three Altitudes, with their Signs and Princes can exert power over goods and riches, and can make any man rich or poor. And as the first Chora gives increase and maketh fruitful, so these give decrease and barrenness. And if any have a desire to operate in any of these three following Choras or Altitudes, they must do it in die Solis in the manner above showed.

But do not pray for anything that is against God and His laws, but what God giveth according to the custom or course of nature: that you may desire and obtain.

All the furniture to be used is to be of the same colour the Almadel is of.

And the princes of the second Chora are named, viz: APHIRIZA, GENON, GERON, ARMON, GEREIMON. And when you operate kneel before the Almadel, with clothes of the same colour, in a closet hung with the same colours also; for the holy apparition will be of the same colours.

And when he appeareth, put an earthen vessel under the Almadel, with fire or hot ashes and three grains of mastick to perfume as aforesaid.

And when the Angel smelleth it he turneth his face towards you, asking the exorcist with a low voice why he hath called the princes of this Chora or Altitude.

Then you must answer as before: *I desire that my requests may be granted, and the contents thereof may be accomplished: for your office maketh it appear and declareth that such is to be done by you, if it please God.*

And you must not be fearful, but speak humbly, saying: *I recommend myself wholly to your office, and I pray unto you, Prince of this Altitude, that I may enjoy and obtain all things according to my wishes and desires.* And you may further express your mind in all particulars in your prayer, and do the like in the two other Choras following.

The Angel of the second Altitude appeareth in the form of a young child with clothes of a satin, and of a red rose colour, having a crown of red gilly flowers upon his head. His face looketh upwards to heaven and is of a red colour, and is compassed round about with a bright splendour as the beams of the sun.

Before he departeth he speaketh unto the exorcist saying, *I am your friend and brother.* And illuminateth the air round about with his splendour, and leaveth a pleasant smell which will last a long time upon their heads.

Of the Third Chora or Altitude

In this chora you must do in all things as you were before directed in the other two. The angels in this Altitude are named, viz: ELIPHANIASAI, GELOMIROS, GEDOBONAI, TARANAVA & ELOMINA.

They appear in the form of little children or little women dressed in green and silver colours very delightful to behold, and a crown of baye leaf with white and colours upon their heads. And they seem to look a little downwards with their faces. And they speak as the others do to the exorcist, and leave a mighty sweet perfume behind them.

Of the Fourth Chora or Altitude

In this Chora you must do as before in the others, and the Angels in this Chora are called BARCAHIEL, GEDIEL, GEDIEL, DELIEL and CAPITIEL. They appear in the form of little men or boys, with clothes of a black colour mixed with a dark green; and in their hands they hold a bird which is naked; and their heads compassed round about with a bright shining of divers colours. They leave a sweet smell behind them, but differ from the others something.

The Times for invoking the Angels

Note there is twelve Princes, beside those in the four Altitudes: and they distribute their offices amongst themselves, every one ruling thirty days every year. Now it will be in vain to call any of the Angels unless it be those that govern then, for every Chora or altitude hath its limited time, according to the twelve signs of the Zodiack; and in that Sign the Sun is in, that or those Angels that belong to that Sign hath the government [and should be invoked].

As, for example: suppose that I would call the 2 first of the 5 that belong to the first Chora. Then choose the first Sunday in March, after the Sun hath entered Aries: and then I make an experiment. And so do the like, if you will, the next Sunday after again.

And if you will call the two second that belong to the first Chora, that Sunday after the Sun enters Taurus in April. But if you will call the last of the 5, then you must take those Sundays that are in May after the Sun has entered Gemini, to make your experiment in.

Do the like in the other Altitudes, for they have all one way of working. But the Altitudes have names formed severally in the substance of the heavens, even a Character. For when the Angels hear the names of God that is attributed to them, they hear it by virtue of that Character. Therefore it is in vain to call any angel or spirit unless he knows what name to call him by.

Therefore observe the form of this conjuration or invocation following:

The Invocation

O thou great, blessed and glorious Angel of God (*N*), who rulest and is the chief governing Angel in the (number) Chora or Altitude. I am the servant of the Highest, the same your God ADONAIJ, HELOMI, AND PINE,¹ whom you do obey, and is your distributor and disposer of all things both in heaven earth and hell, do invoke, conjure and entreat you (*N*) that thou forthwith appear in the virtue and power of the same God, ADONAIJ, HELOMI AND PINE; and I do command thee by him whom ye do obey, and is set over you as King in the divine power of God, that you forthwith descend from thy orders or place of abode to come unto me, and show thyself visibly here before me in this crystal stone, in thy own proper shape and glory, speaking with a voice intelligible to my understanding.

O thou mighty and powerful Angel (*N*), who art by the power of God ordained to govern all animals, vegetables and minerals, and to cause them and all creatures of God to spring increase and bring forth according to their kinds and natures: I, the servant of the Most High God whom you obey, do entreat and humbly beseech thee to come from your celestial mansion, and shew unto me all things I shall desire of you, so far as in office you may or can or is capable to perform, if God permit to the same.

O thou servant of mercy (*N*), I do humbly entreat and beseech thee by these holy and blessed names of your God ADONAIJ, HELLOMI, PINE;

And I do also constrain you in and by this powerful name ANABONA, that you forthwith appear visibly and plainly in your own proper shape and glory in and through this crystal stone, that I may visibly see you, and audibly hear you speak unto me, and that I may have thy blessed and glorious angelic assistance, familiar friendship and constant society, community and instruction, both now and at all times, to inform and rightly instruct me in my ignorance and depraved intellect, judgement and understanding, and to assist me both herein and in all other truths also, through the Almighty ADONAIJ, King of Kings, the giver of all good gifts that his bountiful and fatherly mercy be graciously pleased to bestow upon me.

Therefore, O thou blessed Angel (*N*), be friendly unto me, so far as God shall give you power and presence, to appear, that I may sing with his holy Angels.

O Mappa Laman, Hallelujah. Amen.

When he appears, give him or them kind entertainment; and then ask what is just and lawful, and that which is proper and suitable to his office. And you shall obtain it.

SO ENDETH THE 4TH BOOK CALLED THE ALMADEL OF SOLOMON THE KING.

1. Use the god-names governing the Altitude being invoked, here and in the following paragraphs. - ed.

Afterword

The *Ars Almadel* completes the major sections of the *Lemegeton*; the remaining section, *Ars Nova*, is more an appendix than a book in itself. Among them, these four sections provide a reasonably comprehensive system of access to the powers of the magickal universe; demonic (*Goetia*), terrestrial (*Theurgia Goetia*), planetary (*Ars Paulina*) and zodiacal (*Ars Almadel*).

It is interesting to note that as the powers to be invoked has become progressively more exalted, the method of invocation becomes progressively simpler. One prepares to invoke a Goetic spirit as if for a minor magickal war; a single work of the *Almadel* can be accomplished before breakfast. This accords with the medieval idea that spirits who are servants of God *want* to assist mankind, and will readily come if properly called; the threats and force used on the Goetic spirits are not required for the higher spirits, and would in fact be an insult to them.

The four Altitudes of the Almadel are not exactly cognate with the four directions, or with the Elements. Rather they seem to be representatives of the equinox and solstice points, viewed as the anchor points of the zodiac and the seasons. They are called “corners”, in much the same way that the horizon and vertical points of an astrological chart are called “angles”. Their colors as well appear seasonal rather than elemental; white the pure unsullied freshness of the spring breeze, the red heat of summer, the green of mature plants invigorated by the fall rains, and the darkness of midwinter.

Each Altitude in turn rules a season and the three zodiac signs therein, not, as suggested by Carroll “Poke” Runyon, the three signs of a single element or the Cardinal signs alone. This is clear from the described timing of the invocations: the first two Princes of an Altitude rule the Cardinal sign of the season, the second two rule the Fixed sign, and the last rules the Mutable. Runyon’s idea of substituting the names of the four Archangels of the Elements for the Princes would be inappropriate; likely it would produce some sort of result, but probably not what was intended by this work.

Runyon also states that the candles are intended to go through the holes in the Almadel, but this is clearly not the case from the description. Rather, little ledges are to be built into the candles, so that (with the additional height provided by the candle-holders) it is raised enough to fit a small incense-bowl underneath. For practical considerations, the candles should support the Almadel at the corners rather than along the sides, but the ledges should not be so large as to block the holes.

The powers mentioned for these angels are rather vague, and in the case of three of the Chora, rather pointless as well. But the first paragraph of the document is careful to note that “every one of these [twelve] parts hath their particular virtues and powers.” Given their explicit association with the signs, it would follow that their powers are associated with the signs they rule. E.g., trade and wealth under Taurus, crafts and communications under Gemini or Virgo, diplomacy and relationships under Libra, construction and government under Capricorn, and so on.

A crystal stone is mentioned in the invocation, but not the the directions for constructing the Almadel. The use of such a device seems to me to be optional; not absolutely required, but acceptable for those who are accustomed to using one. If used, it would likely be placed on top of the golden seal, which in turn is placed on top of the Almadel. It would necessarily be a small stone, so its weight would not stress the wax structure.

Benjamin Rowe
July 21, 1999