

Hampton N.J.
P.O. Box 581
May 20, 1955.

Care Frater Aossic:

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

I confirm receipt of your letter of May 11 with the pamphlet about a new Order. I welcomed news from you, in fact, I had been expecting something for some time. A man of your potential should not waste but grow.

Your letter and pamphlet pose an unusually great number of questions so you will have to consider what I intend going to set down as only a preliminary, sort of clearing up some immediate matters; in this I follow the last three lines of your letter.

O.T.O.: I can't quite see: how can you write so authoritatively? Have you a charter from anyone lawfully entitled? The Order which you propose has a number of O.H.O.'s of the O.T.O., apart from the I.H.O. of the O.T.O. The original Order of the O.T.O. had one O.H.O. on a planetary basis. Your system appears to set up an O.H.O. for the British group alone. Both the O.H.O. and the I.H.O. appear centred in London?

ISIAC - ISIS, on whom your Order is founded: first, what is the distance of the (?) planet Isis from the Sun, what its orbit? In any case it seems to be a planet. The O.T.O. is entirely solar, based on the centre of our mite in our galactic system. Why base an Order, or even a lodge, on the splinter of a Whole?

In the pamphlet it is referred to a "sister-lodge in Germany, controlled by the Master G." (Grosche-Gregorius, without doubt), representing the Saturnian element - again planetary, instead of Sol. Apart from this: Grosche has often attempted to be affiliated with the O.T.O.; without success. Besides, I have known him for 30 years, it is rather funny to me to elevate him to a spiritual position as implied in the pamphlet. And as to Thelema? He knows as good as nothing of its purity, morals, diamond demands, its thought, etc.

In general, as far as lodges and orders go: it seems to me you attach too much importance to the O.T.O. as the exclusive possessor of the secret we know of. In fact, it is known the world over. I can only speak with some weight for Germany and there were back in 1925 quite a number of independent groups who taught it. The German masonic bodies in the 33rd, where genuinely acquired, possessed and applied it; etc. etc. Of course, Himmler destroyed the groups, when he could not find the secret in their archives, but he looked for it as he did from me.

This much about O.T.O. Now to some fundamental questions.

I dwell at length on this Isis because it is the fundament of your planned Lodge. If it proves to be a sponge instead of a rock, there cannot be value or permanence.

I could say a lot on the paragraphs on page 6 of your pamphlet where Isis is equalled with Nuit - it is too hollow. Also: how can you "base your lodge particularly on the first chapter of the Book of the Law" - and then follow it by the next paragraph? It is sheer nonsense! No one can blame you for not having mastered the three different chapters of Liber Legis. That takes several lifetimes, even that of ten geniuses. But why then mention it at all? All three, Nuit, Hadit, Ra Hoor Khuit have no business in your Isaic Lodge. Your members should study the Book - EACH FOR HIMSELF! -, the whole book, not base his or her research on one chapter alone.

Next Par.: "New Isis Lodge possesses" What are these special unpublished and secret documents? what is that "certain Magical Formulae" ... and at last! your "Sister-Lodge in Germany" in the same connection and paragraph dealing with the highest secrets, when that very sister-lodge has no inkling of the Book of the Law at all! How silly can we get? (Grosche has received the translation of AL for the first time a few months ago; all he knew were the Greeting sentences, which he knew from me and from one of the old pamphlets of Reuß; and he adopted a silly explanation I, when a babe, gave him of 'lover under will', and printed it and uses it!

But you are NOT in accord with "a Past Master called Therion", "and with the present Master S.".!" And the next paragraph is simply not true!

From a general lodge manifesto point of view I also disagree profoundly with par. 3,4, and 5 on page 3 of your pamphlet. It smacks like Grosche's publication, where he also uses those dark and sinister threats; also like Romish method of cowing free men and free women. I took Grosche severely to task when I read it. I must do likewise with you, and warn you. It is certainly not thelemic. We do not threaten with hell and purgatory and eternal damnation. Punishment (I don't like the word, but can't find the needed one at the moment) should be an automatic reaction, dealt out by ONE who is above the personal, i.e. in the way as described in the First Aethyr. All else is black magic.

There is much more that I have to criticize in the aura of your Manifesto, but I won't go into all these details, I have a feeling that you have yourself realized in sober moments how cockeyed it is. I must come to the O.T.O. angle.

Has none of your collaborators pointed out to you how incorrect your procedure is to acknowledge a "present World-Head of the O.T.O." and not ask his permission first before putting this Manifesto into print? (I take it you have not distributed it to anyone up to now).

[pp 1-2 only - WB]

Hampton N.J.
June 8, 1955.

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Care Frater Aossic:

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

I had to delay answering yours of May 27, not only because I was indisposed for a few days, but because I wanted to review our past exchange of letters from the beginning and give the whole of our relations some thought. If I can rely on your letters, yours is an unusually gifted nature, and I blame myself for not having made a greater effort to understand it. I have also looked at your nativity. If the data you gave me are correct then you would have 12° Cancer rising and 9° Pisces at the cusp of X. Uranus may give trouble, and especially cauda draconis and Mars in IX. Mars especially would indicate difficulties in your present years, though all this may be wrong if the time was not correct. I go into this because there are some striking connections with my horoscope: your Moon is exactly on my Sun, your Sun on my Pluto, and both your Sun and Moon are rayed by my royal trine which is formed in my radical horoscope by Uranus, Sun and Pluto. Your wicked radical Uranus, apparently, spoils the harmony by placing itself plumb on the cusp of my VII.

I begin with these considerations because I shall have to be very critical with a number of points both in your letter and especially your Manifesto, and I do not want you to feel that what I shall have to say is inspired by injustice. (Beware of your Moon and Mars in Aquarius, the latter causes a peculiar kind of stubbornness!)

Your explanations in your letter re Isis corrects nothing. We must cultivate precision of thought and speech. A planet is a satellite, you cannot get away from this. So if your Isis is a "transplutonic planet" it remains an adjective, something adjunct. You cannot get away from this. Nuit, however, is cosmic, alone, involves all stars (plus planets), all possibilities, all Isis-es. Isis is an experience and conception that has to be transcended (cf. LKV, v, 50). It is transitory. Nuit cannot be transcended. To mix this up is immature. Quite apart from all this: if any educated man reads your Manifesto, he will simply laugh at it and you. If you have not studied Astronomy, you better start.

Your reference to Eqx/Gods and "heavenly Isis" is unfortunate and forced. "Isis Urania" is, I believe, an old terminology, and, in my view, for lack of the term 'Nuit'. But it certainly does not mean "Isis" the, or a, planet. (Incidentally, I have not been able to find out anything about this planet Isis of whose orbit you gave me interesting data in your letter. If you have an ephemeris of it, or its present longitude and latitude, when it was discovered, by whom, who gave it its name - I should be obliged.)

Again - if you consider Isis as an idea, a symbol - you could much better draw upon one of the 9 Muses of the Greeks, it seems to me.

[p 2 missing - WB]

You are not a full member of the O.T.O. at all. (You have the knowledge of the IX, but that does not make you more than just this!) You have not accepted its Constitution, in fact you have been putting yourself repeatedly on record of being hostile to some of its provisions.

It is for that reason that I have not been able to issue to you a full Charter to constitute a branch of the O.T.O. in England. You have a peculiar money complex, and the various Constitutions of the O.T.O. declare financial obligations. But I will not try to make you see the light on this point, still Constitutions mean what they say; they cannot be changed by individual decree. (Ask Mr. Yorke to show you the text of the revised Constitution of February 1917, of which, I believe, I sent him a photostat copy.)

So I must insist that you eliminate every reference to the O.T.O. in your pamphlet. I would also recommend that you change the system of grades and the abbreviations such as O.H.O. completely, to avoid misleading others; and sail under false pretences.

All this does not mean that I should not welcome your constituting an Order or a Lodge of your own. You have much knowledge and you have undoubtedly the will and the capacity to bring it to success. If you stick to the pure teachings of the Book of the Law, and loyally proclaim and preach the teachings of the Master Therion, there is no length to which I would go to assist you - with advice, if that is possible - with the supply of books of which I have spare copies, and otherwise.

Love is the law, love under will.

Fraternally

E. L.
Carl G. Llewellyn

cc to Yorke