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Liber DCCXLIV vel

- 1. This is the book of the Gateway to the Path of the Wise.
- 2. Not all are called unto this path, and amongst those who are so called, not one may truly reach the end thereof.
- 3. Some will fall at the first pylon, some the second, some the third, some the fourth, and some ere they reach even the portal thereof.
- 4. For there are those who are clever, and in their cleverness see this path for folly and delusion, so seek they only the pleasures of a Strong Man. And there are some lacking intelligence, or understanding, or wit, who mistake reason for their Lord, else power or the love of men, and these snivel before the Masters, lying and cajoling in their quest of praise or false secrets. And these last they receive, falling utterly into ruin.
- 5. And there are those lacking character and strength of will, who step this way and that ever seeking ease and repose. This they find quickly in the darkness of their own illusions and are lost. And then those to whom any action apart from their caprice causeth despair, else wailing and crying, these also fall.
- 6. And there are those lacking in courage to destroy their own false temples, whether they be of love or of hate, for these truly must be razed in the building of the New Jerusalem of the Lord, the True Self, verily, the Kingdom of Wisdom and Delight.
- 7. And there are those whose minds cannot rest, and can never hear the silence wherein is the speech of the Lord whose voice is of this silence, and whose speech is the silence thereof, and also gossipers, and those whose lips never rest from singing praises to their false gods of selfhood and vanity.

- 8. But for those who have four powers, verily, and these four in abundance, the Gateway is always open and the footpath clear, even as the lips of the beloved, ever so rosy and glorious, whisper always of their secret love.
- 9. A word of warning for these brave must be spoken, for the first steps are into darkness, and darkness never was so utter and complete as this. If thou dost falter or hesitate thou art lost, stumbling into baseness and calamity. But if thou but trust not thine eyes and walk the straight path and sure, thou wilt be guided by the very image of thine Angel, for he is with thee at the beginning even as he is with thee at the end.
- 10. There are many monsters on the path, creatures of falsehood and destruction, and some of these are fearsome, loathsome and hideous. Yet some of these are clothed in glory, yea the very eidolon of the Lord weareth some of these. But thou wilt know the false from the true else the path was never for thee.
- 11. Thou must make every one of these thy servant, cheerful and prompt in their solicitude, else thou becomest the slave of them.
- 12. Then thy old self may seem to die away, and thy new self shall be born anew. In this new self wilt thou be robed and bedecked in the glorious golden light of our Father, yet this also is still but illusion, and treachery to the Lord. He that hath ears, let him hear.
- 13. But in this raiment of glory wilt thou travel to an ancient land of knowledge and power. And thou wilt obtain great knowledge of many things both secret and holy, and these shall be great truths, yet these truths shall be falsehoods.
- 14. Thou mayest encompass even the highest, or discover the course thy journeyings, how thou hast turned this way and that even for an Aeon and an Aeon. Thou wilt discover many signs and wonders. Many words will be spoken, and many will be heard.
- 15. But thou, chosen amongst men and favored amongst the maidens of the Great City, thou knowest thou art none of this. All of this is nothing of the beloved and like the great tower of vanity that it is, the very walls of this accursed place shall crumble into madness and chaos.

- 16. Thou wilt turn thy heart wholly unto the Lord. With all of thy devotion wilt thou worship that Angel of Light whose kisses are the only true joy and gladness thou wilt ever cherish, and the only true terror and agony thou wilt ever suffer.
- 17. And in thy wretchedness wilt thou invoke him with purity and reverence, and in thy purity wilt thou worship him with fornication and lewdness.
- 18. And every bit of thee wilt thine Angel divide against itself until that which is true is false and that which is false is true. And as thou art like unto the base metal in the arts alchymical, thou shalt be consumed to naught in the athanor, save an aery vapor.
- 19. And verily thou shalt die in that hour.
- 20. But this in ecstasy of union for all that was divided shall be made one again. One and not two, and none if thou art so chosen. And pray that thou art chosen thus, for there are many dangers yet ahead. For this is not the end of thy path, but the beginning. Of this wilt thou know, yea, thou wilt know.