

YEHOSHUA TAKES THE SIXTH DEGREE AND PASSED THE SIXTH ADEPT CHAMBER OF THE EASTERN SAGES

*In all the land there was no place more grandly furnished
than the beauty parlors of the Temple of the Sun.*

1. Few students ever entered these room. The priests guarded them with awe, and called them halls of mysteries.
2. When Yehoshua had attained the victory over fear, he gained the right to enter here.
3. The guide led on the way. And, after passing many richly furnished rooms, they reached the hall of harmony, and there was Yehoshua left alone.
4. Among the instruments of music was a harpsichord. And Yehoshua sat in thoughtful mood, inspecting it, when quietly a maiden of entrancing beauty came into the hall.



5. She did not seem to notice Yehoshua as he sat and mused so busy with his thoughts.
6. She found her place beside the harpsichord. She touched the chords most gently, and she sang the songs of Israel.
7. And Yehoshua was entranced; such beauty he had never seen, such music he had never heard.
8. The maiden sang her songs. She didn't seem to know that any one was near. She went her way.
9. And Yehoshua, talking with himself, said out, "What is the meaning of this incident? I did not now that such entrancing beauty and such queen-like loveliness were ever found among the sons of men.
10. I did not know that voice of angel ever graced a human form; or that seraphic music ever came from human lips."
11. For days he sat entranced. The current of his thoughts was changed. He thought of nothing but the singer and her songs.
12. He longed to see her once again and, after days, she came. She spoke and laid her hand upon his head.
13. Her touch thrilled all his soul; and, for a time, forgot the work that he was sent to do.
14. Few were the words the maiden said. She went her way; but then the heart of Yehoshuah had been touched.
15. A love-flame had been kindled in his soul, and he was brought to face the sorest trial of life.
16. He could no sleep, nor could he eat. The thoughts of the maiden came; they would not go. His carnal nature called aloud for her companionship.
17. And then, he said, "Lo, I have conquered every doe that I have met, and shall I now be conquered by carnal love?"
18. My Father sent me her to show the power of love-divine; that love that reaches every living thing.
19. **Shall this pure universal love be all absorbed by carnal love?** Shall I forget all creatures else, and lose my life in this fair maiden? — though she is the highest type of beauty, purity and love."

20. Into its very depths his soul was stirred; and long he wrestled with this angel-idol of his heart.
21. But when the day was almost lost his higher-ego rose in might. He found himself again, and then he said,
22. “Although my heart shall break, I will not fall in this my hardest task. I will be victor over carnal love.”
23. And when again the maiden came and offered him her hand and heart he said,
24. “Fair one, your very presence thrills me with delight. Your voice is benediction to my soul.
My human self would fly with you, and be contented in your love.
25. But all the world is craving for a love that I have come to manifest.
- 26. I must then, bid you go, but we will meet again. Our ways on earth will not be cast apart.**
27. I see you in the hurrying throngs of earth as minister of love. I hear your voice in song that wins the hearts of men to better things.”
28. **And then in sorrow and in tears the maiden went away;** and Yehoshua was alone again.
29. Instantly the great bells of the Temple rang. The grotto blazed with light.
30. The hierophant himself appeared, and said, “All hail triumphant Logos; Hail the conqueror of carnal love stands on the height.”
- 31. And the he placed in Yehoshua’ hand a scroll on which was written, “LOVE DIVINE”**
32. Together they passed from the grotto of the beautiful Temple, and in the banquet hall a feast was served, and Yehoshua was the honored guest.