

RAINBOW SECRET WORK

The oath is taken at the altar (page 42 of the Rainbow Ritual) but it is not written in the Ritual itself. It is from the Secret Work that is kept by the Mother Advisor at all times. To memorize it, the Worthy Advisor or Worthy Advisor Elect must arrange to go to the home of the Mother Advisor or meet with her at the Masonic Temple. The oath (to the best of my recollection) reads as follows:

“You are now kneeling at the White Altar of Holy Promise in proper position to be made a Rainbow Girl. If it is still your desire to proceed, say, “I,” pronounce your own name, and repeat after me.

I, _____, promise upon my honor that I will strive to be obedient to God and to the laws of my country, holding my country’s flag first and above all other flags. That I will be obedient to my father and my mother and true and faithful to my home. That I will obey the statutes of the Supreme Assembly and the by-laws of this assembly. That I will never unlawfully reveal any of the secrets of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls and will be true and loyal to its members. That I will do my best to further every worthy interest of the free public schools of America. That a religion which seeks to enlighten, rather than to enslave, shall have my earnest support. That I will live a life of service and do here and now dedicate myself to such a life, endeavoring to live the standards of girlhood higher every day, thus fulfilling the place that our Father in Heaven has assigned to us. And to seal this vow, with the hope of forever keeping it sacred, I kiss the Holy Bible. Amen.”

This oath is recited from memory by the Worthy Advisor, then repeated by the initiate, one phrase at a time.

In addition to the oath, we take three pledges (pg. 41 Rainbow Ritual), and seven vows (pages 45-53 Rainbow Ritual). In the initiation, the initiate walks around the room (known in masonry as ‘the rite of circumambulation, an element of sun worship) a total of 14 times. When being installed as Worthy Advisor, the member makes an additional 5 pledges (pages 67-68 Rainbow Ritual).

The remaining Secret Work is given after receiving the lecture on the traditional Pot of Gold (page 59, Rainbow Ritual). The time elapse since attending my last meeting have taken their toll on my memory, but I want to give you an idea of what it entails. It is not complete or word perfect. It is only an attempt to reveal the more important parts of the Secret Work.

The secret word is never spoken aloud in the assembly room. When proving an assembly, when approached by either Hope or Charity, the Rainbow Girl or Majority Member will rise, communicate the word in a whisper after which she may be seated. Sister of Faith will now communicate to you the secret word. (Faith Whispers the word, "Service" in the ear of the initiate, asking to have it repeated back to her.)

When seeking admission to the assembly while the assembly is in session, you will make your wish known to the Outer Observer, to whom you will communicate the secret password, "Love". She will make the alarm and it will be answered by the Confidential Observer who will make your presence known to the Worthy Advisor. You will be admitted to the assembly room by order of the Worthy Advisor. You will advance in front of the station of the Worthy Associate Advisor and, facing East, give the sign of Rainbow. It will be answered by the Worthy Advisor, giving you permission to be seated. When seeking to retire from the assembly while the assembly is in session, you will advance in front of the station of the Worthy Associate Advisor and, facing East, give the sign of Rainbow. It will be answered by the Worthy Advisor, giving you permission to retire.

The grip of the Order is given thus: by clasping hands in the usual manner, with the middle finger extended towards the wrist, sliding the fingers over the lower part of the hand, forming a bow.

The sign of Secrecy and Caution is given thus: By placing the tips of the first two fingers on one's own lips. It is used upon receiving a candidate.

The Sign of Distress is given thus: by placing the tips of the fingers of the right hand upon the left shoulder, raising the hand perpendicularly as high as the head three times, and then returning the hand to its natural position. It is answered by placing the tips of the right hand on the forehead and looking upward. If unable to make these signs, these words may be used: "Remember your Rainbow promise." A girl, upon hearing this exclamation should respond, "Forever the Rainbow", and go at once to the aid of the sister in distress.

The Sign of the Rainbow is given by placing the tips of the right hand on the left shoulder, raising the hand over the head to the right shoulder forming a bow, then returning the hand to its natural position.

*Instruction on Grand Honors and Supreme Honors are also included in the Secret Work, but may be found on page 10 of the Rainbow Ritual.

The emblem of the assembly is a rainbow of red, white and blue, embedded in which are the letters, "B, F, C, L" in gold. These stand for Bible, Flag, Constitution, and Lambskin apron which are the hidden contents of the Pot of Gold on page 58 of the Rainbow Ritual. In the

center of the emblem, surrounded by seven colored disks representing the seven colors of the rainbow, is a triangle in which is the letter "R" in gold. At the base of the emblem, extending from one end of the Rainbow to the other are outstretched arms with clasped hands which denotes the friendship and universality of Rainbow. (See the picture of the emblem on page 2 of the Rainbow Ritual.)

*In proving an assembly (i.e. when visiting an assembly that you're not a member of), the instructions under the listing "Examining a Visitor" on page 10, point 14 of the Rainbow Ritual are followed. In addition to the test oath, these questions and answers must be properly asked and answered:

Q: Are you a member of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls?

A: I have seen the bow in the clouds and have gone in search of its treasure.

Q: Did you find the treasure?

A: I found only part of it.

Q: How did you find it?

A: By the aid of the Sister of Faith.

Q: How may I know that you found it?

A: By the secret letters, B, F, C, L.

Q: What do these letters represent?

A: The hidden contents of the Pot of Gold.

Q: What is the Pot of Gold a symbol of?

A: It is the symbol of the heart of an American girl deeply impressed with the sublime teachings of Rainbow.

*Subjects covered in the Secret Work that are not quoted or expounded on in this page.

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