

# TOWER OF JEWELS

(INSTALLATION CEREMONY)

## DESCRIPTION:

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(The following is to be read by a good reader, and as the different officers are mentioned, they enter with the jewel appropriate to their office. The stage setting is very dim, as is the whole chapter room; the darker the better. The jewels make light enough. They are made most effectively by putting a large flash light inside very crumpled transparant paper. These flash lights may then be placed inside bouquets of flowers of corresponding colors, or they may be carried as is. This is without doubt, a most effective installation and can be given in even a small space.)

## READER:

In the Order of the Eastern Star, each officer wears a badge of office that is known as a jewel. The word jewel does not refer to the badge alone but is symbolical of the office itself.

In the center of our chapter room we have five jewels known as the Star Points, and around them is a cluster of jewels of various colors with one which is a brilliant diamond, more precious than any of the others. Tonight we are going to use these precious stones to build a tower, and we shall give you the significance of each stone as we lay it in place.

The first person to be encountered when entering a chapter room is the Sentinel, and so the gem appropriate to that office is the first stone that we are going to lay in our foundation. The precious gem of this office is the Amethyst representing "Loyalty". How splendidly this jewel expresses the office of the one who must never leave his station, the one who meets those who seek entrance, and the one who contacts the outer world for us.

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The second stone to be placed is that of the Warder. It is the beautiful Jacinth and means "Unchangeableness". ~~This modern stone, with its lustrous blue, is next to the diamond in hardness.~~ Its blue hue symbolizes mental peace, and the warder maintains tranquillity for our chapter.

The third gem to be placed in our tower foundation is the blue sapphire of Adah, teaching "Fidelity"- that fidelity which makes one mindful of another's honor as well as fidelity to one's own convictions.

Ruth has the yellow topaz teaching Constancy to loved ones and the sharing with others of our little or of our plenty.

Esther bears the white Crystal, shedding light and joy to distressed people. She enlightened the King and dispelled the dark plot against the chosen people.

Martha's gem is the green emerald, giving assurance that after death is life: hope of eternal life.

~~stone, full of fervency and zeal.~~

These five Star Point jewels are ever before us giving their radiance all around. The matron looks down upon them and gathers strength and encouragement; the side liners also face them and enjoy their beauty. How fitting that they should be laid in the foundation of our tower!

The eighth foundation stone is that of the Sardonyx, and represents the office of the Treasurer. It teaches "Assurance". It is an ornamental stone and is mysterious in many ways. ~~Very little is known about it, and it is sometimes found to possess three strata: black, white, and red.~~ In our darkest hours of need, in our clear moments of business, in our charitable rosy moments, we need the assurance that our finances are ever ready for our use.



*which is different from  
the emerald, but very rare.*

The ninth foundation stone represented by the Secretary is the Emeralyte ~~and is very closely akin to, yet very different from, the Emerald, but it is the most difficult to find, and very precious is a flawless Emeralyte.~~ So it is difficult to find a perfect secretary to fill this difficult office, for she must be faithful toward her duties and flawless in her recording of them.

✓ The tenth jewel is the Topazolite and it is significant to the office of the Chaplain with its meaning of benediction. Its crystals are ~~twenty-six sided figures and range in color from deep greenish yellow to an orange.~~ <sup>They</sup> This variety in color and shape is a reminder that benediction is given to all.

The eleventh stone to be placed in our tower is the Beryl, known as the Marshall's jewel. This stone, ~~which~~ <sup>baril</sup> means "Love of Humanity", ~~is quite free of coloring, is flawless and as clear as glass.~~ How comforting to know that she who guides us from one point to another will guide us with understanding love.

✓ That of the Organist is the twelfth stone. It is call the Chrysoprasus and means "constant, cheerful endurance" and is very appropriate to the office of the one who cheers us with melodious tones throughout our entire service. ~~The yellow Chrysoprasus is a very hard stone, signifying endurance for the sake of harmony.~~ <sup>Prays</sup> <sup>kris's prayer</sup>

✓ The next stone is the Sardius and the office of Conductress is adorned with its beauty and strength. This stone is favored by the eugraver since its quality has exquisite beauty of light and shade. ~~The gem often ranges from a shell pink to a deep peach and even into a brown.~~ Our Conductress has a variation of duties and each must be performed with precision. Already she is being carved into a <sup>cameo</sup> pattern of a Matron.

The fourteenth stone is the Chrysolyte, and its symbolical meaning is "Heavenly Wisdom". Pondering upon this meaning, we understand its appropriateness to the Associate Conductress. That first step toward rulership should be taken with a sincere desire to grow in wisdom and so to be ready for the great work ahead. ~~\*The greek words in the name of the gem is "chryscs" meaning gold and "lithos" meaning stone. We know it as the goldstone, the gem of wisdom.~~ <sup>kris</sup>

The Associate Matron has for her jewel the ~~Malcedony~~ <sup>K</sup>, meaning "Obedience and Submission." ~~This gem is a special variety of crypto-crystalline quartz found in the copper mines of Chalcedon. It consists of aggregates of vast numbers of minute crystalline individuals, all formed into twenty-four sided forms that reflect light.~~ It comes in faintly tinted shades, just as the office of Associate Matron covers many duties that must be handled with delicacy in a submissive manner.

The sixteenth stone in our tower is the deep red garnet, typical of the station of the Associate Patron, who brings brotherly love to the assistance of our order. ~~Just as the strong red rays when subjected to light penetrate through darkness for a long distance, so will the acts of the Associate Patron live long in the memory of the chapter:~~

✓ The second last stone to be added to our tower is that of the Worthy Patron and is represented by the <sup>lāpiz-LAZ'Ū-11</sup> lāpiz-lazūli, or azure stone of fine blue color. ~~The crystals which form into many sides are Blue and represent faithfulness. Sometimes the blue is flecked with a fine gold dust, the gold representing plenty.~~ The Mason who is chosen by the Matron and elected by the chapter, may well contemplate on the skylike appearance of the <sup>STONE</sup> lāpiz-lazūli, and remember that he has been chosen to render help to the East and to all who face it. His giving should be in abundance as he is blessed.

The most precious jewel of all is the diamond. This is appropriate to the Worthy Matron. ~~It is one of the purest crystal and the hardest substance known. It is composed of crystals excelling in brilliancy and prismatic colors and it radiates with beauty.~~ The diamond symbolizes perfection <sup>and</sup> ~~and prescience.~~ A very significant feature is its reflection of all color rays. It has a very high dispersive power which is the cause of its brilliancy and fire. All these qualities are needful in her who is chosen to accept the highest honors that a chapter can bestow. Thus we place it at the highest point in our Tower of Jewels, where reflecting all the other gems, it may also reflect Divine Light from above.



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All these gems now make our Tower of Jewels which should be a Tower of Truth to which we may cling. One significant thing may now be seen: at the very top of our tower all the tri-colors of our country--Red, White, and Blue. May they ever stand high above all others and prove an inspiration and a stabilizing force to a needful world.

And finally, let us lift our eyes to the Star of the East shining down on all.

..... THE END .....

(If this star can be lighted at the very last it is very effective. It is also effective if all jewels can go out for just a few seconds leaving only the red, white, and blue. The Star comes on, then all jewels come on again. All flash lights should go out together at the finish, and if a curtain cannot be drawn, lights should be put on, and the officers can retire to music such as "Crown Him Lord of All." When the lights are flashed on for the exit, if the officers can hide the flash lights in their bouquets with only the colored top showing, it looks better. If the officers must enter from the sides to the front of the steps, the officers who stand right in the center must give room for others to pass them on the way up or down.)

DIRECTIONS for TOWER:----- Steps should not be arranged too high so that one may easily make the step up. More elevations are even more effective, but it is very awkward to step too high at one time. Above the matron the outline of a tower may be made of silver paper. The more it glitters in the light, the better. At the very top of the tower an Eastern Star should be arranged.

If not convenient to walk in and step up, it is just as effective to have everyone in place and the lights come on one by one, then go out and all come on at the climax.

NOTE:----- Until transparent paper is available, white tissue paper cut in open diamond or honeycomb design behind which is thin paper (crepe) in color of the jewel desired. The light shining through will give a simulated effect of facets.

