



UGLE Oration

Preamble for the Initiate

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A preamble for the initiate.

Summary

A preamble for the initiate, which could be read, or shared one to one.

Keywords

First-Degree, Initiate, Preamble

Preamble for the Initiate

Dear Candidate for Initiation, you are about to depart the profane, material world and enter another region where time and eternity, God and humans meet. You have therefore been deprived of the trappings and chattels of all that is mundane and your vulnerability and common humanity are exposed. Stripped of familiar associations, you will soon experience the ritual of separation from a former life. You are about to commence a journey towards wholeness where life is performed without a mask. To facilitate the passage, you will, initially, be blindfold in order that you may begin to look inwards at the deepest level of yourself.

During the journey you will not be humiliated but you will be made to feel humble; you will not be demeaned but the living merits of truth, honour and virtue will be exemplified; you will not be harmed but your human frailty and innocence will be demonstrated; your human dignity will not be degraded but your true identity will be challenged.

In the Lodge beyond this door, across the threshold, you will become aware, through shared experience, that you are part of an indivisible whole. Please now contemplate quietly for a few moments, clear your mind of all that has gone before and open your heart and soul ready to be moved by a ritual whose significance and wisdom transcend the passage of time and prepare to experience a transformation that all Initiates into Freemasonry have undergone from time immemorial.

Prepare to perceive the power of symbols and rich imagery which appeal to intuition and experience as much as to understanding. Freemasonry, through your imminent Initiation into its ancient rites and privileges, will assist you find the direction in which to set your new course through life, in the presence and with the support of your fellow Brethren. But first you must shed your defences, open and free your senses and perception and allow the invisible to become real.

##END##

Recommended use of Nuggets

Nuggets offer a short, simple and readily absorbed means of progressing Masonic knowledge and an easy way to introduce learning to Lodges and Chapters. It is hoped that they will become a regular feature of Lodge and Chapter meetings as well as a source for private-study.

Nuggets can be included as an item in the summons and read at most Lodge/Chapter meetings. They can be:

- Read by either a new or an experienced Mason with the minimum of preparation and practice; *though ideally, they need to be read a few times beforehand.*
- Themed with the meeting or activity.
- Used to initiate a discussion within a Lodge/Chapter, LOI/COI, or group.
- Read at home and shared as a topic for a future discussion.
- Used as a focus for an unplanned, informal discussion.

For further nuggets and other learning materials visit 'Solomon' at <http://solomon.ugle.org.uk>

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