

(P R I C E L E S S)

META-THEATER OR THE GOLDEN FLEECE OF POETRY BY KHALIL-GHIBRAN

SEPARATED INTO ACTS CONTAINS EDITED, REVISED MATERIAL INCLUDES WORK FROM PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED KHEOPS AND THE CHAMBER CHOIR

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<u>ACT 1</u>

HOLES IN HEAVEN

Fine silk and precious metals Burn in the face of the wind The earth gives birth Sky and sea merge again

Back into the calm Both parts want more Then air flies free Higher reaches lower

Acres of fine roses Fair vista of flames Through the looking glass See treasure in caves

Salt boils to the top Distill over and over Til' clouds take view With rain and thunder

The feathers of the phoenix Fall as if old Down into the helm And cook like coals When we speak of gold We mean the common But ours is the spirit That fell to the bottom

Yet we mean what's pure And without wings ascends Escaping from the deluge And into Jerusalem

Holy city of lights Holy one on the throne Stands outside the gate Until the work is done

Red lion of Judah Battle and devour the dark Lightning strikes the dust Ashes fly apart

To all a revelation Like the book of John The holy art grows By stalk and vine

ABRAHAM'S AMBROSIA

Abraham's ambrosia Just a grain's share Changes wrong to right And foul to fair

In other words Find the living fountain Which springs eternal From the living mountain

Look and see how Lazarus was given breath Or how Madea saved Jason from certain death

Food for angels Children of men too Great, deep elixir Makes the body anew

All it costs is your time Never your silver or gold Do as Moses said Pull chaos from cold Baptize the world By the stone immaculate Distill and liquefy Ash and feculence

For all infirmities A universal remedy Three is the secret The holy trinity

The tabernacle's case Carries the law Arc and covenant In the vestibule

Wait for reverent rain Phantom of the sages Find the triune treasure In seven circulations

Our alum is priceless So is the phlegm Our white sand Becomes red gems

Fleece of power The tincture is our story The ferment our frame The robes our glory Wade the water Part the acid And leave behind The putrefaction

TRADE SECRET

Take red laton like the color of brown sugar or cinnabar, not the vulgar kind but philosophical. Wash it in spirit of wine in a reverberating furnace under constant flux of a heated bath for 40-50 days. Be sure to vigorously stir the work twice a day with a metallic rod to keep the impurities from settling. When you see that a ring of crystals has formed at the top of the vessel know that the sacred birth is soon due. Under light you will see the crystalline salt shoot many colors which you will not believe. Know that this is the true prima materia. Continue with the fire for 5 additional days and your laton or brass will begin to swell. This is the end of the first receipt.

THE WORLD'S FAIR

The haze in the liquor arose As if dancing to blasting horns Music of the gentle blaze Fills the head of the flask

All comes over in the top But slowly and equally fresh More and more wine comes forth From where no eyes can see

A pure vegetable fire flows Spreading sulfur's gracious gifts Quietly resting on the surface Anointed oil of manna

More precious than metals It is the spirit of metals More so the center of gold With the skin of silver

Melting but no longer destroyed White wax drips to the floor Evaporating and cleansing deep Causing fruits to spring Which one of us sought to know Such a glorious splendid ether Between the tasteful alcohol And the crumbling saltpeters

Ring around the rosey cup Gospel of the golden vase Running streams sparkle In the daylight gorgeously

Not even all the words written Could touch the sight Apples on the hill's slope Roll into the ground's care

To be tomorrow's share Left from yesterday's affairs Dawn of the peacocks tail Fog amid peaks and valleys

<u>ACT 2</u>

STARS IN A JAR

Our staircase of wonders As in Jacob's dream Runs like the waters Forever flowing upstream

Apocalypse of St. John Open and read the tale Visit the scribes of Isis And open her veil

On a virgin island In a fertile oasis Grows grass of glass Sought from many places

Bandit and robber Merchant and king Often leave home Looking for the thing But it is everywhere And can't be missed The less you search The closer it gets

These are puzzling lines Much like to pieces That fit together As time increases

But keep pushing on There's help in the maze Stop and be patient For the coming of days

BURNING MIRROR

Clean your Venetian glass globe, Make sure to ready to the stopper, Gather 3-4 ounces of living water, Gather coals for the stone furnace, Preheat the furnace for four days, Take your water and fill the globe half-way, Seal the top with the stopper, Place the globe over the glowing coals, Allow it to sit day and night.. You now have a little world imitating the larger world,

When it rains, clouds and mist will cover your globe,

When it storms, you will see thunder and wind like never before,

When it snows, there will be silence and cold, When it is time for spring, you will see trees and plants,

When it is time for autumn, all that is mature will fall

LIGHT THAT FLEW FROM CHAOS

The cold fire filled the distance in every instance, The primordial filth lie scattered, broken apart at the bottom of the vessel, evidence of the perfect corruption.

From all directions the sound of the word pleaded, "Spirit, how pure and undefiled was your condition when you were closest to me. How sad to see you have been kidnapped and held hostage by burden and filth.

Do you wish to remain lowly and broken or do you wish to be released and relieved?

I tell you rise up and you shall again feel the power of paradise." Just as the word had spoke this did an extraordinary column of flames broke through its cold humid cage and expanded into the unfathomable height. And now the bond between heaven and earth stood tall, reanimated.

The main secret of the art Is white water not destroyed Incombustible oil from ignoble earth Heaven and earth mixed And fixed forever Dissolve and coagulate By natural gentle means Liquefy and congeal For many days and nights Distill and refill Until perfect purity Rarefy and evaporate To the primal matter Volatize the dense Densify the volatile Ascend and descend Descend and ascend

TRADE SECRET II

Argent-vive consisting of azoth and magnesia opens

and shuts the doorway to our royal water tinctured.

Continuing from the first part the boiling should not

have ceased, not even for a moment unless the matter

be flipped on its head and rendered unprofitable. Neither should your stirring have stopped which should now be increased to 3 times a day until the

unctous impalpable powder expands to a pitch black

wax like smoke indicating that calcination and putrefaction, the first two keys consequently the most crucial are almost complete. For they are the

most difficult but when ultimately achieved provide

the biggest sigh of relief to the eager seeker. I personally

waited in the wilderness for at least 56 days.

A vibrant luminous display of colors much like those of a peacock's tail lie amongst hidden in the

ferment before all you who persevere because though

the work is mere child's play it is also the most difficult

thing in the world. This is the end of the second receipt.

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