

heads in the waters of eternal life of the fountain. The departing Virgin announces that they will meet the king on the morrow.

For the rest of the day the wedding guests are free to explore the castle, each guided by their individual page. One of the principle things to be seen is a library containing a great catalogue of all the contents of the castle, but more important than this, it is said, is a royal sepulchre from which may be learned *more than is extant in all books*. It is covered with many symbolic sculptures including that of a lion, an eagle, a griffon, and a falcon, but above all by a glorious phoenix.

This is an important passage. The page allocated to each guest is in one sense an inner guide, in another a form of the holy guardian angel of each one, or an aspect of the higher self. In practical terms it is often difficult to differentiate between these categories of contact with the outer world personality; they function similarly, and with the same intent. Certainly, however, for the personality to tread the inner pathways, some form of guidance is needed.

There is on the outer levels of the inner Mysteries a great source of knowledge that is sometimes referred to as a great library. It is, in another sense and form, the akashic record, that is impressed with all occurrences in the world as a kind of reflecting ether with a permanent afterimage. This knowledge of all conditions and events is there for those enabled to read it. Of greater importance, however, is not the record of the past but the secrets of the present and future state of the soul. The knowledge and wisdom of this is to be found in a tomb, moreover a tomb upon which is prominently displayed the image of the phoenix—the bird of resurrection and transformation.

It should be said that totem animals formed an extremely important part in the mystery beliefs of our remote ancestors. They remain important in folklore and mythology, whether the animal-headed gods of the Egyptians or in the creatures of fairytales that often give guidance into hidden realms or bring aid or information. Thus more attention might well be paid to the mythical creatures that appear in Rosicrucian and alchemical symbolism. They are guides and bearers of force and influences beyond the normal frontiers of human cognition.

Another symbol of considerable importance that is here mentioned is a terrestrial globe, thirty feet in diameter, which serves a dual function. One is of indicating the position in the world of all initiates by the presence of gold rings set thereon. More importantly, the globe also opens up so that one can enter inside. A planetarium is there, with all the stars of the universe *inside* the Earth.