

RITUAL

IN THE SECOND DEGREE
OF THE

Women of the
Ku Klux Klan

No. 12379

Imperial Headquarters
WOMEN OF THE KU KLUX KLAN
Little Rock, Arkansas

RITUAL

IN THE DECREE OF

Kriterion Konservator

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NOTICE

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SECOND DEGREE

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IMPORTANT

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RITUAL
OF THE
WOMEN OF THE KU KLUX KLAN
KRITERION KONSERVATOR

OPENING CEREMONY

Before the entrance of the Kloranic Officers the quadrate is arranged as for the opening of the Klan in the First Degree — the Bible and Torch at the Kludd's station; Sword at Klaliff's station; small altar flag and water at the Klokard's station; flag on stand at right of Excellent Commander; Fiery Cross at left of E. C.— and, in addition to these, there is on the Klaliff's station a copper penny (one of the large, old-fashioned ones), and an hourglass. The penny is on the side of the stand that is to the Klaliff's right when she stands at her place facing the E. C.; the hourglass on the side to her left.

E. C. stands in her place; all other stations vacant, and the officers in regalia in the outer room, awaiting their summons.

E. C. (raps once with gavel): "Klanswomen, there is about to be opened a Klonklave of Kriterion Konservators. If there be any present who have not attained that rank, they are bidden to retire — and God be with you till we meet again."

[A wait to allow them to retire.]

E. C.: "Klarogo, allow no one to enter the Klavern who is not a Kriterion Konservator. You will inform the Kloranic Officers that we require their presence."

(Klarogo raps 1, 2, 3, on the door. Klexter, from the outside, gives the same number of raps in reply, and Klarogo throws open the door and speaks through it.)

KLAROGO: "Klexter, the Excellent Commander requires the presence of the Kloranic Officers."

(MUSIC.)

(March: "Battle Hymn of the Republic.")

(Kloranic Officers enter as at the opening of First Degree:

1. Night Hawk.
2. Kludd.
3. Kourier No. 2.
4. Klaliff.
5. Kourier No. 1.
6. Klokard.
7. Kladd.)

(Each officer, exactly as in the First Degree opening, approaches the Sacred Altar, salutes and announces herself, and, when recognized and welcomed by the E. C., goes to her place. When all are at their proper stations, the E. C. addresses the Kladd.)

E. C.: "Kladd, are you satisfied that all present are Kriterion Konservators, worthy to sit in this Klavern during the deliberations of this Klonklave?"

KLADD (saluting): "I am satisfied, Your Excellency. The Klexter and Klarogo guard the entrance to our Klavern." (If there are visitors.) "We have with us visitors" (giving the names and the names of their respective Klans). "All have satisfied me that they have received the Degree of Kriterion Konservator."

(If, among the visitors, any should be Excellent Commanders or other officers, the E. C. will direct the Night Hawk to escort them to the station of the E. C., where the Night Hawk will present them and the E. C. will welcome them and call for their greeting in the same manner as in the Opening Ceremonies of the First Degree.)

E. C.: "Officers and Kriterion Konservators, let us proceed with the Opening. Prepare the Sacred Altar as it ever is prepared for a Klonklave of the Women of the Ku Klux Klan."

(MUSIC.)

("Sweet Hour of Prayer.")

(The altar is prepared exactly as in the First Degree; the fiery cross placed and lighted by the Night Hawk; altar flag placed by Klokard; sword by Klaliff; Bible by Kludd; torch by Kourier No. 2; water by Kourier No. 1.)

(Each officer steps back two paces and assumes position facing E. C., as per Diagram No. 2 in the Kloran of the First Degree.)

KLOKARD: "Your Excellency, the Sacred Altar of the Klan is prepared. The Fiery Cross illumines the Klavern."

E. C.: "Kludd, present the Colors."

(MUSIC.)

("The Stars and Stripes Forever.")

(E. C. raps three times for all to stand. Kludd advances to flag, marches with it to position in front of E. C.'s station. All give pledge of allegiance to the flag, then drop hands and remain standing.)

E. C.: "Your flag and my flag! The flag of the United States of America, and of the Women of the Ku Klux Klan! Honor it! Together!"

(All salute.)

(MUSIC.)

("Star-Spangled Banner.")

(Kludd marches to position of the flag stand, between Klaliff's station and altar, places the flag in its stand, salutes it, and returns to her position.)

(E. C. raps once for members to be seated. Officers remain standing in their positions about the altar.)

E. C.: "Klokard, you have informed me that the Sacred Altar of the Klan is prepared. What symbols are upon that altar?"

KLOKARD: "The Holy Bible, the Flag, the Torch, the Water, and the Sword."

E. C.: "First Kourier, what means the water?"

KOURIER No. 1: "The water is the symbol of purity of life and unity of purpose. May we keep our hearts pure, our conduct clean, and our consciences clear, and ever work in unity for the noble purposes to which we are dedicated."

E. C.: "Second Kourier, what means the torch?"

KOURIER No. 2: "The Torch is the symbol of the great light from above which illumines the path of every true Klanswoman."

E. C.: "Klaliff, what means the Sword?"

KLALIFF: "The Sword is the symbol of law enforcement, which has the support of every Klanswoman. It signifies, also, that we will give our lives, if necessary, and the lives of those we hold most dear, in the defense of our flag and of that America for Americans for which our flag stands."

E. C.: "Kludd, the Holy Bible should be an open book — open to every child of God throughout the world. It lies open before you. At what expression of inspired wisdom?"

(MUSIC.)

("Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty.")

(This music is played very softly throughout the following speech by the Kludd.)

KLUDD: "The Holy Bible, Your Excellency, lies open at that place, the Twelfth Chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Romans, where it ever lies open in all Klonklaves of the Women of the Ku Klux Klan — that reminder of a Klanswoman's law of life and conduct which begins: 'I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.'"

E. C.: "A Divine light upon the pathway of all Christian men and women—greatest of all the Sacred Symbols of Klankraft."

(The music stops. Kludd steps back two paces.)

E. C.: "Kouriers" (Kourier No. 1 and Kourier No. 2 salute), "in a Klonklave of Kriterion Konservators two additional symbols are added to those upon the altar, to remind us of special lessons which are emphasized in this degree. Produce those symbols, and place them before us upon the Sacred Altar."

(MUSIC.)

(*"Onward, Christian Soldiers."*)

Kourier No. 1 moves in a line toward the farthest right-hand corner of the Klavern as viewed from the E. C.'s station, passes the Kladd (upon the Kourier's left), then turns to left at right angles, continues to Klaliff's station, and secures the hourglass.

Simultaneously, Kourier No. 2 moves in a line toward the left-hand farthest corner of the Klavern as viewed from the E. C.'s station, passes the Klaliff (upon the Kourier's right), then turns to right at right angles, continues to Klaliff's station, and secures the copper penny.

(Effort should be made by both to move at exactly the same speed, so that each will make the change of direction at the same instant and reach the Klaliff's station at the same instant.)

With the penny and the hourglass they turn simultaneously and retrace their steps over the same route by which each came, and simultaneously

arrive at the altar and place what they bring upon it—the penny at the corner near the point of the sword, the hourglass at the diagonally opposite corner, at the lower left of the Bible.

NOTE.—The hourglass should be one in which the sand will run for at least a half hour, and it shall be the continuing duty of Kourier No. 1, if the Klonklave should last longer than the time necessary for the sand to run out, to keep an eye upon the glass, and, when it seems to have nearly run out, to approach the altar and turn the glass. Once placed upon the altar, the sand must be kept running so long as the Klonklave remains in session.

(As the Kouriers place the penny and the hourglass upon the altar, the music stops. The Kouriers step back two paces to their original positions.)

E. C.: "Second Kourier, what is the symbol you deposited upon the altar?"

KOURIER No. 2: "A copper penny."

E. C.: "Klaliff, its meaning?"

KLALIFF: "They asked Him, 'Tell us, therefore, what thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Cæsar, or not?' But Jesus perceived their wickedness and said, 'Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? Show me the tribute money.' And they brought unto Him a penny. And He saith unto them, 'Whose is this image and superscription?' And they say unto Him, 'Cæsar's.' Then saith He unto them, 'Render therefore unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's, and unto God the things that are God's.'"

E. C.: "And in this Degree of Kriterion Konservator we are especially reminded of this les-

son — that Church and State ought forever to be kept separate. First Kourier, what is the symbol you deposited?"

KOURIER NO. 1: "An hourglass."

E. C.: "Klokard, its meaning?"

KLOKARD: "In the Degree of Kriterion Konservator we obligate ourselves that we will ever seek to conserve the criterions established by the Christian founders of our free American Government; that we will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitutions of the States within which we are citizens or residents, and that we will be loyal in every way to our homes, our communities, and to the admonitions and teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ. The hourglass is ever to remind us of those final words of the Kriterion Konservator Degree: 'So long as the sands of time run through the American hourglass, whenever Patriotism calls, we Women of the Ku Klux Klan will respond for the service of our God, our Country, our Flag, our children, and our children's children, ever holding Jesus the Christ to be our Greatest Criterion.'"

E. C.: "And ever saying to Him, as did Mary, 'Rabboni,' which is to say 'Master.' Let us pray."

(Calls all to their feet with three raps of gavel.)

(MUSIC.)

("What a Friend We Have in Jesus.")

(E. C. leaves her station and approaches the altar. The Kludd steps forward to the altar and kneels at it. All the other officers move one pace nearer to altar. Four lines of the hymn are played as they thus assemble.)

KLUDD: "Almighty and Eternal God our Father, we approach Thee with reverence, and with humility, and with love. We ask Thy blessing upon these daughters of Thy household, Klanswomen who, as Kriterion Konservators, have dedicated themselves anew to Thee and to the service of Thy Kingdom.

"Help us to know Thy will and to keep it. Help us to be true to Thee, true to one another and to the principles of our Order, true to our obligations as Klanswomen and as Kriterion Konservators, true to this great Christian Nation and all its institutions.

"Let Thy blessing descend, we pray Thee, upon each and all of us here assembled — upon those of our members who are absent — upon our Imperial Commander and her official family — upon all things that we do for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith.

"Our Father, we ask that a full measure of Thy lovingkindness fall upon our Nation, and may we and all other Klanswomen forever resist the temptations that assail us and be filled with Patriotism, with Wisdom, with Devotion, and with the spirit of the Master. We ask it in the name of Him who is our Greatest Criterion. Amen."

(The Kludd rises.)

E. C.: "Kriterion Konservators — the sign."

(All present, including the E. C. and officers, give the sign of a Kriterion Konservator. While all hold it, the E. C. continues to speak.)

E. C.: "As each and every one of us has resisted five temptations, so may we all forever have strength

to resist all temptations — with the guidance and help of the Master we all have sought and found.”

(All officers and members drop their hands.)

(MUSIC.)

(“*All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name.*”)

(While music is being played, all officers turn and move to their stations. If desired, two stanzas may be sung by all while the officers are going to their places and immediately after they have reached them.)

E. C.: “Klanswomen all, what is the sworn duty of a Klanswoman?”

ALL: “To keep peace and harmony in Klonklave; to guard the secrets of the Klan, and to heed well all instructions.”

E. C.: “To us as Kriterion Konservators that duty has been emphasized by a second most solemn and binding obligation. Twice consecrated are we to our God and our Country.”

(MUSIC.)

(“*America.*”)

(All sing two stanzas and repeat Kreed in concert.)

E. C.: “By the authority vested in me by our Imperial Commander, I now proclaim this Klonklave of Kriterion Konservators of the Women of the Ku Klux Klan open for the transaction of such business as shall properly come before it.”

(One rap of the gavel for all to be seated.)

CLOSING CEREMONY IN THE DEGREE OF KRITERION KONSERVATOR

NOTE.—This ceremony in full form is to be used on occasions when the meeting is for Kriterion Konservators only and was opened in full form by the special Kriterion Konservators’ ceremony. (On occasions when the Klan was first opened in the First Degree and then changed into the Second without form for the purpose of degree work, the changing back to the First Degree shall be made by the E. C.’s declaration provided at the close of the Kriterion Konservator Degree Ritual, and the Klan closed in that degree. In that case, just before the E. C. declares the Klonklave of Kriterion Konservators closed and the Klanswomen to be sitting as members of the First Degree, she shall say: “Kouriers, remove from the Sacred Altar the two additional symbols pertaining only to this degree,” and the Kouriers shall remove them and bear them to some place where they will not be in evidence. The E. C. shall then declare the Klavern of Kriterion Konservators closed and the First Degree reopened.)

E. C.: “Has anyone present anything further to bring to the attention of the Klonklave before we close its portals?” (After a pause to give anyone who may wish an opportunity to speak.) “If not, we will proceed to the Closing Ceremony.” (Raps once with gavel.) “Klaliff, when this Klonklave was opened, what was the first duty of its Kloranic Officers?”

KLALIFF: “To prepare the Sacred Altar.”

E. C.: “And what, now, is the last duty of the Kloranic Officers?”

KLALIFF: “To restore the sacred symbols to a place of safety, there to repose until the next Klonklave of this Kriterion Konservator Degree.”

E. C.: "Kloranic Officers, you will assemble at the altar for the performance of this duty." (Raps twice with gavel. All Kloranic Officers rise.)

(Music.)

("One Sweetly Solemn Thought.")

(Klaliff, Klokard, Kludd, Kladd, Night Hawk, Kourier No. 1 and Kourier No. 2 move forward to positions about the altar. These positions are the same as indicated in Diagram No. 2 in the Kloran of the First Degree, *except* that the positions of the Klokard and the Kladd are reversed, and that the Kludd, instead of being close to the altar, stands two or three paces from it. When all have reached these positions, they stand at attention until the music stops and E. C. speaks again.)

(As the E. C. calls the titles of the officers and the names of the symbols they are to bear, each officer steps forward to the altar, raises from it the object named, and steps back two or three paces to the same position. This is to be done as rapidly as is consistent with dignity and reverence, the E. C. not waiting for her command to each officer to be carried out, but addressing the next officer as soon as the previous one has started toward the altar to obey.)

E. C.: "Klaliff, the Sword. . . . Klokard, the Altar Flag. . . . Kladd, the Water. . . . Night Hawk, the Torch. . . . First Kourier, the Hourglass. . . . Second Kourier, the Copper Penny." (E. C. now waits a moment until all these officers, bearing the symbols, have stepped back to their places about the altar.) "Restore them to the places whence they came."

(All moving simultaneously, not hastily and with dignity, the five officers bearing the symbols proceed as follows: The Klaliff carries Sword to her own station, deposits it, and remains there. The Klokard carries the altar flag to her own station, deposits it, then remains there. The Kladd carries water to the Klokard's station, deposits it there, then goes to her own permanent station at the right of the E. C. Night Hawk carries Torch to Kludd's station, deposits it there, and returns to her place beside Fiery Cross. Kourier No. 1 (making the same right-angled turn as when she went to bring the symbol during the opening ceremony) carries the hourglass to the Klaliff's station, deposits it there, and goes to her own permanent station at the right of the Klokard. Kourier No. 2 (making the same right-angled turn as when she went to bring the symbol during the opening ceremony) carries the Copper Penny to the Klaliff's station, deposits it there, then goes to her own permanent station at the left of the Kludd's station. All remain standing in their places.)

(While all this is being done, the E. C. speaks, beginning the moment the officers start to restore the symbols.)

E. C.: "Though for a time they depart from our sight, yet it is ever the duty of every Kriterion Konservator to keep in her mind the symbols and their meaning. The Flag, standing for the Constitution of our beloved country, under which we enjoy the blessings of freedom. The Sword, for law enforcement and our willingness, if need be, to sacrifice our lives for God, our Country, and the Right. The Torch, for the light in which, as Klanswomen, we walk. The Water, our purity of aim and

unity of purpose. The Copper Penny, like the tribute money of old, our determination that Church and State shall forever be kept separate. The Hourglass, that so long as run the sands of time in America, so long shall the Women of the Ku Klux Klan respond to every call of Christian Patriotism."

(If all the officers who returned the symbols have not reached their stations, E. C. will wait until they have done so before speaking further. If, now, they are all at their stations, she continues with only an instant's pause.)

E. C.: "Klanswomen all, what is the crowning glory of a Klanswoman?"

ALL: "The crowning glory of a Klanswoman is to serve."

E. C.: "What is the sworn duty of a Klanswoman in her daily association with the alien world?"

ALL: "To refrain from discussing the affairs of the Klan in the hearing of strangers or aliens. A Klanswoman keeps the inner affairs of the Klan strictly to herself."

E. C.: "Night Hawk, you will extinguish the Fiery Cross."

(MUSIC.)

("The Old Rugged Cross.")

NIGHT HAWK: "I will extinguish the material fire" (extinguishing Fiery Cross), "but will ever keep burning in my heart the ideal——" (Gives the sign OFC.).

E. C.: "So should every Klanswoman ever keep burning in her breast the flame of the Fiery Cross — Patriotism, Loyalty, Love, and Christianity. . . . Kludd, reverently close the Great and Holy Book of our Faith." (Kludd advances two paces to the altar and slowly and reverently closes the Bible, then remains standing there. E. C. continues to speak as she is doing this.) "Closed for the moment it may be upon our altar, but in our hearts it is ever open, the guide to our conduct, the tie that binds us in Christian fellowship, and the key to our salvation through Jesus Christ, our Master and our Great Criterion."

(MUSIC.)

("Blest Be the Tie That Binds")

(All sing two stanzas.)

E. C.: "Kludd, you will pronounce the benediction — and may we all depart from this gathering with renewed strength of purpose in the great undertaking to which we have set our hands and pledged our solemn vows."

KLUDD: "May the blessing of Almighty God our Father descend upon us and go out with us into the world. May His love sustain us, His wisdom direct us, and His ineffable goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our lives. And when we are called, at last, to depart from this realm of human usefulness, may we find, through Christ our Savior, forgiveness for our sins, recompense for our sacrifices, reward for our well-doing, and be gathered, as good and faithful servants, into His Everlasting Empire. Amen."

E. C.: "I now officially proclaim this Klonklave
of Kriterion Konservators of Klan
No., Realm of, of the Invisible
Empire W. K. K. K. duly closed, to remain closed
until the next regular meeting, unless otherwise
ordered. . . . Klanswomen, seal your lips. Faith-
ful Klanswomen, good night."

(All seal lips with the Sign of Secrecy, saying,
"Good night.")

