



Book of Ceremonies

**Additional Ceremonies to
Enhance our
Rainbow Teachings**

“RU” and “Rainbow University” designate a series of products produced by Supreme Assembly for the benefit of all members of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. The products were developed by the Rainbow Renewal Task Force under the direction of Mrs. Marjorie Wilson, Supreme Worthy Advisor, Mrs. Barbara Russell, Supreme Recorder and the entire Supreme Executive Board. All questions, comments, suggestions, and orders for additional copies of this handbook may be directed to Supreme Assembly, P. O. Box 1868, McAlester, Oklahoma, USA, 74502. The Rainbow Renewal Task Force may be contacted via e-mail at taskforce@sayrainbow.org

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Chapter 1: Baby Dedication Ceremony (Girls only)

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Maine.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To welcome the daughters of Majority members to the Rainbow family.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Chaplain
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: Ribbons for each baby in seven Rainbow colors.
Rainbow Bible for each baby.

Other: Suggested background music:
Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star
Brahms' Lullaby
Jesus Loves Me

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Faith, you will please invite our Rainbow Majority Sister(s) to enter with their baby daughters for dedication.

(Sister of Faith leaves her station, marches West and then South to the Assembly door where she will receive the mothers and their babies. She will lead them single file through the door and along the West marching lane toward the North, until they are in a straight line across the West, facing East. Sister of Faith should be at the North end of the line.)

Worthy Advisor: Where did you come from baby dear?

Sister of Faith: Out of the everywhere, into the here.

Worthy Advisor: Where did you get those eyes of blue?

Sister of Faith: Out of the sky, as I came through.

Worthy Advisor: What makes the light in them sparkle and spin?

Sister of Faith: Some of the starry spikes left in.

Worthy Advisor: Where did you get that little tear?

Sister of Faith: I found it waiting when I got here.

Worthy Advisor: What makes your forehead so smooth and high?

Sister of Faith: A soft hand stroked it as I went by.

Worthy Advisor: What makes your cheek like a warm, white rose?

Sister of Faith: I saw something better than anyone knows.

Worthy Advisor: Whence that three cornered smile of bliss?

Sister of Faith: Three angels gave me, at once, a kiss!

Worthy Advisor: Where did you get those pearly ears?

Sister of Faith: God spoke and they came out to hear.

Worthy Advisor: Where did you get those arms and hands?

Sister of Faith: Love made itself into bonds and bands.

Worthy Advisor: Feet, whence did you come, you darling things?

Sister of Faith: From the same box as the cherubs' wings.

Worthy Advisor: How did they all just come to be you?

Sister of Faith: God thought about me, and so I grew!

Worthy Advisor: But how did you come to Rainbow, you dear?

Sister of Faith: God thought about you, and so I am here.

(Sister of Faith then conducts the mothers and their babies to the Station of Hope by marching down the North marching lane, across the East marching lane, and up the South marching lane, until they are in front of Sister of Hope's station. Sister of Faith will be at the West end of the line and will cause the mothers and babies to face Sister of Hope's station.)

Sister of Hope: When God wants a great work done in the world, or a great wrong righted, He goes about it in a very unusual way. He doesn't stir up His earthquakes or send forth His thunderbolts. Instead, He has a simple baby born; perhaps in a simple home and of some obscure mother. And then God puts the idea into the mother's heart, and she puts it into the baby's mind. And then God waits.

The greatest forces in the world are not the earthquakes and the thunderbolts. The greatest forces in the world are babies.

(Sister of Faith conducts the mothers and babies to the station of the Worthy Associate Advisor. They form a straight line back of the Bow, facing West, with Sister of Faith at the North end of the line.)

Worthy Associate Advisor: You may give them your love, but not your thoughts. You may house their bodies but not their souls. For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit; not even in your dreams. You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you. For life goes not backward, nor tarries with yesterday. You are the bows from which your children, as living arrows, are sent forth.

(Sister of Faith conducts the mothers and babies to the Station of Charity. They stand in a straight line, facing Sister of Charity, with Sister of Faith at the East end of the line.)

Sister of Charity: God borrows from many creatures to make a little girl. He uses the song of the birds, the squeal of a pig, the stubbornness of a mule, the antics of a monkey, the spryness of a grasshopper, the curiosity of a cat, the speed of a gazelle, the slyness of a fox, the softness of a kitten.

And, to top it all off, He adds the mysterious mind of a woman.

(Sister of Faith conducts the mothers and the babies from Sister of Charity's station, across the East marching land and up the South marching lane to Sister of Hope's station, where she turns into the Bow area and stops the line in front of Sister of Love. After each Color Station speaks, they pass the mother a ribbon of the color of the station, after which Sister of Faith steps along to the next station.)

Sister of Love: Every home should have a daughter
For there's nothing like a girl
To keep the world around her
In one continuous whirl...

- Sister of Religion:** From the moment she arrives on earth,
And on through womanhood,
A daughter is a female
Who is seldom understood....
- Sister of Nature:** One minute she is laughing,
The next she starts to cry,
Man just cannot understand her
And there's just no use to try...
- Sister of Immortality:** She is soft and sweet and cuddly,
But she's also wise and smart.
She's a wondrous combination
Of a mind and brain and heart...
- Sister of Fidelity:** And even in her baby days,
She's just a born coquette.
And anything she really wants,
She manages to get...
- Sister of Patriotism:** For even at a tender age
She uses all her wiles
And she can melt the hardest heart
With the sunshine of her smiles...
- Sister of Service:** She starts out as a rosebud,
With her beauty unrevealed,
And then through happy childhood
Her petals are unsealed...

(After Sister of Service speaks, Sister of Faith conducts the mothers and babies down the North marching lane and countermarches in the East to position them in front of the Worthy Advisor with Sister of Faith at the North end of the line.)

Worthy Advisor: My Rainbow Majority sisters, as Worthy Advisor I thank you for bringing your baby daughters that we might dedicate them into the Rainbow tradition. I would like to present to you, at this time, their Rainbow Bibles. I hope that you will keep them until your daughters reach the age of eleven and are initiated as active members of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls and will begin to carry on the organization which you have preserved for them. On the night that they are initiated, it is our desire that you present the Bible to them and tell them about the day they were dedicated to Rainbow.

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

Chaplain: Lord, bless all earth's "Little Things":
Fledglings with their untried wings,
Woolly lambs that frisk and play,
Timid squirrels that hide away,
Spotted fawns so smooth and swift,
Ducklings – a soft yellow drift,
Owlets huddling – all forlorn,
Feeble calves but newly born,
Tiny chipmunks running free,
Bear cubs romping merrily,
Rough young colts of gangling grace.
Bless them all, but turn your face,
With special love and mercy's pearls,
To bless these precious baby girls. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(The Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly and causes mothers and babies to face the Assembly. She introduces each one using both maiden and married names and babies' full names.)

Worthy Advisor: Please join me in greeting these Rainbow Majority sisters and their baby daughters with a hearty applause. Sister of Faith, you will conduct them from the Assembly Room.

Chapter 2: Baby Dedication Ceremony (Boys and Girls)

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Arkansas.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To welcome the sons and daughters of Majority members of Rainbow and Senior DeMolays to the Masonic family.

Participants: Worthy Advisor
Chaplain

Paraphernalia: Flower for each baby.
Certificate for each baby.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Faith, you will present those parents wishing to dedicate their children to Masonic Youth Organizations to the Altar.

Thank you for bringing your children (child) to be dedicated to the principles of our Orders. We trust this will be another moment to remember in your association with the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

The faith and confidence of a little child is a wonderful thing. God has given you the sacred task of molding the lives (life) of your children (child) in His image. The lessons of charity, trust, and loving kindness given to you during your Rainbow or DeMolay years will help you make a deep and lasting impression on their lives.

Please repeat the following obligation after me. "I promise upon my honor, as a dedicated parent and supporter of Masonic youth, to guide my child by the principles of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls. I further promise to give my child the opportunity to become a member of a Masonic Youth Organization when they are of proper age." Thank you.

That the blessings of our Heavenly Father may sustain you in your task, let us unite in prayer.

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

Chaplain: Our Gracious Heavenly Father. We pause to give thanks for these parents who have come to our Altar with their children (child.) We pray you will sustain them in their faith and strengthen their hope and desire that these precious little ones

will grow in the grace and knowledge of You, who loves us all. May the principle of our beautiful Order shine through their lives, and ours, as we follow you. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(The Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

(The Worthy Advisor presents the parents with certificates and flowers.)

Worthy Advisor: May the sunshine of God's love lighten the pathway of these children and may they grow to be a credit to their home, family and country, appreciating those things that can be found in a good Rainbow or DeMolay life.

(The families of the children being dedicated should then be introduced.)

Worthy Advisor: Thank you for the privilege of dedicating your children to our Masonic Youth Organizations. Sister of Faith, you will conduct these parents and their children to their seats.

Chapter 3: Bow Program

By Mrs. Shirley Walton, PM and Mrs. Sandra Dunnett, PWA, PMA, Canada.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: For use at open meetings for prospective members and for presentation to other fraternal groups when invited to their meetings.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: None

(The Mother Advisor can give a brief welcome or thank you, depending on the occasion.)

Mother Advisor: My friends, the freshness of youth and beauty is symbolized in our Assemblies by the seven colors of the Rainbow. Have you ever wondered, what the colors of our Rainbow really mean? Let us listen as each color describes its lesson.

Sister of Love: My color is Red, I represent Love. Love first came from God to show us the way. Jesus said "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy strength and with all thy mind, and thy neighbor as thyself."

Love should be the center of all our relationships. It can be the greatest force in our lives. Without receiving love, we feel unwanted. Without giving love, our lives are without purpose.

Let us then learn to allow love to motivate all we say and do.

Sister of Religion: My color is Orange, I represent Religion. From the beginning of time, people have worshipped. It is a basic need of mankind to revere and draw strength from a Supreme Being. Religion is essential for us to establish a moral standard by which to live.

Saint James states that religion is “to visit the fatherless and widows in their afflictions and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”

Let us then learn to respect Religion as the moral teacher in our lives.

Sister of Nature: My color is Yellow, I represent Nature. A rolling hill of autumn leaves, a sunset upon the water, a field of daisies swaying in a gentle breeze, the sun shining through an ice-covered hedge. What better sights to help us think of God!

In quiet moments, we should think about our lives, and where we fit, and what we will be and do. The Psalmist writes, “He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside the still waters.”

Let us then learn to feel God’s presence in the beauties of nature.

Sister of Immortality: My color is Green, I represent Immortality. How we hate to think of death, but if we could only see, it’s not an end, but a beginning of new life in Immortality.

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.”

It is a great lesson in Faith to be with a person who faces death without fear. It is their assurance of life after death, which gives them that courage. It is that same assurance that quiets the grief of those left behind.

Let us then learn to have faith to believe God’s promise of peace at the last.

Sister of Fidelity: My color is Blue, I represent Fidelity.

The greatest compliment we could pay another person is to say, “I trust you.” This statement says, I know you will tell the truth. I know you will honor a promise. I know you will be faithful to obligations and duties. This is Fidelity.

Saint Paul wrote, “We aim at what is honorable, not only in the Lord’s sight but also in the sight of men.”

Let us then learn to be true to our vows and promises.

Sister of Patriotism: My color is Indigo, I represent Patriotism. Sir Walter Scott wrote, “Breathes there a man with a soul so dead , Who never to himself has said, ‘This is my own, my native land.’”

What does this mean? To see the pride in the faces of your country’s athletes, following our Flag at the Olympic games. To stand proudly at attention and sing the

national anthem at home and in a foreign country. A solemn remembrance of lives lost, to preserve this great land of ours.

Let us then learn to respect, cherish, and defend our flag, the symbol of our country.

Sister of Service: My color is Violet, I represent Service.

What greater satisfaction than to hear these words said to us, "Thank you, you have helped me so much." To do a job and do it well, gives pleasure, but to do a kindness for another, gives pure joy.

We should never turn away from an opportunity to do a service for those who need it most, the lonely, the handicapped, the unloved, or the ones who feel they have failed. Saint Paul wrote to the Galatians, "By love, serve one another."

Let us then learn to work together for the good of all, and to give aid to those in need.

Worthy Advisor: Seven colors make up our symbolic Rainbow, around which our Order is formed. Its meaning is found in the Book of Genesis, Chapter 9, verses 8 to 13. "Then God told Noah and his sons, 'I solemnly promise you and your children that I will never again send another flood to destroy the earth. And I seal this promise with this sign - I have placed my rainbow in the clouds as a sign of my promise until the end of time, to you and to all the earth.'"

At the center of our Assembly Room is the Altar upon which rests the Holy Bible. This symbolizes white light.

In nature, when the sun shines through droplets of rain, its white light is separated into the seven colors that form a rainbow as seen in the heavens after a refreshing summer shower, or in the mist of a beautiful cascading waterfall, so perfectly formed, it's breathtaking!

This is symbolic of the teachings of our Holy Bible, radiating into our lives to give us strength and knowledge to live by the lessons of our seven Color Stations.

Let us then learn to allow this strength and knowledge to help us live by the principles taught by our Rainbow Colors.

I invite each member to stand, introduce herself and give the name of the office that she currently holds in the Assembly.

(The Worthy Advisor extends thanks to the girls and, if appropriate, to the organization which extended the invitation.)

Worthy Advisor: The Officers will retire informally.

Chapter 4: Christmas Service

By Mrs. Judy Trest, PMA, California.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To celebrate Christmas by highlighting the significance of Rainbow's lessons in the Christmas story.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Chaplain
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: One flower each for the Sisters of Faith, Hope and Charity.

Worthy Advisor: My friends, we have invited you to this Christmas Service with the hope that it will present a truer meaning of Christmas to you. We hope that you will join with us in singing the Christmas carols.

This is the time of year when our thoughts turn to God and His son Jesus. We all want to be closer to God. Since this closeness is obtained through prayer, you will invite the Chaplain to ask his blessing on this meeting. Sister Chaplain, you have been requested to ask God's blessing upon this meeting.

Chaplain: Our Father, it is with admiration that we come before Thee. We pray Thy blessing upon this meeting, that its principles may be impressed upon the hearts of those present. At this time of year when we celebrate Thy Son's birth, may we be more thankful to Thee for Thy rich blessings. May we especially remember the greatest gift of all, Christ Jesus, and let our thoughts dwell on this great gift rather than the material things of this Holiday Season. In this may we bring glory and honor unto Thee.

Response by All: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, you will ask the Color Stations to present the various lessons of Christmas, and advise those present to heed well their lessons.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Color Stations, you will present your various lessons of Christmas Love, Religion, Nature, Immortality, Fidelity, Patriotism and Service. All present will heed your lessons, as they are wise.

Sister of Love: Christmas is Love. God expressed His love to all the people of the world giving His Son to die in our place. What great love. We should give evidence of this love in our lives. “Love one another” was the commandment of the Savior himself. Love is an eternal truth that will last throughout the ages. At this season when we think of God’s great love, we must remember to show our love to those around us.

(Song: “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*”)

Sister of Religion: Christmas is Religion. Without Christmas, the birth of Christ, we would not have our Christian religion. The story of Christmas is the story of Christianity. When the shepherds saw the star in the East, they rejoiced and went in search of the Savior. In this season, we should all endeavor to show forth our Christian religion in every way possible.

(Song: “*Silent Night*”)

Sister of Nature: When Joseph and Mary came to Bethlehem, there was no room in the Inn, so they found shelter in a stable. In this stable, surrounded by Nature itself, Jesus - the Savior of His people was born. The shepherds were watching their flocks of sheep, when an angel appeared, and told them of the Savior’s birth.

(Song: “*The First Noel*”)

Sister of Immortality: Along with the birth of Jesus, comes the promise of eternal life, Jesus came to earth for the purpose of dying that we might live forever. We should rejoice and give thanks for this great gift that has been bestowed upon us. Death is not a thing to be dreaded because Jesus has paid the price of death for us.

(Song: “*Joy to the World*” Verses 1 & 3)

Sister of Fidelity: Jesus was an example of right living while he was on earth. We must be faithful in following this example. After Jesus left our earth his disciples were faithful in continuing his work. We also should be faithful.

(Song: “*O Come All Ye Faithful*”)

Sister of Patriotism: At Christmas time there are always those who are in the Military service and can't be with their families. They are giving this time, a time when they would rather be at home with their family, for their country.

(Song: "*Hark The Herald Angels Sing*")

Sister of Service: One of the things that makes our Christmas more joyous is knowing that we have helped some deserving person to have a happier Christmas. With all the time we spend buying gifts, wrapping them and decorating them, we must not forget to help those who are less fortunate than we are.

(Song: "*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*")

Worthy Associate Advisor: Worthy Advisor, the Color Stations have given their lessons. They are truly wise, and their principles, if heeded, in our lives, should help us lead better and more meaningful lives.

Worthy Advisor: Sisters of Faith, Hope and Charity, you will approach the Altar.

Sister of Faith: If we have Faith in the Christ Child,

Sister of Hope: We have the Hope of Immortality,

Sister of Charity: Because of the Charity of God to all mankind.

(Sisters of Hope and Charity step forward and place their flowers on the Altar pointing to the North and South, then they step back. Sister of Faith then steps forward and places her flower facing East thus forming a Cross. Sister of Faith steps back, then they all return to their stations.)

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, you will be pleased to close this meeting in prayer.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Sister Chaplain, you will ask God's blessing.

Chaplain: Our Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for the lessons of this ceremony. We thank Thee for each one present, and we pray that you will guide each one safely home. As we enter a New Year, Father, may we truly lead better lives, and may we endeavor to bring more glory to Thee.

Response by All: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

Chapter 5: Crowning Ceremony By Eastern Star

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Nevada.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To crown the newly installed Worthy Advisor.

Participants:

- New Worthy Advisor
- Retiring Worthy Advisor
- Chaplain
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service
- Mother Advisor
- Worthy Matron of sponsoring Chapter

Paraphernalia: Crown

Other: All participating in the Crowning Ceremony should wear formal attire.

Worthy Advisor: Will the Worthy Matron of _____ Chapter Number _____, (sponsoring Chapter) please enter the Assembly Room.

(The Worthy Matron enters the Assembly Room and, while remaining on the floor level, addresses the other members of the Crowning Team.)

Worthy Matron: The members of the Crowning Team will take their respective stations.

(The members assume their positions behind the Bow Stations. The Chaplain assumes a position near the Altar area.)

Worthy Matron: Miss _____, we, the members of _____ Chapter Number ____, Order of the Eastern Star are here to crown you Worthy Advisor of _____ Assembly, Number _____. It is indeed an honor and pleasure to have been asked to perform this ceremony. Eastern Star is happy and proud to sponsor this lovely Assembly. Miss _____ you passed through the Bow with

its seven rays upon your Initiation. I would ask you to join me now and recall the lessons as we travel, keeping in mind that _____ Chapter Number _____ bids you God speed and wishes for you a prosperous term as Worthy Advisor.

(The Worthy Matron leads the new Worthy Advisor toward Sister of Love's station and then assumes her position behind each Bow Officer as they say their message. At the end of the Bow lectures, she again holds the Worthy Advisor's hand and leads her to the East side of the Altar, facing the West, while she waits for the Chaplain to escort the retiring Worthy Advisor from the East to the same position at the Altar.)

Sister of Love: The first station is Love. Its color is Red, a universal symbol for love.
Love your mother; love your father; but above all, love God.

Sister of Religion: The second station is Religion. Its color is Orange. Religion teaches us of God. To be a leader in this Assembly, we ask that you heed the Lessons of Religion and try to ever lead a life of righteousness and virtue.

Sister of Nature: The third station is Nature. Its color is Yellow. It teaches that you should take time from your busy life to spend in the great out-of-doors, for there you can better commune with God.

Sister of Immortality: The fourth station is Immortality. Its color is Green. Ever be reminded that one is never too young to prepare for Life Immortal.

Sister of Fidelity: The fifth station is Fidelity. Its color is Blue. Fidelity teaches responsibility and trust. You should always be true to every vow. Never make a promise to anyone that you can not keep.

Sister of Patriotism: The sixth station is Patriotism. Its color is Indigo. Patriotism reminds us of our duty to our Country. Our forefathers died that we may speak freely, have equal justice, and, above all, worship God as we choose.

Sister of Service: The seventh station is Service. Its color is Violet. Service is an important lesson and the noblest of all virtues. As a leader, you must help and you must serve your Sisters and your Assembly. Try to make your life one of service, for only in service to others do we find the greatest rewards.

Worthy Matron: You have again passed through the stations of the seven rays of the Rainbow whose beautiful colors emanate from the source of the White Light, the Holy Bible. As the new leader of this Assembly, I would admonish you to seek strength, wisdom and courage from its pages to aid you in conducting the affairs of this Assembly so that it will prosper under your direction. The Chaplain will now lead us in prayer.

(The Mother Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

(The Chaplain offers the prayer from a convenient position close to, but not behind, the Altar.)

Chaplain: Our dear God, we bow our heads in prayer and ask that you guide these girls through this term. Help them to lend a hand each day, and spread love and charity along the way. Help them be ever mindful of the lessons told, whose teachings to others they may enfold. Give them courage; protect them with Thy Glory so they may continue to tell the Rainbow story. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(The Worthy Matron lifts the crown from the retiring Worthy Advisor's head and places it on the new Worthy Advisor as she continues.)

Worthy Matron: And now to signify the trust that has been placed in your hands, I crown you Worthy Advisor of _____ Assembly Number ____.

(The Worthy Matron escorts the new Worthy Advisor while the Chaplain escorts the retiring Worthy Advisor to their positions in the East. The new Worthy Advisor should immediately thank the Chapter and ask the Worthy Matron to introduce her officers.)

Worthy Matron: The Officers of _____ Chapter will now retire.

Chapter 6: Eastern Star Starpoint Friendship Ceremony

By Norma Lacombe, PMA, Canada.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: This ceremony can be used when invited to promote Rainbow at an Eastern Star meeting or when Eastern Star members are invited to a special night in the Assembly.

Participants:

Worthy Advisor
Sister of Faith
Sister of Love
Sister of Nature
Sister of Immortality
Sister of Fidelity
Mother Advisor
Eastern Star Star Point Officers:
Adah
Ruth
Esther
Martha
Electa

Paraphernalia: Five small tokens, to be presented to each of the five Starpoint Officers.

Other: The presiding Worthy Matron should be advised in advance that the Star Point Officers should be prepared to respond when asked what the color of their star point means to them.

(The Worthy Advisor gives a greeting or welcome. This may be something like what is shown below, but may be tailored for your specific circumstance.)

Worthy Advisor: Would the Star Point officers of _____ Chapter Number _____ please take their stations.

The members of _____ Assembly Number ___, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls would like to thank _____ Chapter for inviting us here tonight. It is a pleasure to be able to do this for you. We hope that you will enjoy this ceremony and thanks for arriving early tonight to witness it. It is because of the organization that you represent that we are able to have our Assembly. You are an

inspiration and a help to us. As we grow older and the door slowly closes on our Rainbow hopes and dreams, we understand that for many of us another door is slowly opening with new hopes and dreams awaiting us in the Order of the Eastern Star.

Our Mother Advisor has told us that some of the Color Stations in Rainbow are the same colors represented by the starpoints in your Chapter room. Of the colors that our two organizations share, we would like to give you a shorter version of our traditional Initiation lectures to a candidate explaining the meaning of the colors in Rainbow and compare it to the meaning of the same color in your organization.

(Sister of Love leaves her station, goes to Sister of Hope, and using square corners, travels around the room, past Sister of Charity and stands in front of Electa.)

Sister of Love: Love is the first station of a candidate's travels through the Color Stations during Initiation. Its color is red and represents the silken cord that binds creation together. Love helps us see in sorrow and bereavement, it opens the beauty of every virtue, and love will never die. As Electa, what does the color red represent to you?

(Wait for her answer.)

Please accept this small token representing Love.

(Sister of Nature leaves her station, and takes just the few steps to stand in front of Ruth.)

Sister of Nature: Nature is the third station of a candidate's travels through the Color Stations during initiation. Its color is Yellow and represents the out of doors, where, in the quietness of the fields we can commune with God. The transforming power symbolized by this color begins Nature's process of turning the landscape into gold. As Ruth, what does this color mean to you?

(Wait for her answer.)

Please accept this small token representing Nature.

(Sister of Immortality leaves her station taking a few steps back, and using square corners, travels to stand in front of Martha.)

Sister of Immortality: Immortality is the fourth station of a candidate's travels through the Color Stations during initiation. However fair, however hopeful, we would teach the lesson that death is no respecter of persons. It lays its hand upon the flower and the tree, it takes the babe and the mom, and it regards not youth nor youths ambitions. We learn the lesson that even though our bodies may die, our souls are immortal. As Martha, what does this color mean to you?

(Wait for her answer.)

Please accept this small token representing Immortality.

(Sister of Fidelity leaves her station and using square corners, travels South, goes past Sister of Hope and stands in front of Adah.)

Sister of Fidelity: Fidelity is the fifth station of a candidate's travels through the Color Stations during initiation. It represents the confidence placed in a candidate in selecting her as a member of the Assembly. Because God gave his promise to many in ages past, and our loyalty and faithfulness to Him has brought us the beautiful story of our Christian Religion. As Adah, what does this color mean to you?

(Wait for her answer)

Please accept this small token representing Fidelity.

(Sister of Faith leaves her station and using square corners, goes past Sister of Charity to the back of the room and stands in front of Esther.)

Sister of Faith: In our Assembly the color white, is represented by the Holy Bible. The bible is a symbol of white light from which we derive strength to sustain us through life. White is the virgin color, and to us is a symbol of true womanhood. As Esther, what does this color mean to you?

(Wait for her answer.)

Please accept this small token representing true womanhood.

Worthy Advisor: I have a poem I would like to share with you.

I met a Mason, and Eastern Star who changed my thoughts around
They gave me new perspective and Rainbow's what I've found.

They taught me things I didn't know said words I liked to hear
Showed me things I hadn't seen now everything seemed clear.

They listened when I needed them their shoulder there to lean on
They were someone very special, a friend I could depend on.

(The Mother Advisor thanks the Assembly and the Chapter, using words similar to the following.)

Mother Advisor: Would the members of _____ Assembly please stand and introduce themselves and tell us the office you hold in the Assembly.

Thank you _____ for inviting us tonight. It is a real pleasure to be with you and your members.

Sisters Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha and Electa – along with all Chapter members here tonight, I would like to thank each of you for your interest and for being part of our performance of this Friendship ceremony. It is because of the sponsorship of and the support of Eastern Star members throughout _____ (Jurisdiction) that we are able to have this Assembly.

Worthy Advisor: Thank you. The Officers of _____ Assembly will now retire.

Chapter 7: Father's Day Ceremony

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Nevada.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor fathers, either at Fathers' Day, or at any time during the year.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Chaplain
- Drill Leader
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: None

Worthy Advisor: Today we celebrate our fathers. We offer our thanks and our love to those men in our lives who are always there, behind the scenes, trying hard to make sure our lives are filled with dreams that come true. Fathers, you do everything to make sure your children are happy and secure. We Rainbow Girls love you and appreciate your many efforts on our behalf.

Will the State Rainbow Dad, the Assembly Rainbow Dads and all fathers of Rainbow Girls please retire for escort.

Sister Drill Leader, please escort the State Rainbow Dad, the Assembly Rainbow Dads and all fathers of Rainbow Girls to the East facing West.

(The Drill Leader stands when spoken to, then escorts the men to the East, facing West, from West to East along the South side in a simple straight line; then double back to the South if the line is too long.)

Sister of Love: I have so many reasons to be proud that you are my father, for a father's love is constant and true. You have always loved me, and I will always love you.

Sister of Religion: May the Lord of all Creation always shine His light on you. May you be religious and may we follow your example. And when you pray, pray for me; and I will always pray for you.

Sister of Nature: You accept people just as they are, and genuinely appreciate the qualities that make each one of them unique. My wish for you is that the beauty of Nature always surrounds you, so when needed, you may be renewed by Nature's gift.

Sister of Immortality: From you I have learned that a man can be strong and still be sensitive to the needs of others. For this characteristic you will find that even after you leave this life, thoughts of you will remain with me forever. You will always live in my heart.

Sister of Fidelity: You are a man people can look up to. They know they can always count on your word. To you I will always be true and loyal. I will always trust you for you are not only my father, but also my friend.

Sister of Patriotism: By your example, you have taught me how to win, how to loose, and how to gain from every experience. You are a man of many colors. You taught me to be proud of our country, our flag and the lessons of patriotism. You are true red, white and blue. The flag of this country flies high for you.

Sister of Service: You have taught me that giving of yourself without expectation of reward is what builds character; that the helping of another person, no matter the task is the reward. I hope that someday I will be able to render to others the help, love and service that you have shown me.

(The Color Station officers sit.)

Worthy Advisor: Sisters of Faith, Hope and Charity, what words of love do you have for our fathers?

(These Sisters stand together.)

Sister of Faith: Though years will pass, and we may be separated by distance; though the seasons change and with these changes my world may be filled with new hopes and dreams; though others may become a part of my life, always remember that you were the first in my life, and my heart will always be filled with love for you, for you have Faith in me.

Sister of Hope: I often wonder what kind of person I would be if for some reason you had not been my father. I think of the values I might not have been taught, and I

wonder if I would have grown up liking myself; or whether I would have had the opportunities I have had. It is now that I realize how lucky I am to have a father who cares for me the way you do. And I feel that I was meant to be your child, because if I had been given the chance to choose which father I would have - I would have chosen you. I hope you know how loved you are.

Sister of Charity: It seems like I told people throughout my life about my Dad; about how you are always there for me, always giving, always caring, always loving me. But I have never told you how much you mean to me. Simple words do not always do justice to the wealth of feeling I have for you in my heart. I am happy to say that you are my father. I love and thank you and cherish you in my heart. (Sisters of Faith, Hope and Charity sit together. Later the Worthy Associate Advisor stands and is seated when she finishes her presentation)

Worthy Advisor: Sister Worthy Associate Advisor, will you please share your words of love and admiration for our fathers.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Father, I am grateful to you for giving me life and for loving me as only a father can. But there is another emotion I feel for you, perhaps the greatest compliment that can be given to you as a father is that I respect you. I respect the person you are. I respect all that you have done and the efforts you have made. You have my love, gratitude and most of all my respect.

Worthy Advisor: Thank you, Father, for all the feelings you have shared with us, the stories you have told. Thanks for all the times you've been there for us and reached out to help us sort out our thoughts that we might get to know ourselves better. Thanks for all the time you have spent with us, those moments doing something special just for us. Thanks for all the times you made us feel like somebody special. You have Faith in our dreams - and Hope for our future.

Thank you for all the giving, all the time, all the hugs and caring, and all the love, especially the love.

Sister Chaplain, you will lead us in prayer.

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

Chaplain: Dear God, you knew all children needed someone to look up to, to respect and in whom we would have confidence. You knew as we grew up we would need the reassurance of someone with faith and trust in us, who would always give us fatherly love. So you took the strength of things eternal and matched them to the special needs of human hearts and You made fathers. We each thank you for our very own Dad, our Assembly Rainbow Dads, and our State Rainbow Dad. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

Worthy Advisor: Sisters, you will join me in a hearty thank you to our dads. (after applause.) Sister Drill Leader, you will conduct our Dads to their seats.

(The Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

(When all Dads have been seated, or otherwise exited the Assembly Room, the Drill Leader returns to her Station.)

Chapter 8: Father's Degree

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Virginia.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor fathers, either at Fathers' Day, or at any time during the year.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Recorder
- Treasurer
- Chaplain
- Drill Leader
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia:

- 5 red flowers
- 1 white flower
- Shields:
 - Masonic
 - Eastern Star
 - Rainbow
- Emblems:
 - House
 - Bible
 - Garden tools
 - Lighted candle
 - Wedding ring
 - National flag
 - White cross

Worthy Advisor: I wish to welcome everyone here this evening. It gives _____ Assembly a great deal of pleasure to exemplify this Father's ceremony tonight. In the past, it has always been the custom to honor each mother by putting on the Mother's Degree. We will try to show you tonight that we have not forgotten another person, equally dear to each of us, that is our Father. Sister of Hope, you will open the Bible without form.

(Sister of Hope opens the Holy Bible on the Altar, without the Sign of the Rainbow.)

(With a red flower the Worthy Advisor goes to the Altar.)

Worthy Advisor: I hope, as this flower rests upon the Altar, each father will listen carefully to the words of this ceremony given in deepest sincerity, and he will know that they are meant especially for him, whether he is a father who is a Mason, a father who is an Eastern Star, or the Father of a Rainbow Girl.

(The Worthy Advisor places the flower on Bible while speaking, along the fold of Book, stem Westward, the returns to station by exiting the bow from North.)

(The Treasurer, Recorder, and Drill Leader approach the Altar from the East at the same time.)

Treasurer (carrying a Masonic Shield): For every Father who is a Mason, I place this shield on the Altar.

Recorder (carrying an Eastern Star Shield): For every Father who is an Eastern Star, I place this shield on the Altar.

Drill Leader (carrying a Rainbow Shield): For every Father of a Rainbow Girl, I place this shield on the Altar

(Treasurer, Recorder, and Drill Leader take two steps backward, Treasurer turns toward the South, Recorder and Drill Leader turn toward the North and walk to the East marching lane, then return to their stations.)

Worthy Associate Advisor (with a red flower approaches the Altar from the South): On this White Altar that reflects its rays of faith and purity through the open pages of the Holy Bible, I place this red flower a symbol of the living Father, and may the sun never set when I am not thankful for all that he has done for me.

(She places the flower on the Bible while speaking, along the fold of Book, stem Eastward, then returns to her station, exiting the Bow from the North.)

Sister of Charity (with a red Flower, approaches the Altar from the South): As I place this flower upon the Bible, I think of the many sacrifices a Father makes so that he can provide his daughter and his family with material as well as spiritual gifts that

make their lives happier ones. To me, as I represent Charity, a father is truly the greatest treasure a girl can have.

(She places the flower on the Bible while speaking, on the left page, with the stem toward the centerfold, then returns to her station by exiting the Bow from the North.)

Sister of Hope (with a red flower, approaches the Altar from the South): Along with life's days of wonder and fulfillment, come those days of darkness and uncertainty, when a Father's strong hand and encouraging word of hope seem always to turn that darkness into pure light. It is with honor that I place this flower, as a token of my sincere thanks, on our White Bible.

(She places the flower on the Bible while speaking, on the right page, with the stem toward the centerfold, then returns to her station by exiting the Bow from the North.)

Sister of Faith (with a red flower; approaches the Altar from the South): Faith is a difficult word to define, yet our whole life's existence depends upon it. It is the trust and understanding between a father and his daughter that makes both of their lives worth living. As I place this flower on the Altar, I am indebted to him whose candle of Faith never burns out.

(She places the flower on the Bible while speaking, along the fold of book, with the stem Eastward, then returns to her station by exiting the Bow from the North.)

Worthy Advisor: Sister Chaplain, you will lead us in prayer.

(Chaplain, carrying a white flower, approaches the Altar from the South and kneels at the Altar.)

Chaplain: Oh, Heavenly Father, bestow thy blessings upon each Father of the world this night, that they may understand that their constant toil and service for mankind will never go unnoticed. Make them feel confident that we know in this world today we could not have happiness, security or freedom if it were not for them. Also teach us, as their daughters, never to say one unkind word or sharp remark, but rather to be always ready with a kind thought, a sincere word, and a pure deed. It is to you, Dear Lord, that we are especially grateful for placing such a wonderful friend as a Father upon this earth, and may we never take his name in vain. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(Chaplain stands.)

Chaplain: This flower that I bring to place on our Altar is white, given memory of fathers who have passed away and especially for the Father of Rainbow, the Reverend W. Mark Sexson, the founder of our Order. As I place this white flower in memory of the father who has passed on, I complete the cross, and may it glow with

new hope as we hear the words of the Sisters of Love, Religion, Nature, Immortality, Fidelity, Patriotism and Service.

(She places the flower on the Bible while speaking, in the center, along the fold of Book, with the stem Westward, then returns to her station, exiting North.)

Sister of Love (uncovers the emblem before speaking; emblem is HOUSE): One of the many gifts given to man is the power to love someone with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. This love none of us can do without. That is the reason for this symbol, for it is a father's love that helps turn a house into a home.

Sister of Religion (uncovers the emblem before speaking; emblem is BIBLE): In ancient times it was the father who fought war after war and survived through massacres and deep dungeons in order to preserve for us the words and lessons of the Holy Bible. Again, in the present day, it has been his constant preparedness and religious faith that enables us to choose our own religion, free from persecution. It is for this that we are deeply grateful.

Sister of Nature (uncovers the emblem before speaking; emblem is GARDEN TOOLS): In the out-of-doors, away from the crowded cities, farming takes on all its responsibilities. Often we are forgetful of all the great tasks involved before a balanced meal can be served to us. With these tools some of our fathers spend long tedious hours getting the most out of our God-given nature. Perhaps Thanksgiving should come not only once a year, but rather before every meal.

Sister of Immortality (uncovers the emblem before speaking; emblem is LIGHTED CANDLE): As God has the power to give, he also has the power to take away. Death is always hard to understand, yet when it comes to someone close to us, especially if it should be our Father, it is harder still. He has so influenced our lives that although he may be taken from us in body, his spirit of life will live with us as constant and as bright as this candle.

Sister of Fidelity (uncovers the emblem before speaking; emblem is WEDDING RING): This gold wedding ring symbolizes that trueness and loyalty which nothing can express. There is something about this ring that binds two people's lives together and thus begins the trueness and loyalty that is found among members of a family.

Sister of Patriotism (uncovers the emblem before speaking; emblem is NATIONAL FLAG): The flag of our country is loved and respected by every living American. Many fathers have not only cherished it, but have also been called upon to stand strong and firm in its defense, so that it will continue to represent their patriotism and our freedom. May this flag of red, white, and blue never again be stained with the blood of war, but rather let it wave in peace and tranquility.

Sister of Service (uncovers the emblem before speaking; emblem is WHITE CROSS): Throughout our father's lives, service calls upon him time and again, depriving him

of rest and pleasure. This white cross represents the greatest service of all: that of giving his life for us, who represent his country. No one could ever ask for a greater service of anyone than the giving of ones own life, which thousands of fathers have already done in the past.

Worthy Advisor (goes to front of the Altar): This cross upon the Holy Bible was formed by the Sister from the West, and from the Sisters of Charity, Hope, Faith and Chaplain.

(Each girl stands as her title is named and goes behind the Altar, facing East.)

Worthy Advisor: I would like to present each of you with the flowers that form the points of the cross, because we feel that you are the ones that represent the father we have described here tonight.

(Hand each officer her flower in reverse order of placement, i.e. Chaplain, Sisters of Faith, Hope, and Charity, Worthy Associate Advisor, and last, the Worthy Advisor. All remain in position until the Worthy Advisor has the last flower, then return to stations, exiting the bow from North. The Worthy Advisor then approaches her own father.)

Worthy Advisor: To the father that means the most to me.

Chapter 9: Founder's Day Service

By Mrs. Beverly Donham, Nebraska.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To celebrate the founding of Rainbow, explain the Order's history and the symbolism of the Rainbow colors.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Recorder
- Chaplain
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: None

Worthy Advisor: Today, we are paying tribute to W. Mark Sexson, the founder of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. Sister Recorder, you will read a brief biography of Reverend Sexson.

Recorder: W. Mark Sexson was born July 8, 1877 at Arnica Springs, Missouri to pioneer farmers. At age 12, he joined his church, at 14, he began his ministry, and at age 17 was ordained a minister of the Christian Church. He served churches in several western states before his arrival in Oklahoma. He was a member of many Masonic organizations and served in many capacities including the high position of Grand Master of Masons in the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma. He was a noted contributor to Masonic Literature. In September of 1921 he was initiated into the Order of the Eastern Star and later served as Worthy Grand Patron. He was very dedicated to Masonry and Eastern Star – holding the principles of these organizations high. On December 20, 1953 at the age of 76 years, Reverend Sexson died following a short illness.

Worthy Advisor: The Order of the Rainbow for girls was formed by Reverend Sexson _____ years ago. In the spring of 1922 while addressing an Eastern Star meeting, Reverend Sexson made an appeal that an organization for girls be established to set forth some of the truths of Masonry. The Worthy Matron and members of the Chapter agreed to start an organization if someone would write the Ritual. This he did – the very next day! On April 6, 1922, the degrees were exemplified for a class of 171 girls in McAlester, Oklahoma under the sponsorship of South McAlester Chapter Number 149, Order of the Eastern Star.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Reverend Sexson chose the Rainbow as the emblem of this Order because the Rainbow represents God's Promise, with the intent that the teachings of this beautiful Order would make the teenage girls the "Promise" of the future, not only in fraternal organizations but in the future of our country. "I do set my bow in the cloud and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth." Genesis 9:11.

Worthy Advisor: To the untrained eye, the Rainbow appears to be a blend of colors. We will relate the true colors of the Rainbow and their meaning.

Sister of Love: The first color of the Rainbow is Red – the warm color of love. This is the love at birth, the love that stands against hatred and jealousy, and the Supreme love for all. As we learn from John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Sister of Religion: The Scripture of James 1:26-27 teaches "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Thus the color Orange is the healing color with religion as its center. If we can forgive and be identified with some organized religion, we will know the meaning of the color orange.

Sister of Nature: Next comes Yellow, the living color, a symbol of the changing moments of nature. We learn from yellow that dreams are changed into reality and our ambitions into working plans. If we relate our lives to the out-of-doors, our lives will change as the seasons.

Sister of Immortality: The emerald is the most precious of all the stones, thus the color Green in the Rainbow is of special significance. Green is a cool and restful color, the color of endless life and a symbol of reality and immortality. We learn from the scripture that Christ said "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die." All lasting things, plans and endeavors that you hope to carry on are represented by the color green.

Sister of Fidelity: The fifth color of the Rainbow is Blue, the color of the sky when all clouds have vanished. From this color, we learn fidelity or loyalty, the act of being

true to others. It demonstrates the worthiness of living by being true and never having to break a promise. Remember – you cannot have a friend unless YOU ARE a friend!

Sister of Patriotism: Indigo is the most penetrating of the colors, helping us to overcome our fears. It is a very positive color and from it comes bravery and a sense of noble defense of all that is wrong. Patriotism is that sense of defense to our country and our flag.

Sister of Service: The seventh color is Violet, the most delicate of all colors. Life is dominated by the violet ray, the last crystallizing power in the ascending series of color. In our churches and schools, we have been taught to respect those men and women who have rendered great service to mankind through the power of faith and love. In Rainbow, service to others is of great importance.

Sister of Hope: The rays of Red, Orange, and Yellow represent the growing and maturing days which lead into the life-giving Green ray of endless pursuit. Beyond this lies the other colors whose power is to change our lives through Fidelity, Patriotism, and Service. All together these seven colors blended together form the beautiful Rainbow – the symbol of Hope everlasting.

Sister of Charity: The highest expression of human living is purple, white and gold. Gold is found only by a few who heed well the lessons of the Rainbow and who attain the highest of tributes.

Sister of Faith: The crystallization of all the colors is White. The White Light of the Holy Bible has a prominent place in our Assembly, in our homes, and our lives. We walk by Faith.

Worthy Advisor: Let us unite in Prayer.

Chaplain: Our Father in Heaven, we thank you for the opportunity to gather here today and share the colors of the Rainbow with our Sister Assemblies, the Master Masons, and members of the Order of the Eastern Star. We thank you for the memory of Mark Sexson, who so willingly dedicated his time and effort that we may have this beautiful organization. May the lessons of the Rainbow bring us all a little closer to Thee. Grant that we may assemble here again for the beautiful teaching of Rainbow. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

Worthy Advisor: Let us unite in singing the “Official Rainbow Song.”

I give my heart and my hand
To you Rainbow mine
Knowing that I understand

Your teachings so divine
I give them not for today
But my pledges are for alway'
May your colors keep glowing
For we're ever knowing
That Rainbow you'll always be mine.

Music in Official Song Book

Chapter 10: Funeral Service (Active Member)

(Please refer to the Ritual for the Funeral Service for an active member of Rainbow.)

Chapter 11: Funeral Service (Majority Member - Long)

By Sandra J. Dunnett, PWA, PMA, Canada.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor the passing of a Majority member of Rainbow.

Participants: Majority members if possible or if necessary, active members.
Worthy Advisor
Worthy Associate Advisor
Sister of Charity
Sister of Hope
Sister of Faith
Chaplain
Sister of Love
Sister of Religion
Sister of Nature
Sister of Immortality
Sister of Fidelity
Sister of Patriotism
Sister of Service.

Paraphernalia: Altar Bible.
Seven flowers or ribbons in Rainbow colors.
One small white cross to be left in casket.

Other: Can be performed in funeral home, church, or at graveside.
Participants should wear formal dresses.

(The Worthy Advisor stands at or near the head of casket. The remaining Officers form a bow with Sister of Service at the foot of the casket. Chaplain is in the center, holding the open Bible with the white cross in its center.)

Worthy Advisor: Life is remembrance. My Rainbow sisters and friends, we are gathered together at this time in sorrow and remembrance to honor our Majority Rainbow sister who has left this mortal world and gone beyond our vision to be with Our Heavenly Father, and to join those of our loved ones who have gone before us.

As a farewell tribute to her and the Rainbow years we have shared with her, we will journey back in time to HER first remembrances as a new Rainbow Girl.

Sister of Faith: Faith is remembrance. The loving, guiding hand of Faith led our sister throughout her Initiation. She learned that faith alone can be the mover of mountains; that faith in God would and has enabled her to meet and triumph over adversity, loss, and discouragement as her years increased. Faith will lead her on beyond the curtain of this mortal life into the loving, protective arms of our Heavenly Father.

Sister of Hope: Hope is remembrance. In our sister's travels she learned that Hope always awaits her surmounting the valley of doubt, when temptation comes, when unkind words may come to her lips. Hope became her anchor and a symbol of victory to keep her thoughts and actions pure as she continued on her journey.

Sister of Charity: Charity is remembrance. The lessons learned at the Station of Charity were revealed to her as each treasure of life in the Pot of Gold was described in detail, and were to remain secret and hidden from the outside world. Those treasures would become some of the most sacred symbols in her life as she journeyed onward.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Love is remembrance. On the day of her Initiation, the golden chain of sisterhood was expanded one more link as she took her Obligation at our sacred Altar. She became part of an international sisterhood of then, now and hereafter, learning the meaning of service to others and dedication to all of the principles of our Order.

Chaplain: Our Father in heaven, we gather here today in sorrow and remembrance as we bid our Rainbow sister farewell. We beseech Thee to surround her with Your eternal love and grant her peace.

Through our pain and loss we also celebrate the life she shared with so many of us; her easy smile, her joy in sharing and caring; her kindness and thoughtfulness to others; her love and service to those in less fortunate circumstances. She touched and blessed with kindness and gladness so many lives on her journey through life. We fervently ask that you welcome her as a member of the Supreme Being's Assembly to be a permanent ray of your heavenly Rainbow where all the children of promise are gathered. Help to ease our pain of loss as we mourn her passing. Give us the strength and courage to walk as You would have us walk so that each day we are a testimony to Thee. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

Worthy Advisor: The colors of God's Rainbow are remembrance. Let us retrace the steps our sister took as she learned the lessons described at each Color Station during her Initiation.

Sister of Love: Love is remembrance, the color is Red. We are taught at this station that Love is a silken cord, strong as a chain of steel, binding creation together. Love will

not and cannot die. Even on the very threshold of death, when the light of this world is no more, love will remain strong and unwavering between heaven and earth for all time. To give love and receive love is the greatest gift of all.

I, therefore, place this tribute of love with our sister as a symbol of our love and devotion to her and her love for us.

Sister of Religion: Religion is remembrance, the color is Orange. To be strong and committed to her religious faith and beliefs serves as an example of who and what she was as an individual. Her early teachings of the Bible in the church of her Faith, were made manifest and reinforced as, in each step of her life, she was tested with the “right” and “wrong” path to take. Our sister chose wisely and to the best of her ability, and held true to her religious beliefs.

I, therefore, place this tribute with our sister in recognition of her steadfast convictions.

Sister of Nature: Nature is remembrance, the color is Yellow. The beauty of God’s fields in their resplendent color: the quietness of a shaded running brook; the breathtaking beauty of a perfectly formed flower in bloom; the magnificent color of autumn; or the sparkling waves caressing a white sandy beach – how insignificant are man’s everyday plans and ideas by comparison. God is the Mastermind. He and He alone designed and created such incredible beauty for mankind to gaze upon with awe and appreciation.

I, therefore, place this tribute of her love of nature with our sister as a symbol of the beauty of God’s great out-of-doors.

Sister of Immortality: Immortality is remembrance, the color is Green. In pre-teen or teenage years it would seem that death is only for the old or diseased. Sometimes, perhaps, death may come to those whom we least expect – a friend, a sister. In our overwhelming grief and confusion we may ask God and ourselves the question: “Why?” “Why her?” “Why now?” For a friend to lose a friend; for a parent to bury a child is devastating and overwhelming. Yet, as our sister learned at this station there is a master plan. To plan, build, and imagine is the natural course of human life; and she also learned that death is the last enemy. The example of Christ’s resurrection assures us of life after death.

I, therefore, place this tribute with our sister as a symbol of our firm belief in immortality and eternal life.

Sister of Fidelity: Fidelity is remembrance, the color is Blue. Absolute trust and confidence is the greatest gift to share with a friend or a loved one. One’s word, when given, should be considered sacred and binding. Truth should always be spoken to serve as a beacon that will shine throughout each of our lives. Our sister

learned that even though at times we must endure the trials of jealousy and persecution, fidelity and truth will triumph in the end.

I, therefore, place this tribute of fidelity and truth with our sister as a symbol of her loyalty and faithfulness to her God and to her friends.

Sister of Patriotism: Patriotism is remembrance, the color is Indigo. This intensified color drew from our sister the willingness to sacrifice for her country. She learned that in times of world strife, not only do the soldiers go to the front lines to do battle, the ones at home also face uncertainties: the loneliness, fear, worry, and challenges of everyday life. Each of them must pay the price in the name of patriotism, justice, and freedom, and to achieve eventual peace not only for themselves but for future generations.

I, therefore, place this tribute with our sister as a symbol of self-sacrifice and freedom for all who have suffered and endured in the name of democracy, equality, and human rights.

Sister of Service: Service is remembrance, the color is Violet. To be of service to others and of help to the less fortunate, these are lessons taught to a Rainbow Girl. For Jesus said, “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” A smile, a thoughtful word, an unselfish act of kindness – one can never know how much these “little things” mean to someone. Let these feelings generate from within; carry them out, and do not put them off. How often have we heard it said, “Today is the first day of the rest of our lives.” Tomorrow may be too late. Service to others is the foundation upon which all of our other Rainbow lessons are based.

I, therefore, place this tribute with our sister as a symbol of service and self-sacrifice that she exemplified through her life.

Worthy Advisor: We now complete our journey in retracing the last steps that our sister took during her Initiation.

Worthy Associate Advisor: As she grew to womanhood, she exemplified the many virtues that were taught at our several stations for all the world to see.

Sister of Hope: To the “outer world” our golden chain of sisterhood appears to be broken, but as Rainbow Girls we know the chain holds steadfast for it was forged in love and service, and can never be torn asunder. It will always be solid, lasting, and enduring.

Sister of Charity: Our sister embraced the teachings of Rainbow and by her example, was living proof of a life led by divine guidance, love, and service to others.

Sister of Faith (looking toward casket): Faith will lead you on, my sister, as that steady guiding hand led you so many years ago through your Initiation. Your life's work is finished, and we must bid you "farewell." Well done, thou good and faithful servant.

Worthy Advisor: Sister Chaplain, you will lead us in prayer and benediction.

(All Officers except Chaplain join hands.)

Chaplain: Heavenly Father, our final tribute has been paid in remembrance of our departed sister. As You welcome her to her heavenly home, may happiness and joy show on her countenance, and may she be clothed with rainments as white as snow.

Bless, we pray Thee, the members of her family and all of her dear friends and ease their pain. Help the members of our Rainbow sisterhood comfort one another with the strength and knowledge that one day we may all be reunited again.

As I place this cross, a symbol of the triumph over the flesh and the assurance of eternal life with our sister, show us Thy way and give us strength so that we may be saved with a never-ending salvation.

(Chaplain closes the Bible in her hands, places it near the casket, then turns toward those assembled.)

Chaplain: May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from the other. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(Chaplain resumes her place in line and joins hands with Officers, while the Worthy Advisor and Sister of Service place their fingertips on either end of the casket to complete the Rainbow circle one final time. Heads are bowed for a few moments of silence, then hands are dropped. All Officers take one step backward, turn to their left, and exit single file. Chaplain retrieves Bible and carries it reverently in both hands.)

Chapter 12: Funeral Service (Majority Member - Short)

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Colorado.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor the passing of a Majority member of Rainbow.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Chaplain
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service
- Other Officers as present

Paraphernalia: Enough white carnations for each participant other than the Worthy Advisor, Worthy Associate Advisor, Sister of Charity and Color Stations.

Two carnations in each of the seven Rainbow colors.

Small national flag with double stick tape on the back.

Miniature Lambskin apron with double stick tape on the back.

Either the member's own apron, or a new one may be used.

Other: If this service is requested, the Mother Advisor should contact the Minister in charge of the service explaining what the Assembly will be doing. He will determine at what point he wants the Assembly to do this.
May be performed at the gravesite or in the chapel.

(Officers take their places in the following order: Worthy Advisor, holding a Rainbow Bible; Worthy Associate Advisor, holding a small American (or flag of your country) flag; Sister of Charity, holding a miniature lambskin apron; Chaplain, holding a Rainbow Bible; all other Officers except Color Stations; then the Color Stations. Officers form two bow-shaped lines at the foot of the casket. The line nearest the casket shall be all Officers, other than the Color Stations. Each should be holding a white carnation. The second line will be the Color Stations, each holding carnations the color appropriate to

her station. The Color Stations should be spaced so both lines are approximately the same length.)

Worthy Advisor: My Sisters, we are called here today in the fellowship of sorrow to pay our last tribute of love and respect to _____ (full name), with whom we have been closely associated in our order. _____ (first name) was initiated into _____ Assembly Number ___, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, on _____. She held several offices in the Assembly, and served as our Worthy Advisor _____, became a Majority Member of our Assembly upon reaching her 20th birthday on _____ (if a marriage Majority - "at her marriage to _____ on _____.)

Ours is a Sisterhood that binds us together in Love and Service. To many it may seem those ties are now broken, but we know that is not true, for our ties are forever, and our Sister shall ever be a part of our Assembly and our Sisterhood. .

We express our everlasting love, we leave these mementos with our Sister:

The American Flag (or the flag of your country)...

(The Worthy Advisor should pause while the Worthy Associate Advisor steps forward and lays the flag on the casket, laying it slightly off-center to allow room for the apron.)

...a symbol of our patriotism and love of our Country.

(The Worthy Associate Advisor steps back into line.)

A miniature Lambskin Apron...

(Pause as Sister of Charity steps forward and places the apron next to flag.)

...a symbol of that tie that binds us together, and represents our fidelity to each other.

(Sister of Charity steps back into line.)

These white carnations...

(The Worthy Advisor should pause as the first line of officers step forward at the foot of the casket, laying their carnations on the casket. The first to lay down her flower should be the center girl, with the others placing the stem of theirs over the middle one, which will maintain the Bow formation, and prevent them from falling. Be sure space is left for the colored flowers under the white ones.)

...symbolize the White Light that guides all Rainbow Girls, and the good done by our sister.

(The Officers step back one step, leaving their positions by exiting the line from both directions, and reforming, still in a Bow formation, behind the Color Station Officers.)

Worthy Advisor: These colored carnations...

(Pause to allow the flowers to be placed on the casket, with Sister of Immortality first, then the others, forming a Bow like the white carnations.)

...represent the seven colors of a rainbow, the rainbow being the first visible symbol of Faith, Hope and Charity God gave to his creatures.

(Color Stations step back one or two steps, in front of other row of officers.)

Chaplain: To the family and friends of _____ we have no particular words of comfort to offer. Any message at this moment is meaningless, unless that message comes from Above. God is our Father and we are but His children. As the sun rises in the morning and we attend our daily tasks so does the sun go down in the evening and we start on our journey. At this time we can but offer these words from the Bible, "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Amen."

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(The Worthy Advisor gives a slight bow, to which the officers will respond with a slight bow. All will leave the casket and walk slowly and quietly to their seats.)

Chapter 13: Gavel Ceremony

Written by Mrs. Florence Marlow, Past Supreme Recorder, for her Oklahoma Rainbow Girls.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: For use at Installation when presenting a gavel to the new Worthy Advisor.

Participants: Worthy Advisor
Person Presenting the Gavel

Paraphernalia: Gavel

Presenter: _____ (Worthy Advisor's name), this gavel I hold in my hand is the age-old symbol of the authority of office.

When you accept this gavel, you will accept it in all its wrappings. Those wrappings, just like your Color Stations, are seven in number. They are invisible. You can't see them, but they are just as real as the gold and enamel that cover the wood (or other material) which this gavel is made of.

The first of these wrappings is that of RESPONSIBILITY. This Assembly is now your responsibility. Your responsibility to see that it thrives and grows while you are in office.

The second wrapping is that of LOYALTY. Members of this Assembly will without doubt be loyal to you. But it is far more important that you be loyal to them.

The third is that of LOVE. Just as you have been reared in love, let that same love flow from you to all members of this Assembly around you. Love is like a pebble dropped in a still pond. The waves of love will radiate from their origin and will spread to encompass everything and everyone around you.

Then there is the wrapping of HUMILITY. Do not be overly proud, for you occupy this office, not by your work alone, but by the efforts of all those assembled around you.

The next wrapping you will find, is the wrapping of those twins that always go hand-in-hand, JUSTICE and FAIRNESS. Just as a judge wields his gavel with those two great virtues in mind, so must you always strive to be fair and to be just.

And then down underneath, you will find that the innermost and finest wrapping of all is that of REVERENCE. Our entire Order is founded on GOD. Without Him you can do nothing. With Him, there in nothing you cannot do.

It is with deep humility, and yet with great pride that I now present this gavel to you.

Chapter 14: Grand Cross Of Color Announcement Ceremony

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of California.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To announce the names of those who will receive the Grand Cross degree.

Participants: Worthy Advisor
Worthy Associate Advisor
Sister of Charity
Sister of Hope
Sister of Faith
Chaplain
Drill Leader
New Grand Cross of Color designates

Paraphernalia: None

Other: All participants should be Masters of the Grand Cross of Color and should be active members if possible.
Majority members may be used if necessary.

(Officers enter and form a cross between Altar and East then go to their stations.)

Worthy Advisor: I declare this to be a Temple of Service, so designated in order that _____ (number) new Masters of the Grand Cross of Color may be announced.
Worthy Associate Advisor, you will advise the members of this Assembly that this Temple of Service is about to be opened.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Members of the Assembly, we are about to open this Temple of Service in order to honor those who have given unselfishly of their time and talent so that Rainbow may exist. You will stand and face the station of the Worthy Advisor while the Chaplain leads us in prayer.

(The Worthy Associate Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

Chaplain: Our Father, we pray that you will watch over those who are willing to do their share and more – and, are therefore, known as Masters of the Grand Cross of Color. Help each one to know that even though her service may go unrewarded, her acts will live forever. Guide their footsteps in future ways of Service, and, help them to remember that it is the service they perform that will turn into pure gold, and for it

and it alone, will they receive just recompense of reward. Give them strength to sustain them through the trials of life, and help them to know that as Masters of the Grand Cross of Color, the eyes of all in this Assembly are upon them. The soul of man is the candle of the Lord that lights the world. Amen. (no response)

(The Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Faith, it is your duty in this Temple to explain the meaning of the Grand Cross of Color.

Sister of Faith: The Grand Cross of Color is an honorary degree conferred upon those selected. The ceremony is given each year at Grand Assembly and is open only to Masters of the Grand Cross, so I cannot tell you what the Ritual work is. Each Master of this degree is given a medallion that is a visible sign of her service. In the center of the medallion is a white cross on which are the words "Cross of Color" in gold. Surrounding the cross are seven discs representing the seven colors of Rainbow. The medallion is on an indigo ribbon that indicates the wearer has been a faithful patriot to Rainbow. Each member of this degree is also given a small identification card that makes him or her known as Masters of the Grand Cross of Color wherever Rainbow is known. This is a lifetime degree and is the highest honor an Assembly can give to one of its members or adults. Nothing else is worn on the ribbon except the medallion.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Hope, it is your duty to explain how those designates are selected.

Sister of Hope: Each year at the December Advisory Board meeting, it is their obligation to recommend those girls, Eastern Stars, Masons and Majority Members serving on the Advisory Board, whom the Board members feel have been of outstanding service to Rainbow. These people must have worked within Rainbow for not just a term or a year – but over a long period of time. They are to be girls who do their own job, or fill their own station and, also help in any way possible to ease another's load. These are the girls whom the Worthy Advisor or Mother Advisor can depend on when the jobs are the heaviest. They are the girls who will put Rainbow first, and not after all other activities. They are the real workers of the Assembly who do not look for the glorified jobs, but are willing to do some of the behind-the-scene jobs also. They are girls and adults whose lives reflect the good in Rainbow and, who are deserving in all respects of the high honor. By secret ballot, the Advisory Board votes on all girls who are nominated. Each Assembly may recommend girls in proportion to the number of initiates for the last calendar year. Our Assembly may recommend 1 girl for every 3 girls who were initiated during the year. Eastern Stars, Master Masons and Majority Members are not included in this count, but no Assembly may recommend more adults than girls. The Board sends their recommendations together with their reasons why they are recommending the people to Grand Assembly. If approved, the names are sent to Supreme Assembly in Oklahoma. If they approve, then, the Grand Cross is awarded.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Charity, during the Initiation ceremony, at the conclusion of your lecture, you tell us that there are other treasures in the Pot of Gold that we will find in a life of Service. It is now your duty in this Temple to tell us why you feel that it is through Service that we may continue to find treasures.

Sister of Charity: Living for ourselves is not only selfish, but is also an empty way of life. What we are can be best shown by what we have done for others. Wherever we go, whomever we meet, there is always someone we can help. We are taught that they who give themselves to service are the crowned queens of every Assembly. It is the service that we have rendered that becomes our actual self. Through service to others comes friendship and what greater treasure could we find than a friend. Through service to others comes peace of mind – another invaluable treasure. It is my sincere belief that only through service can our lives be full, worthwhile and charitable.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, it is now your duty to announce the names of those who have been designated as Masters of the Grand Cross of Color for the year 20__ Sister Drill Leader, after the names have been read, you will conduct these designates to the West where they will receive their Grand Cross letter and will be introduced to the Assembly.

(The Worthy Associate Advisor reads names from envelopes.)

(The Drill leader conducts the people to the West.)

(The Worthy Associate Advisor hands out the envelopes after reading the names, then has people face East.)

Worthy Advisor: Members of _____ Assembly, it is my privilege to present to you these persons who have been awarded the Grand Cross of Color, and who will receive the degree at Grand Assembly. You will salute them with a hearty applause. Sister Drill Leader, you will conduct these honored persons to their seats.

(The Drill Leader conducts members to the sidelines.)

Worthy Advisor: I now declare this Temple of Service closed.

(The Officers will retire as they marched in.)

Chapter 15: Grand Cross of Color Honor Night

By Mrs. Virginia M. Williams, PGO, California.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor Masters of the Grand Cross of Color.

Participants: Worthy Advisor
Worthy Associate Advisor
Sister of Charity
Sister of Hope
Mother Advisor
Advisory Board Chairperson
GCC Member asked in advance to explain the history of the Grand Cross and the Mystic Banquet.

Paraphernalia: None

Worthy Advisor: The Grand Cross of Color is an Honor Degree created early in the life of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls. Tonight, we honor those members who have been selected to receive this prestigious award. _____ (GCC member chosen to explain), please tell us why we have chosen this evening to honor our Masters of the Grand Cross.

GCC Member: This evening's meeting is dedicated to all Masters of the Grand Cross of Color because of its proximity to November 15, the date that has traditionally been set aside as a day of recommitment to the ideals of Rainbow. On or near November 15, all holders of the Grand Cross of Color are to meet together if physically possible to do so and renew their obligation to each other and to the Order.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, please offer a prayer for these Masters of the Grand Cross of Color.

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

Worthy Associate Advisor: Our Father, we pray that you will watch over those who are willing to do their share and more – and are, therefore, known as Masters of the Grand Cross of Color. Help each one to know that even though their service may be unrecorded, their acts will live forever. Guide our footsteps in future ways of Service, and help us to remember that it is the service we perform that will turn into pure gold. Give the Masters of the Grand Cross strength as the eyes of all in this

Assembly are upon them. Help us all to remember that the soul of man is the candle of the Lord that lights the world. Amen.

(The Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, what can you tell us about the Grand Cross of Color?

Worthy Associate Advisor: The Grand Cross of Color is an honorary degree conferred upon those selected. The ceremony is given each year at Grand Assembly and is open only to Masters of the Grand Cross, so I cannot tell you what the Ritual work is. Each Master of this degree is given a medallion that is a visible sign of their service. In the center of the medallion is a white cross on which are the words "Cross of Color" in gold. Surrounding the cross are seven discs representing the seven colors of Rainbow. The medallion is on an indigo ribbon that indicates the wearer has been a faithful patriot to Rainbow. This is a lifetime degree and is the highest honor an Assembly can give to one of its members or adults. Nothing else is worn on the ribbon except the medallion.

Worth Advisor: Sister of Hope, please explain how the Grand Cross designates are selected.

Sister of Hope: Each year at the December Advisory Board meeting, our advisors recommend those girls, Eastern Stars, Masons, or Majority Members serving on the Advisory Board, whom the Board members feel have been of outstanding service to Rainbow. These people must have worked within Rainbow for not just a term or a year – but over a long period of time. They are to be girls who do their own job, or fill their own station and, also help in any way possible to ease another's load.

These are the girls whom the Worthy Advisor or Mother Advisor can depend on when the jobs are the heaviest. They are the girls who will put Rainbow first, and not after all other activities. They are the real workers of the Assembly who do not look for the glorified jobs but are willing to do some of the behind-the-scenes jobs also. They are girls and adults whose lives reflect the good in Rainbow and who are deserving in all respects of the high honor.

By secret ballot, the Advisory Board votes on all girls who are nominated. Our Assembly may recommend one girl for every three girls who were initiated during the year. Eastern Stars, Master Masons and Majority Members are not included in this count, but no Assembly may recommend more adults than girls.

The Board sends their recommendations together with their reasons why they are recommending the people to Grand Assembly. If approved, the names are sent to Supreme Assembly in Oklahoma. If they approve, then, the Grand Cross is awarded.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Charity, during the Initiation ceremony, at the conclusion of your lecture, you tell us that there are other treasures in the Pot of Gold that we will find in a life of Service. It is now your duty to tell us why you feel that it is through Service that we may continue to find treasures.

Sister of Charity: Living for ourselves is not only selfish but also an empty way of life. What we are can best be shown by what we have done for others. Wherever we go, whomever we meet, there is always someone we can help. We are taught that they who give themselves to service are the crowned queens of every Assembly. It is the service that we have rendered that becomes our actual self. Through service to others comes friendship and what greater treasure could we find than a friend. Through service to others comes peace of mind – another invaluable treasure. It is my sincere belief that only through service can our lives be full, worthwhile and charitable.

Worthy Advisor: Members and guests of _____ Assembly, it is my privilege to present to you these persons who have been awarded the Grand Cross of Color and are known as Masters of the Grand Cross of Color. Masters, please stand and introduce yourselves.

Worthy Advisor: You will salute them with hearty applause. Thank you, you may be seated.

Worthy Advisor: _____ (name of Grand Cross of Color member explaining), please give us a brief history of the Grand Cross and what the Mystic Banquet represents.

GCC Member: Thank you, Worthy Advisor. Our founder, Reverend W. Mark Sexson wrote: "Those who labor for a prize, if they have that only in mind, will find it empty when they receive it, but those who receive a prize for something they have done unconsciously for someone else will find it contains many hidden treasures." In McAlester, Oklahoma, in September 1927, Reverend Sexson read the Ritual for the ceremony of the Grand Cross of Color that he had just written. The honor degree was first exemplified on November 7, 1927, in Oklahoma City during the International Convention of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

The first Mystic Banquet of the Grand Cross of Color was held on November 15, 1931, starting an annual obligatory service of breaking bread with the Masters of the Grand Cross of Color and renewing vows of service to the Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

The Masters of the Grand Cross of Color rededicate themselves to the cause for which Rainbow stands. No Master of the Grand Cross of Color can be excused from the obligatory Mystic Banquet if it is physically possible for them to attend. Indifference or absence from this ceremony means only one thing – a vow taken and broken.

Worthy Advisor: Thank you, _____ (name of Grand Cross of Color member).

_____ (name), Chairman of our Advisory Board, please explain how our advisors select a candidate for the Grand Cross of Color.

Chairman of Advisory Board: (Explains the selection process).

Worthy Advisor: Thank you, _____ (name of Chairman of Advisory Board.) At this time, I ask that each Master of the Grand Cross of Color please stand and give us a brief statement as to what the Grand Cross of Color means to you personally.

(Allow time for any who wish to stand to do so.)

Worthy Advisor: Mother Advisor, what parting words would you like to share with us?

Mother Advisor: The Grand Cross of Color is an honor that should be held in the utmost esteem by its Masters. All who are associated with the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls must realize that the Grand Cross is a symbol of a lifetime of service – and that it is an award that you are not to “work for” but rather receive as a reward unsought. Our evening honoring the Masters of the Grand Cross is a rare opportunity to thank each of these fine people for their unselfish service to our beautiful Order.

Worthy Advisor: Thank you, Mother Advisor. We hope this evening has afforded each Master of the Grand Cross an opportunity to rededicate themselves anew to service and to this Order. This concludes our Grand Cross of Color Honor Ceremony. Thank you all for participating.

Chapter 16: Lambskin Apron Lecture

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Maine.

- Who may witness:** Closed meeting only.
Purpose: To explain the Masonic significance of the Lambskin Apron to new members of Rainbow.
Participants: Master Mason.
Paraphernalia: White leather apron.
Other: This lecture should be given to new initiates immediately following their Initiation or at a meeting soon thereafter.
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Master Mason: You, my young woman, have just been presented with a miniature Lambskin Apron when you received your traditional lecture on the contents of the Pot of Gold at the station of Charity. We, as Masons, also wear a Lambskin Apron, and so that you may better understand its meaning, I will explain some of its symbolism to you.

At our Initiation into Masonry, we receive a Lambskin, or white leather apron. It is presented during the Rite of Investiture, or the Rite of Purity. At that time, we begin our Masonic life, pure and essentially spotless. The Apron is the first Masonic symbol that we receive and we can truthfully and whole-heartedly say that the Apron represents one of the greatest lessons of the Masonic Fraternity.

The triangular flap, with its three equal sides, represents the three persons of God: Omniscient, which means having total knowledge of all things; Omnipotent, which is having unlimited or universal power, authority or force – a being that is all powerful; and Omnipresent, which is the fact of God's being present everywhere and in all things.

The four equal sides of the Apron represent the four great personal virtues that all Masons strive for in their personal lives. The first is temperance, or the exercise of moderation in all things. Second is fortitude, or the strength of mind to tolerate the pressures of life. Next, we have the virtue of prudence, which is the right to freely, but carefully, make personal judgements in regard to one's actions. And last, is the virtue of justice, metered out fairly for one and all.

The total of seven sides formed by the Apron and the flap are indicative of the seven liberal arts and sciences that are recognized by all freemasons. These are: grammar, as it applies to the rules of an art of science; rhetoric, as the skill of effective speech; logic, with its powers of reasoning; arithmetic, which is the science that deals with real numbers and their computations; geometry, or the science that deals with measurements and their relationships; music, that lends melody and harmony of life;

and astronomy, or the science of the heavens. These are the basics on which Freemasonry is founded.

The two string ties represent the practice of equality in that they are equal in length. They also stand for the double tie of God and Man; the obligation of God toward Man, his creation; and Man's obligation to God, his creator.

We wear a white apron each time we enter our Lodges and each time we put on the Lambskin Apron, we are reminded of our Masonic obligations. And so may it be with you – when you as a Rainbow Girl look upon your miniature Lambskin Apron, may you be reminded of the solemn obligation which you took before your Maker, sisters and friends as you knelt before the White Altar of Holy Promise and rededicated yourself to a life of Service as represented by the seven colors of your Rainbow, and manifested in a life filled with Faith, Hope and Charity.

Chapter 17: Majority Service (Long)

By Mrs. E. Alberta Coburn, Michigan, Supreme Nature, 1954-74.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To formally mark the attainment of Majority by age or marriage.

<i>Participants:</i>	Sister of Time Sister of Life Sister of the Records Sister of Supplication Sister of Experience Sister of Wisdom Sister of Achievement Infancy Childhood Girlhood Womanhood Wifehood Motherhood Age Mother Advisor	Worthy Advisor Sister of Faith Recorder Chaplain Sister of Charity Sister of Hope Worthy Associate Advisor Sister of Love Sister of Religion Sister of Nature Sister of Immortality Sister of Fidelity Sister of Patriotism Sister of Service Mother Advisor
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Paraphernalia: Flower, ribbon or memento in each Rainbow color for each member receiving her majority
Majority certificate for each member receiving her majority

Sister of Time: Sister of the Records, you will read the names of the sisters who have attained their twentieth birthday or married during the past year. These sisters will please stand as your name is called.

(The sisters should be seated on the Northeast side of the Assembly Room.)

Sister of the Records: Sister of Time, the date of birth, of initiation and of majority of the following Rainbow Sisters has been permanently written into the records of _____ Assembly. They have fulfilled the obligation of the Order and are legally entitled to receive their Majority certificates.

(Sister of the Records reads the names.)

Sister of Time: Sister of Life, you will conduct these sisters once around the room and to the East.

(Sister of Life leads sisters around the room, advancing first to the South, then to the West, North and East. She countermarches in the East so she is at the North end of the line, facing East.)

Sister of Time: Life is like a colorful pageant perpetually moving before our wondering eyes; sometimes it is spectacular, sometimes dull and monotonous; frequently it is filled with gaiety and splendor; then, without warning it changes to tragedy and pain. To those who search for the real purpose of life each experience has a definite significance. We say, "Time flies," but the poet has better expressed the truth in the words, "Time flies? Say not so. Time stays, we go."

We designate this meeting place as the Abode of Time, where we will endeavor to portray the life of woman for these sisters who have attained the age of womanhood and are now entitled to Honorary membership.

Sister of Life, you will lead our sisters to the West where they will heed your Instruction.

(The Sister of Life countermarches in the East, leading the candidates to a position in front of the Station of Achievement (W.A.A.) and causes them to face East. She then goes diagonally to a position behind Sister of Immortality and faces West for her lecture to candidates.)

Sister of Life: "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly." My sisters, these are the words of the Master of Life. Your Creator has given to each one of you the gift of Life, but it depends upon you whether that Life becomes valuable or useless. I would remind you that the abundant Life is the useful Life.

Tonight I represent Life, and I am to lead you throughout this ceremony which is symbolic of the life of woman. During the period of time called life which is allotted to you, you will encounter adversity, disappointment and what may seem to be failure. But if you are loyal to the principals that have been taught to you here, you will, through experience, attain peace, wisdom, and understanding that will finally lead you to the pinnacle of success. Then can you declare with the Psalmist, "Thou wilt show me the path of Life; in Thy presence is fullness of joy; at Thy right hand are pleasures forevermore."

"Behold... I set before you the way of Life."

(The Sister of Life returns to North end of line, faces East and addresses the Sister of Time.)

Sister of Life: Sister of Time, we await your pleasure.

Sister of Time: Sister of Life, you will lead our sisters to the East.

(After reaching the East, the Sister of Life countermarches so she is at the North end of line. She causes the candidates to face East.)

Sister of Time: My sisters, God has made everything beautiful in His time. To everything there is a season; and a time to every purpose under heaven; a time to be born and a time to die, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to keep silent and a time to speak. To each one of you God has allotted a period of time in which to fulfill the purposes for which you were created. Let me admonish you to use your time wisely, for once lost it can never be regained.

This ceremony portrays the seven ages in a woman's life, represented by Infancy, Childhood, Girlhood, Womanhood, Wifehood, Motherhood and Age, as symbolic of the seven colors of the Rainbow. It is exemplified for you in the hope that, having received so much of beauty and idealism here, you will carry them with you in your future life.

Sister of Life, you will lead these sisters for the last time to the Altar of Rainbow where they will heed the words of the Sister of Supplication.

(The Sister of Time calls up the Assembly with three raps and the Sister of Life again countermarches in East, leading the candidates to the Altar. Sister of Supplication goes to the Altar and kneels, facing West. She asks the candidates to kneel.)

Sister of Supplication: Our Heavenly Father, we pray Thy blessings will rest upon these sisters who come for the last time before the Altar of Rainbow. As they surrender their activity in their Assembly and assume the great responsibilities of life, wilt Thou, our Father, go with them and direct their paths. May the lessons they received in their girlhood, remain the ideals that shall govern their conduct throughout life. Help us to remember with joy and gratitude, their period of service to us, strengthen the bond of love between us and grant that the memory of our association together will ever endure, and Thine shall be the praise forever. Amen.

All: Lord; help us to keep our promise.

(The Sister of Time seats the Assembly with one rap.)

Sister of Life: Sister of Time, we await your pleasure.

Sister of Time: Sister of Life, you will lead our sisters to a position in the East, facing the Altar, where they will receive instruction from the sisters of the Rainbow.

(The Sister of Life leads candidates from Altar to a position between the Altar and the East, forming a semi-circle, facing the Altar. The Sister of Life is on the South end of semi-circle.)

(Infancy stands on one rap of the gavel by the Sister of Time and goes to the Altar, leaving her station from the right.)

Infancy (Sister of Love): My Sister, we enter the world as helpless infants. Yet, before we first see the light of day, Love has prepared a haven for us. It is fitting, therefore, that the first color of the Rainbow should be represented by Infancy, that period in your life where you first experienced that supreme virtue of Love, for it was love that brought you into Rainbow, the love of someone interested in your welfare. Here, love has opened to you beauteous virtues in the midst of a companionship that will be a treasured memory forever. As you continue your activity with Rainbow, we leave in your keeping this symbol of the first color.

May its crimson hue ever remind you of the words of the Sacred Writer, “Let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth.”

(At space indicated by dashes in each of the seven Color Stations, take flower or other memento representative of that station, from the Altar and advance to a position directly in front of first candidate on South end of semi-circle. Continue with lecture, giving mementos to candidates while completing the lecture.)

(If there are a large number of candidates, have two “Flower Girls” take position at either end of the semi-circle and have them give the mementos to the candidates while the speaker says, “As you continue your activity with Rainbow, we leave in your keeping this symbol of the first color.” She then pauses until all mementos have been distributed and the “Flower Girls” are back in position at either end of the semi-circle, after which she says the last paragraph of her lecture.)

(At the conclusion of her lecture, each speaker returns to her station by leaving the bow, or in the case of just one candidate, on the North side, around seventh station and back to her own station, entering from her right.)

(Childhood stands on two raps of the gavel by the Sister of Time and goes to the Altar, leaving her station from the right.)

Childhood (Sister of Religion): My sister, childhood has been chosen to represent the second color of the Rainbow because it is during this period of life that we acquire our first knowledge of religion. One thousand years before the Christian era, Solomon wisely declared, “Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” In your Assembly you have been taught to have faith in God and in every righteous thing. We trust that whatever your creed may be, you will make your religion a living force in your life. As you continue your activity with Rainbow, we leave in your keeping this symbol of the second color.

Let its orange hue ever remind you to “Add to your faith, virtue, to your virtue, brotherly kindness and to brotherly kindness, charity.”

(Girlhood stands on three raps of the gavel by the Sister of Time and goes to the Altar, leaving her station from the right.)

Girlhood (Sister of Nature): My sister, the third stage in your journey is Girlhood, that period of life, when untroubled by material cares, we build the foundations that must carry us through the after years of responsibility. In girlhood each new adventure is anticipated with enthusiasm and filled with the vigor of life. You entered Rainbow in your girlhood and there you learned to appreciate and understand beauty and to seek the ideal. As you continue your activity with Rainbow, we leave in your keeping this symbol of the third color.

Let its golden hue ever remind you of those sacred words, "Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth."

(Womanhood stands on four raps of the gavel by the Sister of Time and goes to the Altar, leaving her station from the right.)

Womanhood (Sister of Immortality): My sisters, woman is the great conserver of life; therefore it is appropriate that womanhood, the fourth stage in your journey, should represent Immortality. You stand on the very threshold of life where your dreams are about to develop into realities, but remember, in the outer world you will encounter cynicism, lost illusions and broken ideals which will tend to divert you from the paths of righteousness. Your training in Rainbow has been designed to prepare you to resist these temptations. I would remind you that you cannot live your life independent of others, for every deed you perform will in some way affect the life of your associates. As you continue your activity with Rainbow, we leave in your keeping this symbol of the fourth color.

May its verdancy remind you that "Blessed is the woman that endureth temptation for when she is tried, she shall receive a crown of life."

(Wifehood stands on five raps of the gavel by the Sister of Time and goes to the Altar, leaving her station from the right.)

Wifehood (Sister of Fidelity): My sisters, the fifth color of the Rainbow symbolizes Loyalty. It is suitable, therefore, that this virtue should represent Wifehood, the fifth stage in the life of woman. Marriage is an honorable estate and one to which the average woman normally aspires. I would remind you that Wifehood will demand from you unswerving allegiance to him whom you promise to love, honor and cherish. Since time immemorial, the name of wife has been synonymous with home, for around the fireside all the ties of love and home unite. In the comfort and healing which she radiates lies her strength, for hers are the unseverable bonds of love. As you continue your activity with Rainbow, we leave in your keeping this symbol of the fifth color.

Blue has ever symbolized trueness; therefore, be loyal to those who love you, for the good book says, "A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband."

(Motherhood stands on six raps of the gavel by the Sister of Time and goes to the Altar, leaving her station from the right.)

Motherhood (Sister of Patriotism): My sisters, we designate motherhood as the sixth stage in a woman's life because like our intensified color, it demands sacrifices. The maternal instinct is strong in the heart of every woman and its fulfillment is her supreme experience. It has been truly said that the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world and those of you who will be privileged to be the mothers of the coming generation will have in your keeping a sacred trust. I admonish you to train your children in the important lesson of good citizenship that the future welfare of the nation shall be assured. As you continue your activity with Rainbow, we leave in your keeping this symbol of the sixth color.

May its intensified blue ever remind you to so live that it can be truthfully said of you, "her children will arise up and call her blessed."

(Age stands on seven raps of the gavel by the Sister of Time and goes to the Altar, leaving her station from the right.)

Age (Sister of Service): My sisters, the last stage in life's journey is age. It represents that period in which service attains the final reward. Who among us has not seen on the face of some noble woman approaching the end of life's journey that beautiful expression of tranquillity that bespeaks a soul at peace with the world and with God? You have learned that virtue is not complete without service; and "Like an echo flinging back to us what we ourselves have sent out," you will receive from life only the equivalent of what you give to it. As you continue your activity with Rainbow, we leave in your keeping this symbol of the seventh color.

May its violet hue remind you to utilize your talents to benefit mankind, that when you have reached the end of the road the Master will say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

(The Sister of Life asks candidates to turn around and form a straight line facing East.)

Sister of Life: Sister of Time, we await your pleasure.

Sister of Time: Sister of Life, you will lead our sisters to the North, the South, and the West, where they will heed the instruction of the Sisters of Experience, Wisdom and Achievement.

(The Sister of Life countermarches, leading candidates around room to Sister of Experience.)

Sister of Experience (Sister of Charity): My Sisters, experience is the greatest of all teachers. An eminent writer has said, "All that we know and feel and do, all our facts and theories, all our emotions and ideals and ends, may be included in this one word, 'Experience.'"

You, like all others, will have your moments of doubt as well as exaltation and trials will test your faith and resistance. You will encounter sorrow and adversity and make many mistakes, but the shadows will by comparison, make the sunshine of happiness seem more bright and the errors of yesterday can pave the way for victory tomorrow.

Try to face each new experience without fear but with a desire to discover the lesson it holds for you personally. Glean from it the wisdom and understanding that will mold your character and make your life one of achievement. As the Sister of Life leads you on your way, may you realize that "Tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope."

(The Sister of Life leads candidates to Sister of Wisdom.)

Sister of Wisdom (Sister of Hope): "Wisdom is the principle thing; therefore, get wisdom." My sisters, may this advice, given by King Solomon, be your guide on the road to achievement, for wisdom without understanding is an empty virtue.

There is nothing new in wisdom. The thoughts we think have been pondered by many before us and the same conclusions we draw were discussed by the ancients. The truth that has been expressed by another becomes ours only because our understanding has expanded to receive it.

The wise woman is a kind woman. Her heart has no room for envy, malice or deceit. Having experienced temptation, she understands the frailty of human nature and finding those who are troubled or have sinned, she extends a helping hand.

As the Sister of Life leads you on your way, may you realize "How much better it is to get wisdom than gold; and to get understanding is rather to be chosen than silver."

(The Sister of Life leads candidates to Sister of Achievement.)

Sister of Achievement (W.A.A.): My sisters, you seek to achieve a noble womanhood. Many have sought that goal but none have attained it without treading the difficult paths of experience and wisdom. The opportunity for achievement lies ever before you. As the Pot of Gold, which legend tells us recedes as the seeker approaches, so the desire to achieve ever beckons us farther on. Each success, and often our failures, spur us to greater effort.

I admonish you to perform your daily task in love, demonstrate your religion by kindness, learn to appreciate nature, keep the immortal fires of your spirit burning,

exercise fidelity towards your associates, interest yourself in your patriotic duty as a citizen and serve by helping those less fortunate than you are. The fulfillment of these virtues will satisfy that inner consciousness which is the real you.

The Sister of Life will lead you to the East.

(The Sister of Life countermarches after reaching the East and causes the candidates to face the East.)

Mother Advisor: Girls, your coming among us has been of mutual benefit. We are bound together by the bond of love, which has been strengthened by the service you have performed for your Assembly, for even the smallest service becomes great when rendered in the true Rainbow spirit.

I now present you with a certificate of honorary membership. It is tangible evidence of the fulfillment of your obligation. In time if it should be lost or destroyed, it can be replaced, but I sincerely trust that the memory of our association together has been so indelibly written upon your mind and heart that it will endure as long as you live.

Sister of Time: Sister of Life, you will lead these sisters for the last time past the stations of the South, the West and the North, and then to the East for the benediction.

(The Musician plays an appropriate song while the others are marching.)

(At the conclusion of the song, the Sister of Time calls up the Assembly with three raps for the benediction.)

Mother Advisor: May the Lord preserve thee from all evil, may He preserve thy going out and thy coming in, from this time forth and even forevermore. Amen.

All: Lord; Help us to keep our promise.

(The Sister of Time seats the Assembly with one rap.)

Sister of Time: Sister of Life, you will escort the honorary members to their seats.

Chapter 18: Majority Service (Age)

Who may witness: Closed meeting only.

Purpose: To formally mark the attainment of Majority by age.

Participants: Mother Advisor

Paraphernalia: Majority certificate for each member receiving her majority.

Mother Advisor: Sisters of Assembly Number _____, upon me devolves at this time a very pleasant duty, at the same time this duty has in it an element of sadness for it marks the parting of the way. As we travel through life, it has its many roads. Along the road of babyhood, we are carried by our mothers. This is the path in which we learn first to walk, but as we grow older and our steps grow more steady, we find leading from this road another highway. It is young womanhood. It is filled with sunshine and refreshing showers. It is lined with overhanging shrubbery and beautiful wild flowers of every shade. Along it we hear the songs of the birds; it has the purple of the morning and the gloaming of the evening. Along this highway are the homes of people and from these homes there come our companions; those we love and from this companionship there grows the group life of our community and along this highway we stroll together. We find here our social life, our school life and our church life, all designed to make us see the beautiful side and encourage us to higher things. From this highway, there leads another road which is one of conflict, of strife and toil. It challenges the heroic in us. It is the highway that leads to manhood and womanhood. It is on that highway that one of our members enters tonight. Sister of Faith, you will please conduct Sister _____ who has been a member of this Assembly since _____ and who on _____ attained her twentieth birthday, before the Altar of Rainbow that she may receive another crowning admonition before she starts on her journey in adult life.

(If there is more than one candidate, the names of each of the girls should be given, with their dates of birth as provided for in the above paragraph.)

(The Sister of Faith conducts the girl(s) who has attained the age of twenty to the Altar facing the East.)

Mother Advisor: My Sister, it has been twenty years since your eyes first beheld the light of day. During these twenty years, some of the most important things in international life have happened. Events so great as to change the course of human history and make the world in which you shall live as a young woman quite a different thing from the world twenty years ago. One of the most significant things

that has happened, and one which prophesies untold blessings for the future, is the interest manifested in youth. When you arrived at your teen age, that time of your life that was most impressionable, there stood awaiting you at the gate, two very time honored fraternities of the Nation, their arms outstretched to you as a timid girl, offering you their support and help. At the Altar where you now stand, you took upon yourself an obligation which was designed to make you a channel through which these Fraternities might benefit mankind. Your life in our midst has been a devoted life, it is a life that has reflected every color of the Rainbow. We believe it is life that began in Love and is now ending in Service, and while we congratulate you upon attaining your twentieth birthday, our hearts are filled with sadness to know that we shall not have you as an active member of our Assembly. We do ask, and we know that you will grant our wish, that you continue to think well of the organization which we trust has meant much to you. If Rainbow has borne fruit in your life after having received and practiced its lessons, we know you will enter upon a greater fraternal life, which it has been our pleasure to prepare for you.

Sister of Faith, you will conduct our Sister to the East.

(Sister of Faith conducts the Majority Member(s) to the East, facing the Mother Advisor.)

Mother Advisor: My sister, I take pleasure in presenting you with this diploma which represents your graduation from Rainbow to a larger field of Fraternal activity. We trust it will be a reminder to you of the most beautiful and fruitful years of your life and it is given to you with the love and respect of the entire membership of your Assembly.

(Mother Advisor presents each Majority Member with her certificate.)

Mother Advisor: Sister of Faith, you will now conduct our sister to her seat.

Chapter 19: Majority Service (Marriage)

Who may witness: Closed meeting only.

Purpose: To formally mark the attainment of Majority by marriage.

Participants: Mother Advisor

Paraphernalia: Majority certificate for each member receiving her majority.

Mother Advisor: Sister of Faith, you will conduct our Sister _____ to the Altar of this Assembly.

(Sister of Faith conducts the Majority Member to the Altar.)

Mother Advisor: My Sister, you stand before the Altar on which rests the Holy Bible, Symbol of White Light. Since you became a Rainbow Girl, many important lessons have been taught to you, all of which, we sincerely hope, have made a deep and lasting impression on your life. You now stand before us in a new relationship, that of a wife. You have been taught at the Altar, where you now stand, to honor that name as a crown on the head of womankind. In assuming your vows at the Marriage Altar, you began a life to glorify the teachings of Rainbow. That you may be more fully impressed with the solemnity of this moment and what it means to the Assembly, I will ask the Sister of Faith to conduct you once again in silence about the Assembly Room.

As you are thus conducted, the journey will symbolize the silent and holy prayer that ascends from our hearts to our Father in Heaven, that He will keep you and that your new home may be one of constant happiness.

(Sister of Faith conducts the Majority Member once about the Assembly Room, leaving the Bow from the North side, advancing to the East, South and West, stopping in front of the Mother Advisor's station, facing East.)

Mother Advisor: My sister, thus it is that our hearts are touched for the moment, because of your retirement from our Assembly as an active Rainbow Girl. But as you stand before the station of the Mother Advisor, we are reminded that it is the happy and natural future of girls to enter the Estate of Womanhood and to become the charm and center of the home. We will recall many times your services with the Assembly, the unselfishness of your life and the happiness you have brought to many during the time we have worked together. You go forth into the adult life with our best wishes and our love.

I now present you your Majority Certificate in the hope that you will ever regard it as one of the prizes of life. May it remind you of the most beautiful years of your life, the flower years or the color years that henceforth will issue into a fine and glorious life of reality, in Love and Service.

Sister of Faith, you will cause our Sister to face the Assembly.

(The Mother Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

Mother Advisor: Sisters of the Assembly, it is my happy privilege to present to you Mrs. _____ who has attained her majority through marriage and you will salute her with the Sign of the Rainbow.

(If the Majority Member cares to make any remarks, she may do so at this time.)

Mother Advisor: Sister of Faith, you will seat our Sister in the Assembly Room.

Chapter 20: Masonic Heritage Degree, Part 1

**Compiled by Cora-Ellen Moody, Supreme Inspector, Maine.
Researched by Mary Adeline Bradford, Supreme Inspector, Maryland.**

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor the Masonic sponsors of Rainbow.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Five other members

Paraphernalia: Optional mementos for the Masons present.

(If this program is presented on its own, it should be closed by the Worthy Advisor thanking the Masonic hosts/guests. Officers should retire formally.)

(If this program is presented together with the Masonic Heritage Degree, Part 2, then when it is completed, Officers should go directly into Part 2.)

Worthy Advisor: Today (or Tonight) we are honoring our Masonic supporters and our Masonic Heritage. This is a heritage of which we, and all members of the Masonic Family, are very proud. Let us remind you of some very prominent Masons who played important roles in our history.

At first, America was a dream. It was a dream of Hope; a dream of Freedom; a dream of the Future. It was a dream that became a reality.

By the early 1700's, Masonic Lodges were established in America. The Masonic ideas, once established in the colonies, became an integral part of the lives of men who would one day be shaping the future of an emerging nation.

Speaker #1 (W.A.A.): One of the most famous acts of rebellion, the Boston Tea Party, is usually credited to members of the local Masonic Lodge. Later, when it came time to formally sever ties with England and draft the document that would lead the colonies to war, it was Freemasons such as Benjamin Franklin and John Hancock who led the way.

Speaker #2 (Sister of Charity): When a leader was needed to unite and command these new “United States,” a Master Mason – George Washington – was selected. Other Masonic Revolutionary figures such as Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere, John Paul Jones, Robert L. Morris, and John Marshall played integral parts in defending, and later shaping, the government which emerged from the victory over England.

Speaker #3 (Sister of Hope): The War of 1812 was the last test this young country faced from abroad. Financing for the War of 1812 was mainly private and the largest financier was Stephen Girard, a Mason from Pennsylvania. Masonic heroes such as Andrew Jackson distinguished themselves during this war. Jackson went on to become President.

Speaker #4 (Sister of Faith): Attention turned Westward and, again, prominent Masons played a part in shaping our destiny. The Louisiana Purchase, negotiated by Master Mason, and later President, James Monroe, brought vast new areas into the United States. This land was surveyed by Master Masons Lewis and Clark.

Speaker #5: The road West was difficult due to many natural barriers. The idea for a body of water running East to West was conceived by Master Mason DeWitt Clinton, Governor of New York. Through his efforts, the Erie Canal was built. The Northwest Territory was opened up and surveyed by Rufus Putnam, the first Grand Master of Ohio.

Speaker #6: In 1836, a brave group, led by Col. William Travers, fought the Mexican Army at the Siege of the Alamo. Many of the men who died were Master Masons. Independence for Texas was gained through their sacrifices as well as the efforts of Master Mason Sam Houston, Commander of the Texas Army.

Speaker #7: Additional new lands were added to the United States under Masonic President James Polk’s Oregon Purchase. Later, the discovery of gold in California attracted pioneers to make the dangerous Westward migration. In Nevada, the men of the partnership owning the gold and silver mines of the famous Comstock Lode were Master Masons.

Speaker #8: As the United States grew, prominent Masons played important roles. Industrial leaders such as automotive giant Henry Ford of Michigan, agricultural leader Oliver Kelley of Minnesota and labor leader Samuel Gompers of Washington, D.C. were all Master Masons. These gentlemen and many other Master Masons helped shape the United States as a power steeped in Masonic heritage and traditions.

Speaker #9: By the dawn of the 20th Century, this dream of liberty and freedom called the United States of America had been realized but, like many dreams, it demanded a price. The new nation found itself in the position of being called upon to defend the ideals of democracy and freedom abroad. In 1918, Master Mason John J. Pershing

became Commander in Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces sent to Europe to fight victoriously in a “War to End All Wars.” America had now come full circle.

Worthy Advisor: What is America? It is the founding of a dream. It is a dream built upon the teachings of the Masonic Order, tested with the lifeblood of Master Masons throughout history, and dedicated to freedom and equality.

Speaker #1 (W.A.A.): What is America? It is a Pot of Gold – Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow. A Pot of Gold from which there comes another treasure, which is founded upon these same Masonic ideals and teachings. The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls is a Promise for Tomorrow.

At this point:

a) Go directly into the Masonic Heritage Degree, Part 2.

or

b) Close at this point with the Worthy Advisor explaining how the Masonic principles create a proud heritage for us all and thanking the Masonic hosts/guests for the privilege of sharing this heritage. You might also distribute small gifts or flowers to the Masons present. If the presentation is ended at this point, arrangements should be made for the officers to retire formally after any closing remarks and presentations.

Chapter 21: Masonic Heritage Degree, Part 2

**By Cora-Ellen Moody, Supreme Inspector, Maine.
Lovingly dedicated to Most Worshipful Peter C. Schmidt.**

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor the Masonic sponsors of Rainbow.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Recorder
- Treasurer
- Chaplain
- Drill Leader
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service
- Confidential Observer
- Outer Observer
- Choir Director
- Musician
- Mother Advisor

Paraphernalia:

- Seven carnations, one in each of the Rainbow colors.
- Nine blue carnations (Worthy Advisor, Worthy Associate Advisor, Sisters of Charity, Hope, and Faith, Recorder, Treasurer, Chaplain, Drill Leader).
- Four white carnations (Confidential Observer, Outer Observer, Choir Director and Musician).
- Sufficient additional white and blue carnations for each Mason present.

Other: If an Assembly does not have all the stations filled, the other officers can double up on parts and, if necessary, change the wording to reflect the fact that someone other than that particular officer is saying it. For example, change “I guard these doors...” to “the Confidential Observer guards these doors....” Choices are underlined and *italicized*.

Optional mementos for the Masons present.

(If this Degree is presented in conjunction with the Masonic Heritage Degree, Part 1, it continues with no interruption from the speech by Speaker #1 (usually Worthy Associate Advisor) on the second page of that degree.)

(If this Degree is being presented by itself, the ceremony begins after an appropriate entrance into the Assembly or Lodge Room by the officers and the exchange of greetings.)

Worthy Advisor: Members of the Masonic Fraternity, we welcome you to *[this second portion of]* our special ceremony which is designed to discover and explain some of the traditions and beliefs we share in our fraternal lives.

Our founder, Reverend W. Mark Sexson, a Past Grand Master of Oklahoma, gave us a priceless legacy when he penned our beautiful Ritual. He was a devoted member of our parent organizations and succeeded in sharing their ideals and beliefs with us as he blended them with his vision of color.

Mother Advisor: The very beginning of our meetings emphasizes this fraternal bond. Our Mother Advisor, Drill Leader and Musician enter the Assembly Room in the shape of a triangle. This is the first of many times that we use this formation in our work.

Confidential Observer: Our doors are secured and opened with raps. Permission must be secured from the Worthy Advisor if a person wishes to enter or leave. Together with the Outer Observer, I guard [*the Confidential Observer guards*] the doors against intruders and misuse.

Outer Observer: Just as your Tyler guards the Outer Door of your Lodge Room, so must I [*our Outer Observer*]. Our jewel is also similar - the sword. Persons must make themselves known by our signs and passwords before I [*she*] will ask that they be admitted.

Drill Leader: One of the first actions in our ritualistic opening is the presentation of, and salute to, our flag. As Drill Leader, this is one of my proudest duties [*Our Drill Leaders consider this one of their proudest duties*]. It is also the duty of the Drill

Leader to serve as escort for our guests and candidates. We do not regularly use a baton as your Marshal does but we do use it for proclamations.

Sister of Hope: As we open our meeting, we also open the Bible on our Altar. With great solemnity, we open the White Light of Promise at its designated place and adorn it with the emblem of our Order. This is a practice we share with our parent fraternal Orders.

Chaplain: Our belief in a Supreme Being as the Source of all Knowledge is very evident at our meetings, just as it is in yours. Not only do we make reference to this belief and respect the area between the Altar and the East, we reverently engage in prayer. Prayer is an integral part of our regular opening and closing as well as during our Initiatory Degree.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Like yours, our Order of Business calls for dealing with the general operation of the Assembly before conferring of any Degrees. Some of our officers are elected and some are appointed. Those who are elected are done so by secret ballot and under the watchful eyes of three tellers.

Recorder: Both of our Orders realize that the general business of the organization must be maintained with accuracy. This is done both for ourselves and to provide a historical record of our action. The jewel of my office [*the Recorder*] is the pen.

Treasurer: Money is the basis of all organizations and the control and recording of all expenditures is most necessary. As you know, the responsibilities of this office are great. The jewel of my office [*the Treasurer*] is the key.

Sister of Faith: My station [*The station of Faith*] is near the Altar in order that I [*she*] may lead my [*our*] sisters to the Source of All Light. It is my [*Sister of Faith's*] duty to meet and escort our candidates during our Initiatory Degree. It is my [*our*] understanding that many of the duties of my [*this*] office are similar to those of your Senior Deacon.

Choir Director: Music plays an important part in our ceremonies. Some of our music is ritualistic, but much of it is hymns of faith that accentuate our heritage in both our beliefs and the expression of those beliefs. My jewel [*The Jewel of the Choir Director*] is the harp, much like the lyre of your Organist.

Musician: Music provides that extra expression found impossible in our limitations of words. Both of our Orders depend on harmony and there is no better way to illustrate this than through music that is especially designed to enhance the ceremony.

Sister of Love: Our candidates travel through seven degrees of initiation in one ceremony. The first of these degrees explains the importance of Love. One of the

most illustrative references to Love is the Love of God and the belief in God as the source of everlasting life.

Sister of Religion: Religion is important to both of our Orders and both do honor to the biblical definition that “Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to visit the fatherless and the widows in their affliction and to keep himself unspotted before the world.”

Sister of Nature: The beauty of the out-of-doors is an integral part of our Ritual. Here, in the quietness, we have opportunities to commune with God.

Sister of Immortality: Immortality and eternal life provide thoughts for all of us to consider. Our sisters are urged to remember that “whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.”

Sister of Fidelity: Loyalty, trueness, faithfulness: all are evidence of fidelity. Our Order honors God’s first promise of the Rainbow. Lives given in faithfulness to God’s promises have given us the great stories of our religion which form the foundation of both our Orders.

Sister of Patriotism: Our Masonic heritage is most evident when we think of Patriotism. At the station of Patriotism, we urge devotion to one’s country and obedience to its laws.

Sister of Service: Fraternal “slash” Service organizations are what we often call ourselves. Members of both Orders are urged to serve others and actively seek those who need our assistance.

Sister of Charity: Our last lesson of initiation, that of Charity, is, perhaps, our strongest link to our Masonic parentage. The journey to this station brought our candidate past it once, much as one would travel through darkness, searching for Hope. It is during this final lecture that we re-emphasize our biblical and patriotic heritage and the related responsibilities. The miniature lambskin apron is given and explained as the binding link within our two Orders. You may be interested to know that our aprons are made from the remnant pieces of yours. This station truly symbolizes the bond between our two Orders.

Worthy Advisor: We hope we have illustrated to you how very similar our two organizations are. Just as we honor our Heavenly Father and love our earthly fathers; we have a very special bond with our fraternal fathers. We thank you for joining us [*inviting us here*] this evening [*afternoon, etc.*]. We hope that you will join with us again.

ENDING WITHOUT DRILL

(The Worthy Advisor gives appropriate closing remarks then calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

Worthy Advisor: Let us sing “Blest Be the Tie that Binds.”

(After the song, the Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

Worthy Advisor: Will our Masonic guests please stand? Sisters, I ask that you present each of our fraternal fathers with a symbol of our appreciation and love.

(After the distribution of flowers and/or mementos, the Officers return to their stations.)

(Officers should retire with appropriate march and/or Rainbow Dreams.)

ENDING WITH DRILL (Diagram on the following page)

(MOST stations must be filled for the “Bow and Square” formation to be effective.)

Worthy Advisor: As we close this ceremony, we re-shape your Compass into a Rainbow and intersect it with the Square as a visible sign of our fraternal bond.

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Officers with two raps.)

(Officers form the bow and square.)

(When the Officers are in formation, Mother Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

Worthy Advisor: Let us sing “Blest Be the Tie that Binds.”

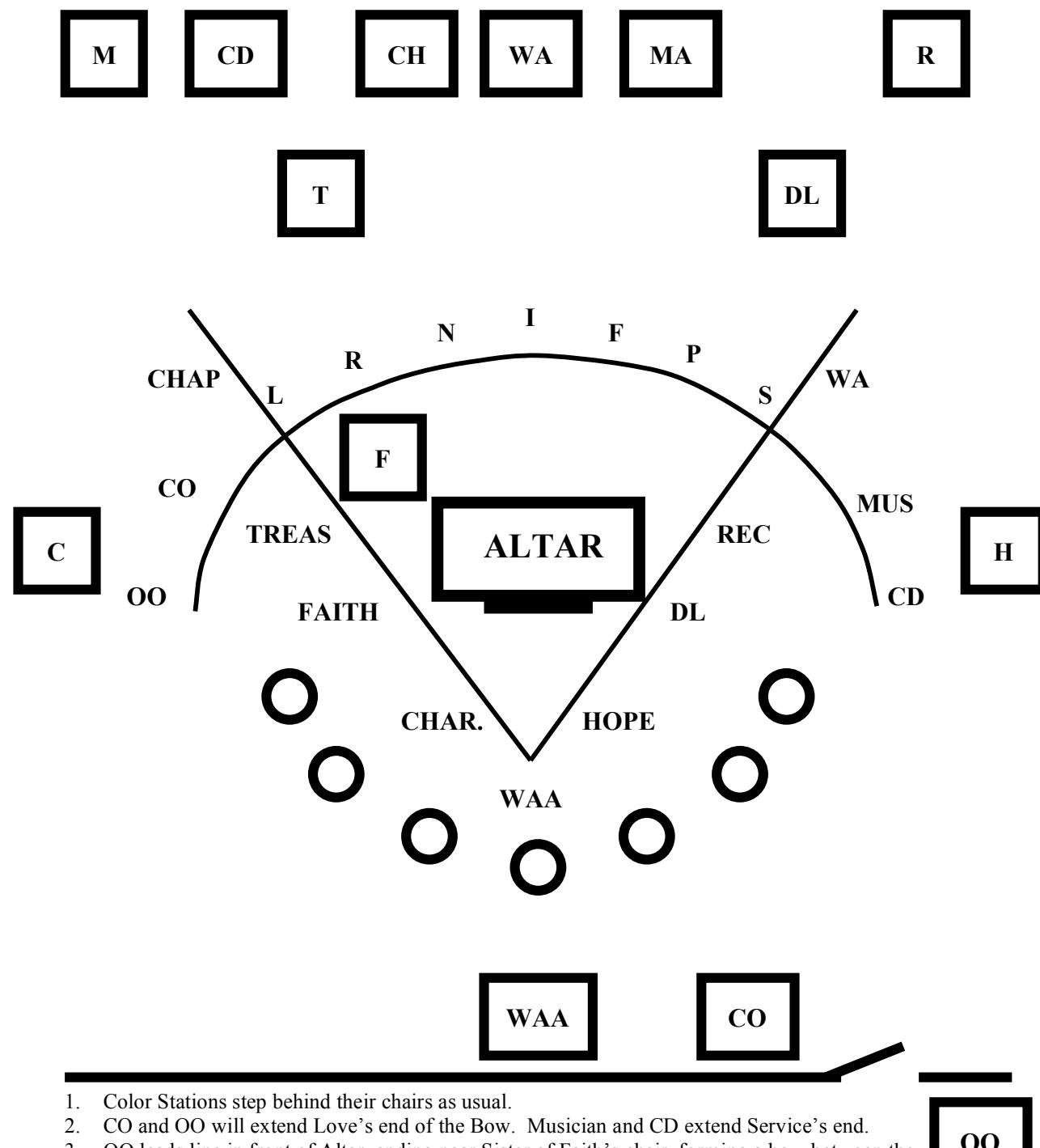
(After the song, the Mother Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

Worthy Advisor: Will our Masonic guests please stand? Sisters, I ask that you present each of our fraternal fathers with a symbol of our appreciation and love.

(After the distribution of flowers and/or mementos, the Officers return to their stations.)

(After closing remarks, Officers should retire with appropriate march and/or Rainbow Dreams.)

Bow and Square Drill



1. Color Stations step behind their chairs as usual.
2. CO and OO will extend Love's end of the Bow. Musician and CD extend Service's end.
3. OO leads line in front of Altar, ending near Sister of Faith's chair, forming a bow between the Altar and the East.
4. The Worthy Advisor steps down to the floor on the Recorder's side of her station.
5. The "Square" has its "point" between Sister of Immortality's station and the Altar. WAA is this "point."
6. From that point (WAA) the South side is Sister of Hope, Drill Leader, Recorder and Worthy Advisor. The North side is Sister of Charity, Sister of Faith, Treasurer and Chaplain.
7. When instructed by the Worthy Advisor, these Officers leave their stations and proceed to their positions.
8. The "Square" formation should intersect the "Bow" formation between the last two girls on each end. The Altar is at the center of the formation. If flowers are used, they should be carried into the formation.

Chapter 22: Member Re-Dedication Ceremony (Active Members)

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Massachusetts.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To re-emphasize the values and teachings of Rainbow in the lives of Rainbow members.

Participants: Leader

Paraphernalia: Candles for each member participating.

Leader: At this time, we will reaffirm our obligation to our Order and renew the bonds of friendship in a special re-dedication ceremony.

(Song: “*Let There Be Peace On Earth*”)

Leader: You are holding a candle in your hand that symbolizes this renewal. We hope you will let this outward light symbolize the inward light of a girl whose life is dedicated to Rainbow. As you speak these vows, remember that you speak not only for yourselves, but for Rainbow Girls everywhere.

Leader: You will repeat after me: I, _____, am a Rainbow Girl./ I therefore dedicate myself/ to the ideals for which the Order stands:/ Service, Charity, and Love for one another./ I dedicate myself/ to the virtues of true womanhood:/ kindness,/ gentleness,/ courage and compassion./ I vow to follow these teachings/ not only for this moment/ and not only for my active Rainbow life,/ but through all the years to come./ I am a Rainbow Girl./ I dedicate myself to a way of life —/ a Rainbow way of life.

Carry this light with you always and remember – pass it on!

(Song: “*Pass It On*”)

Leader: Every day as we go on our way
The question is asked of us:
“What does it mean to be a Rainbow Girl?”
We aim to possess the qualities rare
That cannot be bought or sold.
For womanhood’s best must stand the test
So in these words our answer is told:
You must have a heart of gold.

You must always wear a smile.
You must help everyone
As they travel mile by mile.
You must say a word of cheer,
Answer every call you hear.
You must lend a hand,
Take your stand,
For all that's best in life to command.
That's what it means to be a Rainbow Girl.

Leader: As a final act of rededication, we offer this prayer collectively and ask you to offer it individually as you send your light into the world.

Our Heavenly Father, help us to know that a dream should not be a withdrawal from life, but that a dream should inspire the dreamer to live each day with purpose. Give us the understanding that dreams bring the future into focus, but we must perform the work that makes them a reality; and that unless we work daily with all our talent and all our strength, we cannot hope to make our dreams come true. Make our dreams those of improvement and not a flight from reality. Let our dreams lead us to a deeper involvement in life and let them help us to be the best that we can make ourselves. Then we shall realize our dreams in a life that is rich and whole and directed toward You. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

May the roads rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, may the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Chapter 23: Member Re-Dedication Ceremony (Majority Members)

By Miss Luanne A. Walton, PGWA and Miss Dawn L. Miller, PGWA, Canada.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: Appropriate for use at a birthday meeting or a special event honoring Majority members.

Participants: Worthy Advisor
Sister of Love
Sister of Religion
Sister of Nature
Sister of Immortality
Sister of Fidelity
Sister of Patriotism
Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: None

Other: When performing this ceremony at an Assembly birthday, it is a nice custom to have both Majority Members and active members take part.

Worthy Advisor: The re-dedication Officers will please take their stations.

(The Worthy Advisor takes her position just East of the Altar. Those filling the Color Stations for the ceremony should take their places.)

Worthy Advisor: All Rainbow Girls, past and present, will please form a circle around the Altar and the Color Stations. All others will please remain in their seats.

My Sisters, we recall that at our Altar we took upon ourselves an obligation binding us together into one great sisterhood, forming a golden chain, as lasting and enduring as time. This chain can never be broken asunder, for it was forged in love and service. Today, we have gathered to re-dedicate ourselves anew to this great sisterhood and the principles which it embodies.

In nature, the colors red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet must unite in order to form white light. So, in Rainbow, must we pledge ourselves anew to each of the seven principles that these colors represent, for only through reminding ourselves of the strength and beauty of its lessons, may our Order grow and flourish.

Our Sisters of the Colors remind us of their teachings that we may more fully appreciate their importance as we work for the good of our Order.

Red: My lesson is that of Love. My color is red and is a reminder that the motivation for our continued interest in this Order is our love for it and for the confidence it inspires in the young girls who benefit from its lessons. Burdens too heavy to carry alone are made lighter as they are shared in the spirit of sisterly love.

Orange: My lesson is that of Religion. My color is Orange and is a reminder that an abiding faith in God can carry us through any trial which may confront us in our journey through life. No matter how dark the night may seem, we can be secure in the knowledge that the dawn will come and everything will be alright in God's own good time.

Yellow: My lesson is that of Nature. My color is Yellow and is a reminder of the importance of the great out-of-doors in our lives. Whether it is an open field, a quiet stream or a cascading waterfall, Nature's power and beauty are all around us. Having learned Rainbow's lessons of Nature, one of our responsibilities is to aid in the protection of our environment, that it may flourish to inspire future generations of our members.

Green: My lesson is that of Immortality. My color is Green and is a reminder that the bond of sisterhood is ageless and timeless. It is this continuity which inspires us to follow in the paths of those who have come before and challenges us to lay the groundwork for others to follow.

Blue: My lesson is that of Fidelity. My color is Blue and is a reminder that, to God, fidelity in tasks great or small is the one concern. Loyalty and trueness to our Sisters and to our task is essential to maintaining the strength of our Order.

Indigo: My lesson is that of Patriotism. My color is Indigo and is a reminder that respect and love for our country is one of the greatest lessons taught in Rainbow, a lesson which is too often overlooked in the busy lives of today's youth. The world will always have need of the good citizens who emerge as a result of Rainbow's teachings of Patriotism.

Violet: My lesson is that of Service. My color is Violet and is a reminder that, above all others, service is the bond that keeps us together; service to each other, to our Order and to the world at large. It is through service that our Order has remained strong, and only through service can Rainbow's teachings remain an inspiration for future generations.

Worthy Advisor: With these lessons refreshed in our minds, let all who have taken the obligation before the Altar of Rainbow kneel facing the Altar to re-dedicate themselves to the Order and to its teachings.

(All Rainbow Girls, past and present, kneel facing the Altar.)

Worthy Advisor: Say I, pronounce your name, and repeat after me:

I, _____ re-dedicate myself to the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls and to its principles. I promise that the lessons which I receive(d) in my girlhood shall remain the ideals which govern my life. I further promise that I will do all within my power to work for the good of this Order and to maintain the bonds of sisterhood which are formed within it. I promise this upon my honor as a Rainbow Girl.

Arise, my sisters.

Yesterday, today, and tomorrow, may the golden chain of sisterhood remain unbroken. Go forth secure in the spirit of sisterhood and inspired to continue in the life that you have re-dedicated yourselves to lead.

Chapter 24: Memorial Service (Traditional)

By Annette Blackburn Ehler, Oklahoma, Supreme Hope, 1922-46.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To remember the passing of members and friends of Rainbow.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Recorder
- Chaplain
- Drill Leader
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service
- Mother Advisor

Paraphernalia:

- Altar drape decorated with flowers and greenery.
- Wreath of green.
- One flower in each of the seven Rainbow colors.

(Mother Advisor and Drill Leader take their stations.)

Mother Advisor: Sister Drill Leader, you will invite the Officers to enter the Assembly Room.

(The Officers enter, with each Bow Officer carrying flowers to be used in the ceremony, Sister of Charity carrying Altar drape decorated with flowers and greenery, Sister of Faith carrying a wreath of green.)

(When all have reached their stations, the Mother Advisor presents the gavel to the Worthy Advisor, who seats the Officers.)

Worthy Advisor: Sisters and friends, we have assembled today in a sisterhood of sorrow. Some of our members, who were with us one year ago, in all the happiness of youth, have since passed from our earthly vision.

We saw not the lift of the curtain,
Nor heard the invisible door,
As they passed where God's problems uncertain,
Will follow and vex them no more.

True in our youth, we think little of this solemn change. Yet, occasionally, we are caused to pause, and we stand in awe, as one of our sisters answers the final summons. Then it is that we think of this hour and realize that sooner or later it must come to us also.

Officers, I bid you rise and together let us gather around our sacred Altar where our departed sisters knelt in taking the obligation that bound them to us in one great sisterhood.

(The Musician plays a funeral dirge, the officers stand, marching directly to the Altar, which they encircle.)

Worthy Advisor: Sister Recorder, please read the names of our sisters who have answered the Master's call.

(The Recorder reads the names of those who have passed on within the year.)

Worthy Advisor: Sister Associate Advisor, what is the hour?

Worthy Associate Advisor: The evening of life, when the sun has set at the end of the journey for some of our beloved sisters. The hour when they behold the "Rainbow of Promise" which our Heavenly Father has given to them.

Worthy Advisor: Of what are we reminded at this hour?

Worthy Associate Advisor: We are reminded of the fact, that for some, life is much shorter than for others. We are also brought to understand that

These sisters have traveled the pathway before them,
Have passed through the rainbow and maze.
They have labored their last in the Assembly,
They have heard the clear call of the Master,
Their journey on earth is now done.
Come higher, enter my kingdom,
For these, life and joy have begun.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Hope, what is the season?

Sister of Hope: It is the beautiful springtime, when the buds burst forth in all their glory, symbolizing the fact, that these sisters, who have gone on before us, are God's buds of promise. Gone to serve Him in the spring time of life. It is the season:

When Hope comes and with whisper sweet,
Tells of that land far away,
Where the sun shall never set,
In the land of eternal day.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Charity, what is the task?

Sister of Charity: To be charitable at all times, in the hope that God's eternal charity shall cover all our faults, whatsoever they may be; God is good and will hear our plea. He will guide our frail barque o'er the troubled sea.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Faith, what do you know of the voyage upon which our sisters have entered?

Sister of Faith: Our sisters' barque silently slipped away,
Across that shadowy, unknown sea.
The mists have hidden their snow white sails,
From the sight of their loved one – you and me –
Their ships will never be seen again
Nor lie at anchor near this fair shore.
We have no charts of their late voyage,
We will watch and wait a little while
We know but this – they will come no more.
Till the harbor master sets us free.
Then with our freight of hope and faith
We, too, will sail o'er the unknown sea.

Worthy Advisor: In commemoration of the transition of our sisters from this life to that life beyond the veil, and in memory of their labors among us, Sisters Hope and Charity, will you drape our sacred Altar?

(Sister of Charity, who has carried the Altar drape, now steps to the North side of the Altar, while Sister of Hope steps to South side, and Chaplain to West side of Altar. Chaplain lifts the open Bible and holds it, while together Sisters of Hope and Charity drape the Altar. When the cloth has been spread, Chaplain replaces the Bible on the Altar. Then Sister of Faith steps to the Altar and places the wreath on Altar around the Bible. Then all four step back into circle of officers.)

Worthy Advisor: We pause for a moment with reverent breath, to speak of that Angel, whom mortals call Death.

Sisters of Love, Religion, Nature, Immortality, Fidelity, Patriotism, and Service, what have you to offer in memory of our sisters, who were with us but yesterday, but have now gone hence – I cannot say, I will not say, that they are dead!

Sister of Love: There is not death! The stars go down
To rise upon some fairer shore,
And bright in heaven's golden crown,
They shine forever more.

Sister of Religion: There is NO death! The dust we tread,
Shall change beneath the summer showers
To golden grain or mellowed fruit
Or rainbow tinted flowers.

Sister of Nature: There is no death! The leaves may fall
And flowers may fade and pass away,
They only wait through wintry hours
The coming of the May.

Sister of Immortality: There – is – no – death! Angel form
Walks o'er the earth, with silent tread;
He bears our best loved ones away,
And then WE call them “dead.”

Sister of Fidelity: And ever' near us tho' unseen,
The dear immortal spirits tread;
For all the boundless universe
IS LIFE – There IS no dead.

Sister of Patriotism: Some call it death, this slipping of earthly moorings,
And drifting with the ebbing tide away,
But it is only the passing through the shadows
Into a life of endless day.

Sister of Service: They shall all bloom in fields of light
Transplanted by God's care.
And saints upon their garments white
These sacred blossoms wear.

(Each color steps to the Altar and lays the flower, color of her station, upon the wreath on the Altar, stepping back into the circle.)

Worthy Advisor: Sisters, let us bow our heads in prayer.

(All kneeling, Chaplain kneeling back of Altar, offers the following prayer.)

Chaplain: Father, beside this sacred Altar, where oft' knelt our departed sister(s), we dedicate our lives anew to Thee and to Thy service. We pray that only the good deeds of our sisters may be recorded with Thee, and that all short comings shall be forgotten. Bless, we pray Thee, the parents and families bereaved. Bless the families whose ranks are broken. Give us faith anew, and cause us to look to Thee for help and strength to overcome all earthly sorrows. All of these petitions we make in Thy Holy Name.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(All stand, the musician plays a funeral dirge, as the officers step back for a few steps, then slowly march to their seats.)

(The Officers retire at the signal of the Worthy Advisor.)

Chapter 25: Memorial Service (Modern - Long)

By Mrs. Sandy Dunnett, PWA, PMA, and Miss Margaret McDonald, PGO, Canada.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To remember the passing of members and friends of Rainbow.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Recorder
- Chaplain
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service
- Mother Advisor

Paraphernalia:

- Altar Bible.
- Mauve drape for the Altar.
- One flower in each of the seven Rainbow colors.
- White flower stand (placed at base of Altar before Sister of Service).

(The Mother Advisor is in the East. The Mother Advisor raises her hands for all to stand and nods to Officers to enter. Sister of Charity carries the drape, Color Stations carry flowers. Chaplain goes to the Altar, all other Officers go to their stations and remain standing.)

(Once the Worthy Advisor reaches her station, she nods to the Chaplain, who bows and reverently opens the Bible.)

(The Worthy Advisor nods to Sister of Charity, with drape, and to Sister of Hope to approach the Altar. Chaplain lifts open Bible and holds it while Sisters of Charity and Hope drape the Altar. When cloth is spread, Chaplain replaces Bible on Altar. Sisters of Charity and Hope each take one step backward, turn around together toward the right, and go directly to their Stations.)

(Chaplain kneels at the Altar.)

Chaplain: Our Heavenly Father, we are gathered together today in quietness and remembrance to honor our friends and loved ones who have gone to be with Thee. Father, please comfort the families whose ranks have been broken, and help them to remember the love and caring; the happiness and joy that was shared by each of them for so many years. Open our hearts and minds to the truest meaning of our beautiful Rainbow teachings; and help us to know that all who have been a part of them have been blessed with a greater understanding of love and service to those around us. Help us all through the sorrow of loss as we mourn our friends' and loved ones' passing; and give us the strength and courage to go forward each day as we try to walk in the path You, Our Father, have planned for each of us. We ask this in our Savior's name. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(Soloist or choir sings "I Will Remember You" as Chaplain finishes prayer. Chaplain picks up the white bow stand in front of her, stands and places it at the base of the open Bible. She bows, leaves the Altar slowly, and follows the marching line to her station in the East.)

(When the song is finished, the Worthy Advisor seats everyone with downward motion of her hands, to help maintain a quiet and reverent attitude in the room.)

Worthy Advisor: Sisters and friends, we have assembled here today in reverence and remembrance as a "Celebration of Life" to honor the loved ones within our Rainbow Family who were with us but a short year ago, and since then have been called Home to be with our Heavenly Father.

Neither youth nor age can tell when His "Call" will come to us, but through the teachings of our faith and the promise of God's Rainbow, we believe in life ever after, and our heavenly reunion with those loved ones who have gone before us.

Sister Recorder, you will read the names of the members of our Rainbow family who have answered the Master's call since we last gathered together.

(Recorder reads list of names, data, and relationship of those who have passed away.)

Worthy Advisor: The colors of our Rainbow are remembrance. In the Bible, God promised His people that He would never again destroy the earth – and as a visible sign, He created a magnificent Rainbow that spanned the heavens with seven brilliant colors representing all of the beauty of our world.

(The Worthy Advisor motions for the Color Stations to stand with upward hands signal. In unison, they stand, take one step to the left, two steps back, and one step to the right to the back of their stations.)

Worthy Advisor: Sisters of the Rainbow, I ask that each of you come and place your tribute on the White Altar of Holy Promise in respect and remembrance of those who have left us and journeyed onward.

(As Sister of Love leaves her station and walks to the Altar, each girl moves one station to her right. Sister of Love pays her tribute, and places her flower in the first slot of the white bow stand at the base of the Bible. She exits to the back of Sister of Service's station.)

Sister of Love: Love is remembrance - the color is Red.

In our beautiful Order we are taught that love is a silken cord, strong as a chain of steel, binding us all together. To give love and to receive love is the greatest gift of all. Love will not and cannot die. Even on the very threshold of death – when the light of this world slowly fades from our eyes – love will remain strong and true forever between Heaven and earth.

I, therefore, place this tribute on the Altar as a symbol of our love and devotion in remembrance and in celebration of those we are honoring today.

(Sister of Love exits from behind the Altar and goes to the back of Sister of Service's station. As Sister of Religion leaves Sister of Love's station, each girl moves one station to her right. Sister of Religion pays her tribute, places her flower in the second slot of the white bow stand and returns to Sister of Service's station. Each girl leaves Sister of Love's station and exits to the back of Sister of Service's station.)

Sister of Religion: Religion is remembrance - the color is Orange.

The early teachings and lessons of the Bible learned in our places of worship help strengthen our determination to walk on the right path, and do the best we can to help those we care the most about. To do this we must be strong and committed to our religious faith and beliefs ... to show others "who" we are as individuals and "what" we stand for.

I, therefore, place this tribute on the Altar as a symbol of our strong religious convictions in remembrance and in celebration of those we are honoring today.

Sister of Nature: Nature is remembrance - the color is Yellow.

To see the beauty of God's world in all its seasonal splendor: the promise of new life, growth, and beauty as the earth awakens to the kiss of Spring; the long days of sunshine, happiness, and growing things in Summer; the breath-taking beauty of

autumn and the harvest-time in Fall; the quietness and sleep of an earth covered in a blanket of sparkling white snow in Winter – this is our world. God is the Mastermind, and He alone has created and designed this incredible beauty for all of us to gaze upon and enjoy with awe and wonderment.

I, therefore, place this tribute on the Altar as a symbol of the beauty of God's great out-of-doors in remembrance and in celebration of those we are honoring today.

Sister of Immortality: Immortality is remembrance – the color is Green.

In our beautiful Rainbow Order, as in life, we learn that death can come unexpectedly and sometimes without warning to both young and old alike. None of us is ever fully prepared for the loss of a loved one or a friend, and it is natural for us to grieve. Yet at this Station of Immortality we know there is a Master Plan. To prepare, build, and dream are a part of our human life, - and we also have been taught that death is the last enemy. The example of Christ's resurrection ensures us of life ever after in the Kingdom of Heaven.

I, therefore, place this tribute on the Altar as a symbol of our firm conviction in immortality and eternal life in remembrance and in celebration of those we are honoring today.

Sister of Fidelity: Fidelity is remembrance – the color is Blue.

Absolute trust and confidence is the greatest gift to share with a loved one or friend. Our word, when given, should be considered sacred and binding. Truth should always be spoken to serve as a beacon of light that will shine throughout each of our lives. We all know that at times we must endure the trials of jealousy and gossip; but through God's love, we are assured that fidelity and truth will triumph in the end.

I, therefore, place this tribute on the Altar as a symbol of loyalty and faithfulness in remembrance and in celebration of those we are honoring today.

Sister of Patriotism: Patriotism is remembrance - the color is Indigo.

This intensified color has required many to make the ultimate sacrifice, if required, preserving freedom and liberty for our country or oppressed people in foreign lands. In times of world conflict, not only do our military men and women go to the front lines to do battle, but the ones at home also face uncertainties, loneliness, fear, worry, and the challenges of everyday life. Each one of us may be required to pay a certain price in the name of patriotism, justice, and freedom in order to achieve eventual peace, not only for ourselves, but for future generations.

I, therefore, place this tribute on the Altar as a symbol of the self-sacrifice of all who have suffered and endured in the name of democracy, equality, and human rights – in remembrance and celebration of those we are honoring today.

Sister of Service: Service is remembrance - the color is Violet.

To be of service to others and to help those in need should always be a part of our everyday lives. As Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, my brother, you have done it unto me." A smile, a thoughtful word, an unselfish act of kindness - we can never know how much these "little things" mean to someone. Let these feelings come from inside each of you – express them openly, and do not put them off. We have often heard it said, "Today is the first day of the rest of our lives. Tomorrow may be too late." Service to others is the foundation upon which all of our many Rainbow lessons are based.

I, therefore, place this tribute on the Altar as a symbol of service, caring, and helping those in need – and in remembrance and in celebration of those we are honoring today.

(When all girls are behind their own chairs, in unison, they will take one step to the left, two steps forward, and one step to the right in front of their chairs. The Worthy Advisor will motion for them to sit with downward movement of her hands.)

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, the seven Color Stations of our Rainbow have given their tribute on the White Altar of Holy Promise. Do you know of any others who wish to bring special messages in this hour of remembrance?

Worthy Associate Advisor: Yes, Worthy Advisor. The lessons we have learned in Rainbow would not be complete without instruction from the Sisters of Faith, Hope, and Charity.

Worthy Advisor: It is well. You will please instruct our Sisters to bring their messages.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Sisters of Faith, Hope, and Charity, by order of the Worthy Advisor, you will tell us your messages in this hour of remembrance.

(Sisters of Faith, Hope, and Charity stand as their names are spoken. Sister of Faith turns toward the Altar.)

Sister of Faith: Faith is remembrance.

We are all taught that if we hold firmly to the hand of Faith throughout the journey of life, we will be stronger than we could ever hope to be. Faith gives us the strength and courage to pursue higher goals and to accomplish what others who have self-doubts can only dream of doing. Faith helps us to meet and triumph over adversity, loss, and discouragement.

Faith is our direct link to God; and when the time comes for us to travel beyond the curtain of this mortal life, Faith will still be there to lead us into God's loving care and the Kingdom of Heaven. (Sister of Faith turns back to face the East.)

Sister of Hope: Hope is remembrance.

We are taught that Hope is always with us to overcome our doubts, and when we are tempted to do wrong. Hope is the desire within us that we can expect to accomplish our goals, anticipate that we can succeed, and the optimism to see our work through to the end.

Hope is our anchor and a symbol of victory to keep our thoughts and actions pure as we journey through life.

Sister of Charity: Charity is remembrance.

We are taught that Charity is the unselfish giving of ourselves – our time, our talents, our hearts and our minds to help those who are less fortunate than we are. How often do we see in our global community so many destitute, hungry, and sick people of war-torn countries being given assistance through acts of charity and humanitarianism from the countries of the free world with gifts of much needed food, supplies, and medical and spiritual aid, as well as the unselfish volunteers willing to risk their lives to help these people survive?

All of these wonderful acts of Charity make the difference between hope and despair, survival and death. Let us always remember the lesson of the Holy Bible: "Now abideth Faith, Hope and Charity, these three, but the greatest of these is Charity."

(The Worthy Advisor motions for the Sisters of Faith, Hope, and Charity to sit with a downward movement of her hands.)

Worthy Associate Advisor: Worthy Advisor, all of our sisters have now completed their tributes of remembrance to those of our Rainbow family who have departed from us.

We have, in this time of remembrance, renewed our determination to live the life that the lessons of our faith and our Rainbow Order have taught us. We are sure this is also the wish that our departed loved ones and friends would want us to continue to do.

Worthy Advisor: Sister Chaplain, you will please attend at the Altar.

(The Worthy Advisor motions for the Assembly to stand as Chaplain leaves the East, follows the marching lane West, South, and East, entering the Bow from Sister of Hope's

Station, stops at the Altar, bows, closes Bible, and bows again. She remains there until the Worthy Advisor gives instructions.)

Worthy Advisor: My Sisters, please join me around the Altar in remembrance of the “Circle of Life” and of those whose lives we honor and celebrate today.

(The Closing Song is sung (“Circle of Life”) as all Officers leave their stations and walk toward the Altar to join hands and form a circle. Hands are held while the song is sung and during the benediction of the Mother Advisor.)

(The Mother Advisor should wait to begin speaking until the music to the Chorus begins, and should finish before the Chorus is sung.)

Mother Advisor: We have paid our final tributes in remembrance of our departed loved ones and friends. As they are welcomed into their Heavenly Home, may joy and happiness be seen on their faces, and may they be clothed with garments of white and as pure as snow. Bless those who have lost a loved one and help ease their pain as time passes. Help us to comfort one another with the strength and knowledge that one day we will all be reunited.

These are the lessons we have been taught in life and in Rainbow. May God always help us to keep our promises.

Response by All: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(The Officers drop hands, and with Sister of Charity directly North of the Altar, and Sister of Love directly South of the Altar, each one will lead the Officers out of the Assembly Room slowly to the West while a soloist or choir sings the Chorus of “Circle of Life” again.)

I WILL REMEMBER YOU

I will remember you.
Will you remember me?
Don't let your life pass you by,
Weep not for the memories.
Remember the good times that we had.
We let them slip away
- from us when things got bad.
Clearly I first saw you smiling in the sun,
Want to feel your love surround me.
I want to be the one.
I will remember you.
Will you remember me?
Don't let your life pass you by,
Weep not for the memories.

CIRCLE OF LIFE

From the day we arrive on the planet,
And blinking, step into the sun,
There's more to see than can ever be seen,
More to do than can ever be done.
There's far too much to take in here,
More to find than can ever be found,
But the sun rolling high through the sapphire sky,
Keeps great and small on the endless round.
It's the circle of life,
And it moves us all,
Through despair and hope,
Through faith and love,
'Til we find our place,
On the path unwinding,
In the circle; the circle of life.

Chorus: It's the circle of life,
And it moves us all,
Through despair and hope,
Through faith and love,
'Til we find our place,
On the path unwinding,
In the circle; the circle of life

Chapter 26: Memorial Service (Modern - Short)

By Mrs. Debbie Marks, Supreme Deputy, Kansas.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor the memory of Rainbow members and friends.

Participants: All Officers

Paraphernalia: Altar Bible.
Altar drape.
One flower in each of the seven Rainbow colors.
A memento for each Officer participating (flower, ribbon, etc.).

“*Immortality*” by Celine Dion (4:11 minutes long)

(When the song begins, Sisters of Hope, Charity, and Faith, and Sister of Immortality, stand together. Sisters of Hope and Charity approach the Altar and stand on the South and North respectively. Sister of Charity brings the Altar drape with her. After Sisters of Hope and Charity are in position, Sister of Faith leaves her station, picks up the memorial flowers from the Treasurer’s desk and walks West, South and East, entering the bow from the South and standing West of the Altar. After Sister of Faith is in position, Sister of Immortality leaves her station, goes directly to the West marching lane, then South, East and North to stand East of the Altar.)

(Sister of Faith gives the memorial flowers to Sister of Immortality. Sister of Faith then picks up the Bible from the Altar. Sisters of Hope and Charity drape the Altar – slowly and reverently. Sister of Faith places the Bible back on the Altar after it has been properly draped. Sister of Immortality then places the memorial flowers on the Altar forming a bow just above the Bible.)

(All four officers, in unison, take one step away from the Altar, turn (Sisters of Hope and Charity turn to face their stations, Sister of Faith turns North to exit the bow, Sister of Immortality turns South) and then return to their stations. Once all have reached their stations, they are seated in unison.)

“*I Will Remember You*” by Kenny Rogers (5:04 minutes long)

Worthy Advisor: When a young lady takes her journey and becomes a Rainbow Sister, she is greeted and guided by Faith. Sister of Faith (wait for Sister of Faith to stand), you will travel with our Rainbow Sisters on one last journey to our Altar where they

will place their special tributes of love and respect in honor of our past Sisters, and all of our Rainbow friends who have left this Earth.

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Officers with two raps.)

(Sister of Faith walks North then West. Sister of Charity falls in line behind Sister of Faith. Chaplain leaves the East and falls in line behind Sister of Charity. Sister of Charity will remain at the end of the line throughout the memorial service. Sister of Faith continues by walking South, then East picking up Worthy Associate Advisor, Confidential Observer, Outer Observer, Sister of Hope and Drill Leader. At Drill Leader's station, Sister of Faith turns to the inside and walks back to the West, then North to the Northwest corner. The Color Stations fall in line behind Drill Leader. After reaching the Northwest corner, Sister of Faith countermarches (in the front of the Officers) to the South and then East to a line between Hope's Station and Sister of Love. At that point, Sister of Faith turns and approaches the Altar where she gives the Sign of the Rainbow, lays her tribute on the wreath above the Bible, exits by taking one step back and turning to the North, returning to her station. All other Officers follow, repeating the steps taken by Sister of Faith and then returning to their respective stations. When the Color Stations reach their stations, they should move in front of their stations in normal form. After Chaplain places her memento on the Altar, she kneels for prayer.)

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

Chaplain: Dear Lord, as we gather to remember our friends who have passed from this earth, give us the strength to live our lives to their fullest in memory and in honor of those we loved. In the next few moments, as we each pray silently, let our hearts be filled not with sorrow and regret, but joy and love. In the Master's name. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(The Chaplain then stands and exits the bow by taking one step back and turning to the North, returning to her station.)

Worthy Advisor: May our friends go in Peace, until we meet again.

(The Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

(Short memorials can be read followed by the introduction of this special, uplifting song.)

“Destiny” by John Tesh (3:40 minutes long)

Chapter 27: Mother's Day Service

By Reverend W. Mark Sexson, Founder of Rainbow.

Dedicated to the memory of his own beautiful Mother who passed away in July 1940, shortly after her ninety-first birthday.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor Mothers.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity (First Monitor)
- Sister of Hope (Second Monitor)
- Sister of Faith
- Chaplain
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: Altar Bible (outside the room).

Other: Three chairs can be placed on either side of the room, East of the Altar, outside the labyrinth, so color sisters do not have to stand during the ceremony when they are not taking part.

(The Officers enter. Sister of Faith does not enter with the Officers, but remains on the outside until she is asked to enter during the Ceremony. When the Officers have taken their respective stations, the Worthy Advisor will begin.)

Worthy Advisor: My friends, we have invited you to join with us in this service in order that as a group of Rainbow Girls, we might pay loving tribute to our Mothers. We thank you for your presence and sincerely hope that those of you who are not members of the Rainbow, or of the Order sponsoring Rainbow will be impressed with our service and will hold it in loving remembrance.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, in sounding the gavel in the East, I have called this court, which I have designated as a court of beauty, in order that we may pay due respect and honor to our Mothers.

(There should be two persons with good speaking voices (can be Sisters of Hope and Charity) to act as Monitors for the Ceremony. The first Monitor should be in the West and the other Monitor in the East. They should wait ten seconds between each speaking voice. Soft music is played while Monitors speak.)

First Monitor: It was she who went down into the valley in order that she might receive from the Great Giver of all life my trembling soul and carry it back into the sunshine of living day.

Second Monitor: It was she who toiled and sacrificed and denied herself that her child might take its place of honor and trust among the useful citizens of our country.

First Monitor: We are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill must be hid.

Second Monitor: Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, interrupted by these voices that come out of the distance, I feel a sense of insecurity. For a moment, I find myself wavering.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Worthy Advisor, have you forgotten that through Prayer comes countless and unexpected blessings and that through Prayer there is an inexhaustible source of power opened to those who feel the need of Divine guidance. God alone lifts us as we attempt to reach such heights as we must reach if we pay due honor to her who gave us life.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, your words are inspiring, as well as saving. For a moment, I was lost, error had taken hold of me instead of truth. My mind is now serene, it is peaceful. Rainbow girls must always remember that in moments of indecision, they should recall the teachings of their home and their Church and lean upon the power of prayer.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, it is my order that our Chaplain kneel at the White Altar, where we have made our promises to each other, and lead us in prayer.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Sister Chaplain, it is the order of the Worthy Advisor in the East that you proceed to the White Altar of Holy Promise and invoke the Divine Blessing to rest upon this meeting.

(The Chaplain leaves her station and goes to the Altar, kneeling for prayer.)

Chaplain: Our Father in Heaven, with earnestness in our voices flowing out of a deep conviction, we pray Thy blessings, rich and abundant to rest upon our Mothers. Thou knowest, dear Lord, that mother-life is from the beginning and to the ending,

made of courage. Life is as though a bird had flown through a window, crossed the room and then flown out of another window, bearing a new song enriched by patient sweetness of Mother. Dear Lord, it was Mother who taught me my simple child prayer. She taught me to come to you in every moment of trial, in hours of disappointment, or in victory and you would understand. At this Altar, we do partly know how to appreciate mother. We pray for strength to know her better. Teach us how we may repay her for the fine, brave things she has done for us. Let us never forget to put our arms about her, and kiss her. Let us remember to tell her how we appreciate her. Thus may we in a way honor her who has done so much for us. Amen and Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, your words were timely and good. Greater light has come to all of us through Prayer, as well as greater understanding. I, therefore, declare this Court open for those who care to report at its Altar and pay loving tribute to our mothers. Color Stations you will take your positions in this Court of Beauty.

(Sisters of Love, Religion and Nature step back of their stations, on the South side of the Altar with Sister of Love leading. Sisters of Fidelity, Patriotism and Service step back of their stations, on the North side of the Altar, with Sister of Service leading. They march to the East and stand on their respective sides between the Altar and the East. Sister of Immortality advances just back of the Altar.)

Sister of Love: Worthy Advisor, I deem it one of the greatest privileges of this life to stand before the Altar of White Light and pay tribute to Mother.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Love, since you bear the name you do, and since the teachings of your station have always been beautiful and sublime, you may leave your station and stand before the White Altar to pay your tribute.

(Sister of Love marches West until she is on a direct line with Sister of Immortality, then turns North and marches to her. Sister of Immortality turns facing South and they face each other.)

Sister of Immortality: My Sister, I observe you approaching the White Altar for the purpose of paying tribute to Mother. I observe also that you carry upon your arm a gift of flowers symbolic of your deep love and devotion for her who gave you life. Yet, I am sorry to inform you, that you cannot lay your tribute upon the Altar because you have forgotten one of the most important of all lessons taught to our Rainbow Girls. You will therefore leave your gift with me until some future time.

(Sister of Immortality takes her flowers. Sister of Love retraces her line of march.)

Sister of Religion: Worthy Advisor, I crave permission to speak in this Court that I may testify to the grace and beauty of mother as she comes to us in our moments of prayer and worship. I, therefore ask that I be allowed to stand before the White Altar and give further testimony to mother.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Religion, since you bear the name you do, and since the teachings of your station have always been beautiful and sublime, you may leave your station and stand before the White Altar to pay your tribute.

(Sister of Religion marches West until she is on a direct line with Sister of Immortality, then turns North and marches to her. Sister of Immortality turns facing South and they face each other.)

Sister of Immortality: My Sister, I observe you approaching the White Altar for the purpose of paying tribute to Mother. I observe also that you carry upon your arm a gift of flowers symbolic of your deep love and devotion for her who gave you life. Yet, I am sorry to inform you, that you cannot lay your tribute upon the Altar because you have forgotten one of the most important of all lessons taught to our Rainbow Girls. You will therefore leave your gift with me until some future time.

(Sister of Immortality takes her flowers. Sister of Religion retraces her line of march.)

Sister of Nature: Worthy Advisor, I, too, ask that I may have permission to speak in this Court and thus do honor to that lovely person who bears the name of Mother. Many of her sublime teachings come to us from the out-of-doors; from the garden, field, and the valley; out of the blooming flowers, and the songs of birds. I, therefore, ask permission to stand before the White Altar and give further testimony to Mother.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Nature, since you bear the name you do, and since the teachings of your station have always been beautiful and sublime, you may leave your station and stand before the White Altar to pay your tribute.

(Sister of Nature marches West until she is on a direct line with Sister of Immortality, then turns North and marches to her. Sister of Immortality turns facing South and they face each other.)

Sister of Immortality: My Sister, I observe you approaching the White Altar for the purpose of paying tribute to Mother. I observe also that you carry upon your arm a gift of flowers symbolic of your deep love and devotion for her who gave you life. Yet, I am sorry to inform you, that you cannot lay your tribute upon the Altar because you have forgotten one of the most important of all lessons taught to our Rainbow Girls. You will therefore leave your gift with me until some future time.

(Sister of Immortality takes her flowers. Sister of Nature retraces her line of march.)

Sister of Fidelity: Worthy Advisor, may I at this time, approach the White Altar, remembering one power that has kept me in the narrow path of righteousness, and pay tribute to Mother? Out of a life that never wavered; out of one whose course was ever true as the Star of the North, I have drawn my deepest inspiration. I, therefore, ask that I be permitted to stand before the White Altar and give further testimony to Mother.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Fidelity, since you bear the name you do, and since the teachings of your station have always been beautiful and sublime, you may leave your station and stand before the White Altar to pay your tribute.

(Sister of Fidelity marches West until she is on a direct line with Sister of Immortality, then turns North and marches to her. Sister of Immortality turns facing South and they face each other.)

Sister of Immortality: My Sister, I observe you approaching the White Altar for the purpose of paying tribute to Mother. I observe also that you carry upon your arm a gift of flowers symbolic of your deep love and devotion for her who gave you life. Yet, I am sorry to inform you, that you cannot lay your tribute upon the Altar because you have forgotten one of the most important of all lessons taught to our Rainbow Girls. You will therefore leave your gift with me until some future time.

(Sister of Immortality takes her flowers. Sister of Fidelity retraces her line of march.)

Sister of Patriotism: Worthy Advisor, when I think of the lessons taught me by Mother, the lessons of my country and of those who have in the past died for it, I feel that I have not done my duty in this Court unless I be permitted to stand before the White Altar and give further testimony to Mother.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Patriotism, since you bear the name you do, and since the teachings of your station have always been beautiful and sublime, you may leave your station and stand before the White Altar to pay your tribute.

(Sister of Patriotism marches West until she is on a direct line with Sister of Immortality, then turns North and marches to her. Sister of Immortality turns facing South and they face each other.)

Sister of Immortality: My Sister, I observe you approaching the White Altar for the purpose of paying tribute to Mother. I observe also that you carry upon your arm a gift of flowers symbolic of your deep love and devotion for her who gave you life. Yet, I am sorry to inform you, that you cannot lay your tribute upon the Altar because you have forgotten one of the most important of all lessons taught to our Rainbow Girls. You will therefore leave your gift with me until some future time.

(Sister of Immortality takes her flowers. Sister of Patriotism retraces her line of march.)

Sister of Service: Worthy Advisor, to me there is no life so full of doing things as that of the life of Mother. From her we have received encouragement to devote our time, our talent, and our energy to the worthwhile things of life and it is to honor her who has given us these helpful lessons of service that I ask permission to stand before the White Altar and give further testimony to Mother.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Service, since you bear the name you do, and since the teachings of your station have always been beautiful and sublime, you may leave your station and stand before the White Altar to pay your tribute.

(Sister of Service marches West until she is on a direct line with Sister of Immortality, then turns North and marches to her. Sister of Immortality turns facing South and they face each other.)

Sister of Immortality: My Sister, I observe you approaching the White Altar for the purpose of paying tribute to Mother. I observe also that you carry upon your arm a gift of flowers symbolic of your deep love and devotion for her who gave you life. Yet, I am sorry to inform you, that you cannot lay your tribute upon the Altar because you have forgotten one of the most important of all lessons taught to our Rainbow Girls. You will therefore leave your gift with me until some future time.

(Sister of Immortality takes her flowers. Sister of Service retraces her line of march.)

(After the last girl is back, the Worthy Advisor continues.)

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, upon request of six members of this Court of Beauty, I have permitted them to leave their stations and journey to the White Altar where they might pay tribute to Mother. However, I have observed they all have returned and no tribute has been paid. Why is this misunderstanding in the Court and why is it that these members have not made report?

Worthy Associate Advisor: Worthy Advisor, this Court has not been properly opened. One of the most important things has been overlooked in our preparation. Since, however, I have observed from my station that the attendant at the Altar has for some reason refused the members of the Court the privilege of standing before the Altar and since she has requested that they leave their floral offerings in her care until some future time, I, therefore, ask that you demand of her the reason for thus obstructing the words of the Worthy Advisor.

(Sister of Immortality stands without any word from the Worthy Advisor.)

Sister of Immortality: Worthy Advisor, I need no command from you to explain my action. I am Immortality. I was before the beginning and I shall be after the ending. I am the soul that speaks only the Truth. Your Court does not have in it one of the most sacred things that belong to Mother. Faith in God. Since it is lacking, no

tribute can be made to her who must forever stand upon a golden pedestal, and forever have first place in the heart and mind of those to whom she gave life.

Worthy Advisor: It is well, Sister of Immortality. Many times in this life we are too hasty. Many times we fail to make the preparations becoming the dignity of the task we approach, and do so within our own power. Many times we pray and seem refreshed and strengthened for a moment, only to find that we cannot win because we do not ask in faith. Many times we half-heartedly pay tribute to our flag in words of the lips, and our hearts remain untouched. That we may renew our Pledge to our Country and its Flag; that we may make the Altar a Prayer again and a greater part of the American [Canadian] way of life, I shall order the Confidential Observer to invite the Sister of Faith to enter the Assembly Room.

(Confidential Observer opens the door, where Sister of Faith is in waiting dressed in white, carrying a white Bible with a corsage of Seven Colors. Sister of Faith enters the Assembly Room, marches (soft music) once around the Assembly Room, then enters the bow from the South and proceeds to the Altar. Sister of Immortality returns from her position at the Altar to her own station. At the same time the Color Stations go back to their regular places in the bow. All turn facing West, Sister of Nature leads her line, Sister of Fidelity leads her line and all go back of the Color Stations to their chairs, Sister of Immortality is standing at her station, then all are seated at once.)

(Sister of Faith remains standing at the Altar.)

Sister of Faith: Faith in Him who was, is, and always will be, that Divine, invisible and sweet power, the very breath and perfume of the soul was in the beginning with God. It was the power that moved the spirit upon the face of the deep when God said, "Let there be light and there was light." It was blended with all its colors in the life of the first man and woman. It was the living breath of the first child. There is no sculptor that can convey its meaning, no lover can tell its story, no musician touch its note, nor painter know its blending power. It is God Himself in man. Such, oh Worthy Advisor, is Faith.

(Here a Solo suitable for Faith is sung. After the song Sister of Faith returns to her station.)

Worthy Advisor: Members of this Court, and friends, being now illuminated by the power of Faith, and thus being able to understand and appreciate more keenly than we ever have, we shall proceed to pay tribute. Sister of Immortality, since you are the open gateway through which life comes and through which it goes, may it please you now to return to the Sisters of Love, Religion Nature, Fidelity, Patriotism, and Service, the floral offerings that they may pay tribute.

(Sister of Immortality steps back of her station and distributes flowers, beginning with Sister of Love and ending with Sister of Service. Each Color Station comes to the Altar,

beginning with Sister of Love, and ending with Sister of Service. After tribute, lays flowers on Altar around closed Bible.)

Sister of Love: To you Mother, I bring this red flower. You taught me how to love. I loved you first and every year that unfolds increases that love. As surely as God so loved the world, you loved me. From you I drew my first breath, God gave it to you for me. From you, I learned to live, to walk and to talk. Beauty came from you because it came out of love. I lay these flowers on the White Altar near the Book you taught me to read and study, to do honor to you. And by this act, I pledge to you again filial obedience. May God bless you is my Prayer.

Sister of Religion: To you Mother, I bring these flowers. It seems you have always been by my side. Your whisper and counsel has been music to me when discord disturbed me. You taught me my first Prayer: "Now I lay me down to sleep," you taught me to love the Lord, my God, with all my heart. You showed me how to sacrifice, and showed me how beauty could come out of suffering and sorrow. No less to me than an angel of God, and to do honor to you now fills my soul with delight, and thus I lay these flowers on this White Altar near the Holy Bible.

Sister of Nature: To you, Mother, I bring these flowers. You who taught me how to love the day, the sunshine, the flowers, the song of the birds, and the music of flowing waters. In God's out-of-doors, you have been my queen. I have garlands of leaves and roses for your hair. Your sweet tunes and soft blended words were like the winds that shaped and toned the flowers. I have been made to believe that I am a part of the earth, the air, the sky, and the seas because of you. I lay these flowers on this White Altar near the Holy Bible in memory of the sacred and holy hours I have spent with you in the out-of-doors.

Sister of Fidelity: To you Mother, I bring these flowers. Well do I remember when I looked into your eyes for the first time. In them I found a trueness that never wavered. I have seen them misty with tears, but eternal fidelity shone through. No storm cloud ever shut out the light of your eyes to mine, or covered your beautiful face. No distrust ever came from you. You made it by example easy for me to trust in God, and in loving memory and honor, I lay these flowers on the White Altar near the Holy Bible whose records of Fidelity you taught me.

Sister of Patriotism: To you Mother, I bring these flowers. You who gave me my first lesson in love of country and taught me the beauty and glory of my flag. Next to the lessons of the Son of God and His wonderful sacrifice was the story of my country and its flag.

(Use this paragraph in the United States.)

You told me how it was made and who made it. You told me that those who carried it in conflict never retreated. "The Star Spangled Banner, Oh long may it wave, Over the land of the free and the home of the brave," was the theme you taught me next to the Church hymns of our Father.

(Use this paragraph in Canada.)

You taught me always to respect Canada's Flag, and to say: Our Loved Dominion
Bless, with peace and happiness from shore to shore. You told me that those who
carry it to conflict never retreat.

(All use this paragraph.)

I place these flowers on the White Altar in loving remembrance and honor of you
and in doing so tell you now that I will die for my flag. It is and always will be
above all other flags and no foreign foe shall pull it down.

Sister of Service: To you Mother, I bring these flowers. You who taught me how to work and serve and who by example showed the way. To work is to be noble, while an hour lost can never be found was a lesson you tried so hard to teach me. Before you took time to rest, you came to see if I needed you, or you went some place to find someone who needed you. I am coming every day now to know how valuable is an hour. There is so much to do among our people. You not only taught me this, but you let me become a Rainbow Girl and that is what they taught me in the Assembly. I lay these flowers on the White Altar near the Holy Bible you love and the words shine through its cover, "Whosoever would be great among you, let him become a servant."

Sister of Immortality: I will place this sprig of acacia (cedar) upon the White Altar of Rainbow in honor of Mother. I am Immortality. I have no beginning, no ending. Mother love approaches me more closely than all else. God made me and through me, mother, love came. It will not die. This sprig of acacia will mark the spot where we have made these vows and before it fades others will come to renew it. Such is the tribute that Rainbow Girls pay to their Mothers and thus join with all the rest of the world in the ceremonies of this sacred day.

(Solo – suitable for Mother.)

Worthy Advisor: Will the Assembly please stand while the Chaplain pronounces the Benediction.

Chaplain: Our Father in Heaven, as we leave this Assembly and go our respective ways, be Thou close to us, hold our hands that we may walk right paths. Breathe Thy spirit upon us that we may be surrounded by Thy goodness, that we may love beauty. Let no day ever pass that we do not thank Thee for our Mother. Thus may we pay our debt of gratitude to her, and to our country. "May the Lord watch between Thee and me while we are absent one from another." Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(The Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

Chapter 28: Obligation Service

By Mrs. Esther Margaret Stahl and Mrs. Anderson, North Dakota.

Who may witness: Closed meeting only.

Purpose: For members to re-obligate themselves to the principles of Rainbow.

Participants: Worthy Advisor
Sister of Charity
Sister of Hope
Chaplain
Sister of Love
Sister of Religion
Sister of Nature
Sister of Immortality
Sister of Fidelity
Sister of Patriotism
Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: Candle on the Altar.
Seven candles for each of the Color Stations to hold.
Miniature lambskin apron.

Worthy Advisor: Girls, tonight we are having a re-obligation ceremony. We are going to re-obligate and re-dedicate ourselves anew to the vows that we took at the Altar when we were initiated into the Order of Rainbow.

Sister of Hope, you will approach the Altar, the most sacred place in our Assembly Room, where you will perform the task assigned to you.”

(Sister of Hope goes to the Altar and lights candle.)

Sister of Hope: I light this candle which is the White Light that must always shine in the pathway of a true Rainbow Girl, guiding her in the paths of right living and right thinking. It represents the crystallization of all colors and its beams will ever lead you, no matter how many trials, temptations or discouragements beset you.

Sister of Love: Sisters, this station represents that which can never die; it is the abiding presence of Love, out of which has grown all devotion, and is the dearest thing in earth or heaven. Will you remember that Love is of God, and when you love you are like Him?”

Assembly: We will.

Sister of Love (lights candle): Let this light shine to remind us of our promise.

Sister of Religion: Sisters, we would impress upon you the beauties of religion as exemplified by its Great Author, whose life was one of gentleness and kindness. Do you promise to let religion have a real place in your life as a Rainbow Girl?

Assembly: We do.

Sister of Religion (lights candle): Let this light glow to remind us that we may not achieve the promise without the guidance of religion.

Sister of Nature: Nature has great lessons for you if you will only heed her. God's first temples were out of doors under the vaulted heavens. Here inspiration to do greater things will spur you on if you will only heed its whispers. Do you promise to try to learn the secrets which nature holds for you?"

Assembly: We do.

Sister of Nature (lights candle): May this light remind you that a part of your time should be given over to communion with Nature.

Sister of Immortality: Sisters, the color of this station is green, and is the symbol of immortal life. Every young girl must remember that though death may come to her, her soul is immortal. Will you remember this?

Assembly: We will.

Sister of Immortality (lights candle): To remind you of this sublime truth, I light this candle.

Sister of Fidelity: Sisters, to be happy, you must be loyal. You must be worthy of trust and confidence, for it was loyalty and trust in God that laid the foundation for our Christian religion. Will you promise to lay a foundation for happiness by keeping every vow?

Assembly: We will.

Sister of Fidelity (lights candle): This lamp is blue, in all ages a symbol of loyalty. May its rays ever fall upon your pathway.

Sister of Patriotism: Sisters, patriotism demands courage and sacrifice. Let us rededicate ourselves, anew to our country and its flag, symbol of our liberty. Do you

promise that this flag shall always be a sacred symbol to you, calling forth at all times your utmost respect and devotion?

Assembly: We do.

Sister of Patriotism (lights candle): May this intensified light ever remind you of your duties to your country and its flag.

Sister of Service: Sisters, we are bound together in our promise to be of service, for we can never know the true meaning of the treasure without feeling the joy of helping others. Do you again promise to make your life one of service?

Assembly: We do.

Sister of Service (lights candle): Violet is the only ray of light that has healing power. May you remember it as the symbol of service.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Charity, you who guard the sacred treasures of Rainbow, have you a service to perform?

Sister of Charity (goes to the Altar): I have, Worthy Advisor. I have this miniature lambskin apron, in the center of which is a star. It is the symbol of the tie that binds. Although we may never fully know its meaning, it should be cherished as one of Rainbow's great treasures. I lay it on the Altar to remind us that the secrets of the Rainbow should be ever sacred.

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

OBLIGATION (The Worthy Advisor leads all in repeating the Obligation.)

Worthy Advisor: Sister Chaplain, you will lead us in prayer.

Chaplain (goes to the Altar and kneels): Our Heavenly Father, Thou hast heard the vows which have been renewed at Thine Altar. Grant to these Thy children, strength to be faithful to these promises. May they realize that these are not just spoken words, but a solemn promise made to Thee. May they appreciate more fully the beautiful and impressive lessons taught by the seven colors of the Rainbow. In renewing the Obligation, may they remember that they are bound by the most solemn secrecy respecting the work of the Assembly. It is so easy to forget the responsibility that is assumed when the vows are taken. May the beautiful Order of the Rainbow prosper because the lesson of "True Womanhood" is not forgotten.

Sanctify and bless the friendships of these girls. Surround them with Thy love that they may come to know Thee better, the Greatest Friend of all.

For the blessings of home and church we give Thee thanks and ask Thy continued blessings on our Assembly. In Jesus name. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(The Worthy Advisor gives one rap to seat the Assembly.)

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, you will be pleased to explain to these girls, the meaning of the vows they have taken.

Worthy Associate Advisor: You have rededicated yourselves to the Obligations of Rainbow. In the Obligation there are seven ties that bind our girls together, obedience to God, and to our parents, and to the laws of Rainbow, and the interests of our schools, and our religion, and the pledging of ourselves to a life of service. We hope you will regard these vows as holy and under no circumstances violate your promises.

Chapter 29: Open Meeting (Opening And Closing)

Who may witness: Open meeting only.

Purpose: This format is appropriate for special occasions such as Receptions and Honor Nights. It can also be used for purposes of explaining Rainbow to prospective members and their families. Where the open meeting is held for purposes of demonstrating Rainbow to prospective members, the Bow Program could also be presented.

Participants: Worthy Advisor
Recorder
Sister of Faith/Chaplain
Drill Leader
Mother Advisor

Paraphernalia: Altar Bible.
National flag.

OPENING

(The Drill Leader escorts the Mother Advisor to the East and then assumes her station.)

(The Mother Advisor gives welcome.)

Mother Advisor: Sister (Chaplain, Sister of Faith) you will bring the Bible into the Assembly Room.

(The Mother Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

(The Bible is advanced to the Recorder's desk and opened. The Officer bearing Bible leaves to join line up of Officers outside.)

Mother Advisor: Sister Drill Leader, you will present the flag in the Assembly Room.

(The Drill Leader posts the national flag, and returns to her station.)

(The Mother Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

Mother Advisor: Sister Drill Leader, you will invite the officers to enter the Assembly Room.

(The Officers take their places and are seated. No jewels are worn.)

Worthy Advisor: Sister Recorder, you will read the dispensation.

(The Recorder reads the dispensation.)

(The Worthy Advisor gives the welcome.)

Worthy Advisor: By authority vested in me as Worthy Advisor, I declare this meeting open for _____.

(The Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

Worthy Advisor: Sister Chaplain, you will attend the Altar.

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

(The Chaplain advances around the room behind the Bow to the Recorder's desk, carries the open Bible to the Altar, entering from the South.)

Chaplain: (Gives the prayer from the ritualistic opening.)

(The Chaplain leaves the Altar from the North and returns to her station.)

Worthy Advisor: Sister Drill Leader, you will present our Flag at the Altar.

(The Drill Leader retrieves the Flag as in the ritualistic opening and takes it to the Altar, entering from the South.)

(When the Drill Leader is standing at the Altar, the Worthy Advisor addresses the Assembly.)

Worthy Advisor: Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of our National Anthem.

(After the anthem is sung, without instruction from the Worthy Advisor, the Drill Leader leaves the Altar from the South and returns the flag to Sister of Patriotism's station.)

(Once the Drill Leader returns to her station, the Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

CLOSING

Worthy Advisor: Sister Chaplain, you will attend the Altar.

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

(The Chaplain leaves her station and enters the Altar from the South.)

Chaplain: (Gives the prayer from the ritualistic closing.)

(Following the prayer, the Chaplain closes the Bible on the Altar and returns from the North to her station in the East.)

(The Worthy Advisor seats the Assembly with one rap.)

Chapter 30: Parents' Degree

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Connecticut.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor our parents.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Chaplain
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia:

- White cross of flowers.
- Seven flowers, one each of the seven Rainbow colors.
- Four red carnations.
- Large vase.

(The Worthy Advisor goes to the Altar.)

Worthy Advisor: The Bible here on our Altar stands for many great principles to each of us. Basically, it is the Word of God, so written and gathered together in the New and Old Testaments, that its Psalms, prophesies and stories provide us with inspirations whatever our need or anxiety might be. It is a kind of communication system also by which we can come closer to understanding and loving God. No family could live or exist without the foundation of their home. The Holy Bible, a father's and mother's love for each other, their love of God, together with their love for their children, makes their home secure and so stable it will last into eternity.

(The Worthy Advisor picks up a white cross of flowers.)

I hold a symbol of that unity in the bond of marriage, these seven white roses for the letters of Mother and these seven for the letters of Father. With the thought that marriages are made in Heaven, I place this White Cross upon our Bible, reminding

us throughout the Degree of the unity of a family with God. As He bore a Cross and gave His own Son, that we might have Life with love, love for our parents and neighbors. May each day of our lives become a fulfillment of that Promise.

(The Worthy Advisor places the Cross on the Bible and stays until the hymn is over. "Old Rugged Cross" is sung. The Worthy Advisor returns to the East.)

(Each Bow Officer will approach the Altar, say her part, lay her flower around the Bible and return to her station.)

Sister of Love: So familiar to us is the Red color of Love, a basic need of every human being. We must love something and feel someone loves us or our lives would be worthless and empty. At our age, we may sometimes feel our parents just don't understand us, but we are the ones so completely in the dark. If we were deprived of the love they so willingly give, we would realize the loss was priceless. Learn from this flower a great lesson, that love, especially from our parents, is the first and greatest treasure to be found at the end of the Rainbow.

Sister of Religion: The Orange stands for Religion. No matter how strong our Faith is or how great the meaning we receive from our Church service, we owe the opportunity of this wonderful experience to our parents. They first taught us the need of worship when we were taken on Sunday morning through the Holiness of its open doors. As our religion grows more meaningful in our lives, we will be grateful for the right path our parents trod when we were introduced to the House of God.

Sister of Nature: Yellow is the color of the sun which gives the earth the warmth that enfolds the beauties of our out-of-doors. The fall, the spring, the summer and the winter – we can enjoy all of the seasons, for our way of life is free and good, a heritage established long ago by our parental ancestors. Do not overlook the splendor of Nature, for it too teaches a wonderful lesson.

Sister of Immortality: Green, the color of Immortality, is a cool, soothing color to remind us that death marks not an end, but the beginning of an eternity in realm and glory of God heavenward. When you look to the sky filled with the brightness of the stars, the sun and the moon, remember that in this life we are preparing ourselves for the next. Try to make each day you live a better and richer one; that when the light of your life is extinguished, your soul will shine in heaven, giving faith to those who live.

Sister of Fidelity: Fidelity, loyal and true, is represented by the color of this pure Blue. Of all the traits you possess in your character, the one most cherished is loyalty. No person or parent stands so straight or strong or is more respected than the one who can be true to his family, church and nation, whatever the consequences for him. Our parents stand as a living example of this truth. May we learn this lesson from them and grow more loyal to the principles we believe are right – those of Fidelity.

Sister of Patriotism: Indigo, deep and strong, is the color of Patriotism. It is the darkest color for it represents a blend of the Red of Love, the Orange of Religion, the Yellow of Nature, the Green of Immortality, and the Blue of Fidelity. This combination is needed in our lives, too, for to be truly patriotic, you must have an understanding of a belief in the first five colors of the Rainbow. We love our country because of the fine example our parents have set. Patriotism, whether it be practiced in the schoolroom by saluting the Flag, or on the battlefield in time of war, it is that glow in our hearts that makes America great. If we can continue to be as patriotic as our parents have been, our Country and all it stands for will endure forever.

Sister of Service: The last color of the Rainbow is Violet, symbolic of Service. No home, family or organization could work and function without the hundreds of unselfish services performed each day by those members who are interested in making a success of that institution to which they belong. Many who do the most and work the hardest go unrewarded, for to them the satisfaction of a job well done is tribute enough. Who is it that keeps our homes, provides for food, clothing and education and gives us their love and security? Our fathers and mothers especially deserve a word of appreciation for all they have tried so hard to do. May the sincerity of this Degree be a Thank You, and may the rest of our lives like theirs, be lives of Service.

Worthy Advisor: The colors have painted us a beautiful picture, symbolic of the seven qualities a person must hold dear if he is to find happiness throughout his life. Worthy Associate Advisor, the rest of this dedication to our parents is up to you. Go to the Sisters of Faith, Hope and Charity so they may express their tribute and help us realize how fortunate we are that our parents share their lives with us.

(The Worthy Associate Advisor will go to each station, after each has said her part, she will take their flower from them.)

Sister of Faith: This red flower means to me the glow of a fire that was instilled within us when we were born and continues to glow because our parents have kindled it with love and truth. They gave us our values of right and wrong, our eagerness to be happy and our belief in God. With these sparks implanted in our character, our fire of Faith can never go out. Have Faith in all things and you will find Faith in yourself.

Sister of Hope: This red carnation, as all flowers are, is ever expressive of the Hope of our goals. For our parents, Hope is the happiness of the family, the health of their children and the success of their education. To us, Hope is the pride of our appearance, good marks and popularity. Our culture and society places material possessions very high. This makes the duties of Hope much more important. If all these superficial objects were taken away, we would hope our character and individuality would not have been so materialistic that it too would fade away. Hold your hopes high, believe firmly without doubts in God, and then would you have

fulfilled your parents' hopes for you. Your character would then be so strong as the hand of God, hopeful of your wisdom to live a righteous life.

Sister of Charity: This flower means to me that real true Charity is not directed toward ourselves, but, is pointed in the direction of those all about us who need our help and trust. Our parents live for us – learn by their example that everyday we live it is our duty to be watchful and help others. To carry out in our lives all that we have learned tonight is a great and hard task for which we need some inspirational assistance. If you will carry one thought with you into your life, it will be to find Faith, Hope and Charity each day by walking with God over life's highway.

(The Worthy Associate Advisor goes to her station, picks up her flower, and speaks the following part.)

Worthy Associate Advisor: Finally, this red carnation means to me the love, devotion and sacrifices made by devoted parents from the time we are born. May each of us have the Faith in what our parents do for us that we may proudly walk hand in hand with God, living a righteous life. We will then have the pride to build our own individual characters making our parents proud of us in work well done. With the love and devotion given us by our parents, we will find happy moments sharing with others joys of Love and devoted Service as they look to us for help and guidance.

(The Worthy Associate Advisor goes to the Altar, and before gathering the flowers continues her speech.)

Now our bouquet is complete, for it represents the teachings of the Bow, held together by Faith, Hope and Charity, which surround this pure White Cross of Life, symbolic of our Mothers and Fathers. May the beauty of these flowers go home with each parent tonight, with the thought that we are thankful to have our parents and you God, with us to walk the path of life, not only tonight, but forever more.

(The Worthy Associate Advisor gathers the flowers and takes them to the East where they are placed in a vase.)

Worthy Advisor: Sister Chaplain, you will lead us in prayer.

(The Worthy Advisor calls up the Assembly with three raps.)

(The Chaplain goes to the Altar and kneels.)

Chaplain: Dear Father in Heaven, we ask thy blessing upon each parent here this evening and for those throughout the world, that their undying efforts, their dreams and desires, may be fulfilled in us. May we be respectful, true, and kind in thought, word, and deed. We pray that your Commandment, "Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother," will have real meaning for us now. Grant also that our lives, with your

help, may be true in this law, and may come closer to the Step of the Stairway of Eternal Life. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(The Chaplain stands and stands at Altar.)

Worthy Advisor: Sister Chaplain, you will attend the Altar, leaving upon the closed Bible, the Cross in memory of those Fathers and Mothers in the glory of God in Heaven.

(The Chaplain closes Bible, leaving white Cross on Bible and returns to her station.)

Chapter 31: Promotional Ceremony

By Miss Mary Adeline Bradford, Supreme Inspector, Maryland.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting

Purpose: An introduction to Rainbow for prospective members and their families to give an understanding of our Order to those who are unfamiliar with Rainbow or those not eligible to witness closed Rainbow meetings.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Chaplain
- Drill Leader
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: Circle of gold with lights on the Altar surrounding the open Bible to which the ribbons can be attached.
Seven six foot ribbons, one each of seven Rainbow colors.
Sufficient six foot white ribbons for all Officers except Color Stations.

Other: The Officers should wear long white gowns. Color Stations may wear capes since this adds color to the program, and creates a stronger association of each office with a color of the Rainbow.

(The only lights on should be over the Altar and in the East.)

(The Mother Advisor is in the East. She begins the meeting with brief welcoming remarks.)

Mother Advisor: The Officers will enter the Assembly.

(Appropriate marches and formations should be used for the entrance of the officers. Prospective members and their parents are usually impressed with the poise and beauty of well executed marches. The march should include a special formation and end with each Officer taking her station, including the Worthy Advisor.)

(Solo “*Somewhere Out There.*” If the lights are dimmed during the song, they should be raised slowly at the conclusion of the song before the Worthy Advisor begins to speak.)

Worthy Advisor: Somewhere out there , out where dreams come true. Our teen years are a time of dreams – dreams of the future – a career, a family, of life. Each of us is endowed with the ability to dream. We dream and think about what we want in life . There are no rules or limits on our dreams except those that we place on them. For dreams to be achieved, we need tools. Rainbow gives us the tools to achieve our dreams. They are tools like Faith, Hope and Charity. Like Love, Religion, Nature, Immortality, Fidelity, Patriotism and Service. Like the belief in a one true and living God and like the people we meet and friendships we form in Rainbow. There is the age-old myth that at the end of the Rainbow is the Pot of Gold. In our initiatory work, we learn about the Pot of Gold. In one sense, the Pot of Gold is the realization of our dreams. One of the most brilliant nuclear physicists said:

Dream deep for stars lie hidden in the sky
Hold fast for every dream precedes its goal.

In Rainbow, we dare to dream and together strive to reach our goal.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Friendship is one of the most important aspects of belonging to Rainbow. When we are initiated into Rainbow we all kneel as individuals with different backgrounds, dreams, and ambitions but we arise as sisters sharing a common bond, the love of Rainbow, that unites us and journeys with us throughout our Rainbow years. Someone once said that “Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together.” Just as a building will not stand unless the cement foundation is strong, we cannot stand unless we have the cement of friendship to reinforce us throughout life. It is hard to describe the friendship we develop in Rainbow. Certainly we are not alike - and don’t want to be. When we enter Rainbow as young teens, we are often shy and unable to easily meet new people. Soon these barriers break down and we discover a wonderful world of new people, new ideas and goals. Our goals are different but we are interested in each other and want to support our Rainbow sisters as they support us. We laugh together, we cry together, we dream together, we work together. And we emerge from our Rainbow years secure as women to take our place in society, supported by the love, respect and acceptance of our Rainbow friends.

Sister of Charity: When we are initiated into Rainbow, we take an obligation at the Altar. A part of that obligation is to our home, family, school, country and our Rainbow sisters. It has been said that if you want to get to know someone, borrow something from them. It could also be said that if you want to get to know someone,

give something to them. In Rainbow, we learn to give; to give to our home, family, school, country, Rainbow sisters and community. We work for charities and special projects. We raise money to give to organizations such as _____ [name organizations here such as the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, the Shriners Burn and Crippled Children's Hospitals], and many other worthwhile groups. We give our time to visit the residents of our Masonic home at _____. We participate in walk-a-thons, telethons, and hold many car washes, dinners, sub sales and other activities to raise money for charity. In _____ (Jurisdiction), Rainbow we are proud of our own scholarship fund, _____ (if applicable.) We learn to give of our time, our talents, our energy and our enthusiasm to make the world a better place for everyone.

Sister of Hope: We learn the lessons of hope in Rainbow. Just as the Sister of Hope extends a hand to our new members at initiation, Rainbow extends a hand to all of us during our teen years. We have many choices, some of them good and some of them destructive. Growing up is confusing. We see so much and want to experience so much in the world. It isn't an ideal time. We are confronted with drugs, hatred and violence. At times, these paths seem easier to take. It is hard sometimes to say no or to believe in a world that has war, poverty and hatred. But Rainbow gives us an alternative and teaches us Hope. Hope sees a light where there isn't any. Hope revives ideals, renews dreams and revitalizes visions. Hope brings sunshine into our lives and covers us in its warmth. It gives us the strength to dream. It gives us the courage to turn away from things that are harmful and to instead offer our hand to someone in need and give them hope. We learn in Rainbow that Hope is always there. No matter where we are, no matter how bad a situation is, there is always Hope.

Sister of Faith: Faith is the central lesson in our Rainbow initiation. It is the hand of friendship extended to us as we first enter Rainbow. It is the source from which we derive strength to continue along the journey of initiation and life. Norman Vincent Peale wrote that "Hope is wishing for things to come true. Faith is believing that things will come true." Faith is a gift from God. It is His gift of inner strength and support that we need as we journey through life. In Rainbow, we see faith in action, not only symbolically at our initiation, but in the faith placed in us by our sisters who believe in us and elect us to positions of responsibility. We see that our sisters put their faith, their belief in our abilities, in action when electing us to the line. As Rainbow sisters, we also learn to have faith in each other and often turn to our sisters in times of crisis or loneliness. It is symbolic that the first step in our Rainbow leadership journey begins with the Sister of Faith for faith gives us the inner strength and courage to start our journey, believe in ourselves, dare to dream, and strive to reach our goals.

Worthy Advisor: In _____ (Jurisdiction) Rainbow, we believe in the ability of the girls to handle many of the business and organizational tasks associated with our Order. Two of the most active offices are Recorder and Treasurer. Responsibility and trust are the lessons learned in these offices.

Recorder: In Rainbow, we are given responsibility. We remember God has given us the responsibility of deciding what our character and destiny will be by giving us choices everyday. We learn that the positions of leadership given us in Rainbow also bring with it certain responsibilities and duties. We strive to set high ideals and goals for ourselves in all that we do. We learn to accept responsibility for ourselves, our sisters, and our organization. We believe that by striving to do our best and set high standards we will become better persons and be good examples to our younger Rainbow sisters. We learn to accept responsibility, not as a burden, but as an opportunity to become a better person and help others at the same time.

Treasurer: Robert Kennedy once said “every generation inherits a world it never made and, as it does, it automatically becomes the trustee of the world for those who come after.” In Rainbow, we learn how to be a trustee. We learn not only character building lessons but also skills in leadership, organization, communication, mutual understanding and respect. We learn how to put our talents to work for a better Rainbow organization and to build pride in who we are and what we are doing. Rainbow gives us the lessons that become the tools in shaping not only our Order but also our lives. Rainbow gives us the opportunity to develop our skills, become better persons, help each other and ultimately take our place in tomorrow’s world as trustees for future generations that follow.

Drill Leader: At our initiation, we learn about the lessons of Faith, Hope, and Charity. We are also given the lessons of Love, Religion, Nature, Immortality, Fidelity, Patriotism and Service. Just as my office of Drill Leader introduces our guests and leads our marches, so do these lessons help introduce us to responsibility and leads us through life. Each of us takes what we need from the lessons we learn in Rainbow and combine them with our own uniqueness, our own dreams and our own life.

(Solo: “*The Greatest Love of All*”)

Sister of Love: Our first Rainbow lesson is Love. Love of God, our family, our friends, ourselves. Love is a commitment. We learn that it is the strongest word in the dictionary. Love has the strength to open the doors, bridge the gaps, overcome the adversities and ease the pains that we experience in life. Love brings us comfort and peace. Love is expressed best when carried out in good words and actions towards God, each other and ourselves. It is no accident that it is the first lesson in initiation for it is the foundation of the other six lessons.

Sister of Religion: Our second lesson is Religion. Religion is love in action, our love for God. In the Psalms it says “Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.” We each come to God in Rainbow from different religions, Catholic, Jewish, and Protestant. But we all love and worship one God. Rainbow is not a substitute for a particular religion nor is it a religious cult, but rather it gives us special tools which enhance our own different religions. In a world

where religious differences is sometimes the basis for war, Rainbow shows us that different religions can unite and form a stronger love of God and each other.

Sister of Nature: Our third Rainbow lesson is Nature. One of our astronauts said after his travels in space, “I did not see God but I saw the evidence that God lives.” Nature is the living, visible garment of God. The real beauty in the world is what God has created. An appreciation of nature, our land, our oceans, our sky is important in today’s world. To protect our world and its creatures, we must first love and respect them. We learn this lesson here.

Sister of Immortality: Our fourth Rainbow lesson is Immortality. It is a difficult but necessary lesson. Death and youth should seem to be enemies but it is only when we understand death that we can appreciate life. In Exodus it says, “Behold I send an angel before thee to keep thee in the way and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.” As we grow up, we lose friends and relatives in death. Our grief is immense but is eased through the knowledge that we are comforted by God and offered eternal life.

Sister of Fidelity: Our fifth Rainbow lesson is Fidelity. We learn faithfulness, loyalty and devotion to our friends, our family and our ideals. Fraternal organizations place a great emphasis on fidelity. We learn that our word is our bond and that obligations and vows taken should be honored. We learn that with our obligations and vows comes responsibility to our sisters and ourselves. We learn to trust each other and develop a deep sense of loyalty for our friends. This lesson serves us throughout life by example for we will be called upon to take other vows, trust other people and give other loyalties as we journey through life.

Sister of Patriotism: Our sixth lesson is Patriotism. Daniel Webster said, “I was born an American; I live an American; I shall die an American; and I intend to perform the duties incumbent upon me in that character to the end of my career.” In Rainbow, we learn about these duties of being an American. We learn to love our country even when its decisions seem wrong for we have the freedom to express disagreement. We learn about sacrifices people have made for our country from its founding through wars, depression, disaster and turmoil. We learn to serve our country in some small way so that the freedom we enjoy, which is denied so many people, will not be taken for granted. We learn to respect the rights of everyone even though we may disagree with them. We learn that democracy is not only our birthright and our heritage but also our responsibility to preserve.

Sister of Service: Our seventh lesson is Service. Charles Dickens said, “No one is useless in the world who lightens the burden of it to anyone else.” In Rainbow, we are taught to lighten the burden for others. We learn that service is love in action. We learn to put our love of God, our home, our family, our friends, our country and even strangers to work by being of some service to them. We work for the money we earn to give to charity and by our own work we learn the happiness and pride that comes from knowing we’ve done our best to make the world a better place for us all.

Worthy Advisor: There are times when all of us turn to our God for comfort and strength. We also turn to God to thank Him for the blessings He has given us. At this time I would like to ask our Chaplain to kneel at the Altar in prayer.

(The Chaplain leaves her station, enters the Altar from the South and kneels at the Altar.)

Chaplain: Our Father, we thank you for allowing us to come together tonight and show a part of our Rainbow to these friends assembled. Thank you for allowing us to be Rainbow sisters and share the joy and fellowship that we have together. Oh God, You have shown us that what we are is Your gift to us, and what we become is our gift to You. Let us resolve to serve Rainbow in our Assemblies and to renew our vows, so that we may return our gift to You by what we do in Rainbow and become in life. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

(The Chaplain leaves the Altar from the North and returns to her station.)

Worthy Advisor: Someone once said:

This is not necessarily the place where we want to be
It is the place where we are
It is not our prison but our home
It is the road we must walk called life
How important it is that we walk it with some purpose
We can call our own.

Rainbow gives us a purpose. It bridges the years between childhood and adulthood. Tonight's program is not meant to be a substitute for our regular Rainbow work but rather the opportunity to show the beauty of our Rainbow, its lessons, and what it means to us. Our Color Stations form a rainbow behind the Altar. When joined by Faith (Sister of Faith stands), Hope (Sister of Hope stands) and Charity (Sister of Charity stands) together with our other Officers (remaining Officers stand), that bow is transformed into a circle, a circle of Friendship, our Rainbow Circle.

(The Color Stations should remain in front of their seats. All other officers should slowly walk towards the Color Stations and close in the circle. Confidential and Outer Observer move to the right of Love. Recorder and Drill Leader move down and continue the circle from Confidential Observer. Chaplain, Treasurer, Musician and Choir Director move down and continue the circle to the left of the Sister of Service. Room should be left in the circle so that the line officers can enter and go to the Altar. After all but the line Officers are in a circle at roughly an equal distance from the Altar with the Color Stations, all Officers should move slowly in unison towards the Altar. When they reach the Altar, Sister of Faith holds the gold circle in place (for practical purposes to keep it from slipping off Altar if in location where it can't be attached) the Officers should attach

their ribbons to the circle of gold beginning with Love. After all ribbons are attached, the officers, except Sister of Faith who remains at Altar to hold the gold circle in place and say her part, should back up in unison with ribbons held waist high until they form a large circle with ribbons fully extended.)

(After all but the line officers are in the circle, Sister of Faith continues.)

Sister of Faith: Faith is a gift from God and the foundation of strength for mankind.

(Sister of Faith attaches the ribbon and moves back to circle or stays to hold the gold circle.)

(Sister of Hope comes into the Bow to the Altar facing North.)

Sister of Hope: May the promise of the Rainbow bring Hope and Joy to us all.

(Sister of Hope attaches the ribbon and moves back to circle.)

(Sister of Charity comes into the bow at the Altar facing South.)

Sister of Charity: Give a smile, a Rainbow and a helping hand to someone in need.

(Sister of Charity attaches the ribbon and moves back to circle.)

(Worthy Associate Advisor comes into the bow at the Altar facing East.)

Worthy Associate Advisor: My friend is that one with whom I can associate my choicest thoughts.

(Worthy Associate Advisor attaches ribbon and moves back to circle.)

(The Worthy Advisor comes into the bow at the Altar facing West.)

Worthy Advisor: You are a friend and together we can give the world sunshine.

(The Worthy Advisor attaches the ribbon and moves back to circle.)

(Song: “*Friends Are Friends Forever.*” This song is most effective if the Officers join the last chorus. The officers should walk towards the Altar and retire the ribbons. Confidential Observer and Outer Observer will be in the floorwork and also approach the Altar. Upon reaching the Altar, the Officers pass the ribbons on the inside of the circle to the Observers. The Observers will then return to their respective seats, in unison, the remaining Officers will join hands to sing the final chorus together.)

(The Officers march out and return to their stations after the song is concluded.)

(At this time, the Mother Advisor can briefly thank everyone for coming, tell the audience that brochures about Rainbow are available and direct them to where refreshments are being served, if provided.)

Chapter 32: Rainbow Ceremony for the Order of the Eastern Star

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of California.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting

Purpose: To honor the Order of the Eastern Star.
This is very appropriate when invited to present a Rainbow program at an Eastern Star meeting.

<i>Participants:</i>	North West	South West
Chaplain		Drill Leader
Sister of Love		Sister of Fidelity
Sister of Hope		Sister of Faith
Sister of Charity		Sister of Nature
Sister of Immortality		Sister of Service
Sister of Patriotism		Sister of Religion
Worthy Associate Advisor		Recorder
Worthy Matron		
Star Point Officers:		
Adah		
Ruth		
Esther		
Martha		
Electa		
<i>Paraphernalia:</i>	None	

(Rainbow Girls enter the Chapter room from the North-West and South-West corners and take positions as follows: The Worthy Advisor in the East with the Worthy Matron, Recorder and Worthy Associate Advisor in the West at floor level in front of the Associate Matron and Associate Patron, Drill Leader beside the Marshal, Chaplain beside the Chaplain, Sister of Faith at floor level in front of the Conductress, Sisters of Hope and Charity at floor level in front of the Associate Conductress, Star Point Officers beside their chairs with their Rainbow counterpart beside them, with Sister of Religion between Ruth and Esther, and Sister of Patriotism between Esther and Martha.)

Worthy Advisor: We have gathered this evening not only to pay tribute to one of our sponsoring bodies, but to show the bond that exists between the Order of Rainbow for Girls and the Order of the Eastern Star. Rainbow would not exist were it not for the interest by members of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Worthy Advisor: Sister Recorder, can you give us the history of Rainbow?

Recorder: The Order of Rainbow for Girls was founded in McAlester, Oklahoma in 1922, by Reverend W. Mark Sexson, a 33rd degree Mason, and member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Reverend Sexson was keenly aware of the need for an organization for girls, similar to that of DeMolay. Upon the urging of his Worthy Matron, he wrote the Ritual and on April 6th, 1922, 171 girls were initiated by the members of South McAlester Chapter Number 149, Order of the Eastern Star.

Worthy Advisor: Sister Drill Leader, what can you tell us of Rainbow?

Drill Leader: In a few moments, you will hear from the Color Stations about the lessons of initiation. But Rainbow goes beyond the teachings and the Ritual and moves into that special part of fraternal life called friendship. Some of the strongest bonds of friendship ever made, are formed by Rainbow sisters. A Rainbow Sister and friend is special. She is someone to share your innermost thoughts and dreams and will accept you for who you are. You learn about friendships and draw strength from friends. The lessons we learn in Rainbow help us to be a better friend. We laugh together, we cry together, and we grow together. That's what makes the special bond called Rainbow sisters.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Associate Advisor, what can you tell us about the Order of Rainbow for Girls?

Worthy Associate Advisor: The International Order of Rainbow for Girls is an organization for girls between the ages of 11 and 20/21. Girls must be daughters and granddaughters of Master Masons, or friends of Rainbow Girls, sponsored by a Master Mason, Eastern Star, Amaranth or Majority Member of Rainbow. Rainbow Assemblies exist in 44 of the 50 States and the Countries of Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Italy, and the Philippines and may be sponsored by a Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star Chapter, or Amaranth Court.

Worthy Advisor: Why is Rainbow sponsorship so important?

Worthy Associate Advisor: The sponsorship of any youth order is one of the most important responsibilities a Chapter can undertake. Rainbow, Job's Daughters, and DeMolay exist as organizations where we can meet friends, learn valuable lessons, perform community service, learn about fraternal life and gain respect for our adult fraternal sponsors.

Chaplain: In our Assemblies we ask the blessing of our Heavenly Father upon our members and sponsors. We ask that our lives be enriched with the opportunity to be a part of Rainbow that we may become better daughters, wives, mothers and leaders as we go through life and that the lessons of love and service be our guide to a successful life.

Worthy Matron: The Bible is such an important link to God and an integral part of the work of both our Orders. The inspiration for our work comes from the Heavens where God shows the Beauty of His world and his love for us through such things as stars and rainbows. In our Order, we use the Star as our Symbol. Just as the three wise men were guided by the Eastern Star so long ago, we are guided by that same star in seeking a better life through our fraternal work.

Worthy Advisor: Our Order, too, is based on a beautiful heavenly object, the Rainbow, a symbol of God's promise that never again would the world be destroyed by flood, for, after the storms would come the white light of promise.

Worthy Advisor: In Rainbow, we journey through the lessons of initiation, represented by the colors of the Rainbow. We are conducted through this initiation by the Sister of Faith, the same task assigned to the Conductress in your Order.

Sister of Faith: I am Faith. The jewel of my office is the dove and represents a life that is at peace because of its abiding faith. In the Initiation, my duty, like yours, is as a guide for the candidates. There is a similarity to the lessons of Rainbow and your Order.

Sister of Love: I am the Sister of Love. My color is red and is a symbol of love and devotion. In our Initiation, we learn about God's love for us as well as the love we should have for Him as well as our father, mother and family.

Sister of Religion: I am the Sister of Religion. My color is orange and is a symbol of the heroic in religion. In our Initiation, we learn that religion is implanted in the hearts of each of us. We also learn that we should be identified with some organized religion.

Sister of Nature: I am the Sister of Nature. My color is yellow and is a symbol of the beauty of God's great out-of-doors. Nature is the living, visible garment of God. It is here in the freedom of the fields and out-of-doors that we may commune with God.

Sister of Immortality: I am the Sister of Immortality. My color is green and is a symbol of immortality and eternal life. In our Initiation, we speak of the Master of Life who said, "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever, liveth and believeth in Me shall never die."

Sister of Fidelity: I am the Sister of Fidelity. My color is blue and is a symbol of loyalty and trueness. In our Initiation we learn about being true to each other and our word being sacred. Faithfulness, loyalty and devotion are the cornerstones of this lesson.

Sister of Patriotism: I am the Sister of Patriotism. My color is indigo and is a symbol of patriotism and courage. In Initiation, we learn to be true to our flag and defend it always. We re-dedicate our life to our country and its Flag which is sacred to all _____ (nationality, i.e. Americans, Canadians, etc...)

Sister of Service: I am the Sister of Service. My color is violet and is a symbol of service and self-sacrifice. In Initiation, we learn that it is the service we perform that will turn the landscape into gold. Everyday there is someone we can help through a life of service.

Sister of Faith: These seven degrees of our Order together create a beautiful Rainbow. There are two other lessons which complete our initiation.

Sister of Hope: I am the Sister of Hope. The symbol of my office is the anchor and represents a life that is secure. God spoke to Noah saying, "And I do set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth." It is to Hope that the Candidate comes during the journey of initiation for reassurance. Hope is always there. It will never sleep. It will never die. Hope always awaits you.

Sister of Charity: I am the Sister of Charity. My symbol is the money bag representing life's treasures preserved through charitable deeds. I am the last lesson of Initiation as upon my station rests the Pot of Gold found at the end of the Rainbow and filled with the treasures of life.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Matron, the lessons of the journey of our Initiation are complete.

Worthy Matron: Worthy Advisor, the lessons of your Initiation are interesting and beautiful. While the secrets of our journey of Initiation can be revealed only when you join our Order, our lessons are quite similar. At this time our star points will speak of their Office to their Rainbow counterparts.

Adah: My Rainbow Girl, we too in Eastern Star speak of fidelity. I am Adah, represented by the Blue ray which represents the sky when all clouds have vanished. I speak of the story of the daughter Adah and teaches us to be faithful to all moral obligations.

Ruth: My Rainbow Girl, we speak in Eastern Star of constancy, honor and justice. This is symbolized by the Yellow ray. I am Ruth, the humble gleaner, whose devotion to Naomi teaches faithful obedience to the demands of honor and justice.

Esther: My Rainbow Girl, we speak in Eastern Star of the commendable virtue of Fidelity to kindred and friends. This is represented by the white ray. I am Esther, the Queen of Persia, whose lesson teaches us that a pure and upright life is above reproach.

Martha: My Rainbow Girl, we too in Eastern Star speak of Immortality. I am Martha, represented by the Green ray which is an emblem of nature's life and beauty and symbolizes Hope of Immortality. I speak of the story of the sister Martha and her trustful faith.

Electa: My Rainbow girl, we too in Eastern Star speak of love. I am Electa, represented by the Red ray which teaches Love and loyalty to her faith. Electa was known for her charity, benevolence and generous hospitality. Her life exemplified the lesson that we love one another.

Worthy Matron: Rainbow girls, you can now see the importance of your lessons and how they are similar to ours. In Eastern Star, we too seek to live a life that contains important lessons like love and service. We hope that our adults who work with you are like a guiding Star in the East.

Worthy Advisor: Worthy Matron, we thank you for sharing your lessons with us. We are your daughters. Your members are our sponsors and advisors. In Rainbow the Mother Advisor's jewel is symbolized by a circle of gold which represents a life that encircles other lives and denotes protection. Another symbol of our love is a red rose, the red rose of Rainbow which is the symbol of a girl's love and devotion to her mother, whose prayers and sacrifices make every day possible. This evening, as a symbol of the love your daughter organization has for you and the Order of the Eastern Star, I give you this red rose and tell you that we love and appreciate you and all the members of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Chapter 33: Rose Lecture (Initiate)

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor new members of Rainbow.

Participants: At least one Rainbow Girl.

Paraphernalia: Enough red roses for each girl receiving the lecture to have a rose plus additional roses to place on the Altar.

Other: This ceremony should be given toward the end of the term.
The member giving the lecture should wear a formal.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Faith, you will present the following sister(s) to receive the Rose Ceremony: _____ (list name(s) here).

(Sister of Faith presents the Sister(s) behind the Altar, entering the Altar area from the South, by way of the marching lanes, leaving enough space for Rose Lecturer to pass between the girls and the Altar.)

(When the girl(s) are in place, the Rose Lecturer (carrying the roses in her arms) takes her place three feet East of the Altar, entering from the South, by way of the marching lanes. She stands in the center of the Altar, facing the girl(s) who is(are) at the Altar.)

Rose Lecturer: My sister(s), I now extend to you a hearty welcome into our Assembly. Rainbow teaches duty four-fold: duty to God, to country, to parents, and to each other. It also teaches harmony and friendship. The Rainbow grasp of friendship reaches beyond the door of this Assembly Room, across the vast lands of the United States, and then across the expanse of oceans to other girls in every other part of the world. You are now a link in this great undying chain of friendship. Ever remember: "A chain is as strong as its weakest link." And now I would like to give you a short verse entitled "My Hand in God's."

Each morning when I wake I say,
"I place my hand in God's today."
I know He'll walk close by my side,
My every wandering step to guide.
He leads me with the tenderest care,
When paths are dark and I despair.
No need for me to understand,
If I but hold fast to His hand.
My hand in His – no greater way

To go in safety through each day.
By His great bounty I am fed.
Warmed by His love, and comforted.
And when at day's end I seek my rest,
And realize how much I'm blessed,
My thanks pour out to Him, and then
I place my hand in God's again.

Tonight (or the night) you knelt at the White Altar of the Holy Promise, you pledged your life to Love and Service. You held the hand of God. So now each morning when you awake and look upon the pages of your open Bible, remember that you once held the hand of God. And then, place your hand in His and look forward to a new day with renewed courage and faith.

(The Rose Lecturer turns South, walks between the girl(s) and the Altar, gives each girl a red rose and returns to her position East of the Altar, leaving the Altar from the North.)

Rose Lecturer: On this occasion I have placed in your hand a rose. This small red Rose of the Rainbow symbolizes a girl's love and devotion to her mother who has made this day possible for her to enjoy, through sacrifices and prayer. So tonight, when you tell your mother, or someone who has taken her place, about this ceremony, give her your rose. And when you kiss her good night remind her that you love her.

(As the Rose Lecturer places remaining roses on Altar, she continues.)

Rose Lecturer: And now, in the memory of every girl's mother, and those who have passed into the Golden City Beyond, I place these remaining roses upon the Altar, and bid you welcome into Rainbow, with the hope that the words Love and Service will lead you through a happy and successful life.

(Sister of Faith seats Sisters in the Assembly Room, leaving the Altar from the North. The Rose Lecturer returns to her seat, leaving Altar from the North.)

Chapter 34: Rose Lecture (Majority)

By Mrs. Sandi Bouquet, Past Dean of the Grand Cross of Color, Iowa.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To honor those receiving Majority and to remind them of the Rose Lecture they received when they were initiated.

Participants: Active or Majority members.

Paraphernalia: Enough roses for each member receiving her Majority.

Other: This ceremony should be given just before the Majority Service.

Rose Lecturer: Sisters, when you first became a member of our Order you were given a rose, the red rose of Rainbow, which you were to give to your mother or someone special to you. Perhaps someday you will find that rose carefully preserved in a place, close to her heart.

Tonight, on the occasion of your Majority ceremony, I present you with another red rose, symbolizing the love and service you have shown to the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. This is yours to keep in your own special place and in years to come, I'm sure that it will recall to you many happy memories.

This evening we have shared the beginning of a Rainbow life, and we will soon witness the final ceremony of your active Rainbow years, but we hope your dedication will not end here and that you will take upon yourself a vow of continued service.

Always remember the lessons you have learned during your impressionable teen years for they are guidelines to live by for the rest of your life.

Chapter 35: Senior Obligation Night

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of North Dakota.

Who may witness: Closed meeting only.

Purpose: To honor members who are graduating from high school.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Chaplain
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: One candle for each Color Station and for Sister of Hope.
Miniature lambskin apron.

Worthy Advisor: Tonight we honor our seniors, those girls who will be leaving us to take on a greater responsibility. We are proud of you, you have been an inspiration to us. We will miss you and we do wish you every good wish and success in your future life. Sister of Faith, you will present our Seniors at the White Altar of Holy Promise and there place them in a kneeling position to renew their obligation.

(Sister of Faith takes the Seniors, Worthy Advisor and Chaplain approach the Altar and take the same positions as in the Initiatory work.)

Worthy Advisor: The Chaplain will lead us in prayer. Will all Rainbow girls please kneel, others remain standing.

Chaplain: Our Heavenly Father, Thou has heard the vows which have been renewed at Thine Altar. Grant to these Thy children, strength to be faithful to these promises. May they realize that these are not just spoken words, but a solemn promise made to Thee. May they appreciate more fully the beautiful and impressive lessons taught by the seven colors of Rainbow. In renewing the obligation, may they remember that

they are bound by the most solemn secrecy respecting the work of the Assembly. It is so easy to forget the responsibility that is assumed when the vows are taken. May the beautiful Order of the Rainbow prosper because the lesson of "True Womenhood" is not forgotten. Go with these girls on their journey throughout life. Let them follow Thy teachings and walk by Thy side. Sanctify and bless the friendships of these girls. We ask for Thy continued blessings on our Assembly. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Faith you will escort our Sisters around the Assembly that the lessons which they received when initiated may be renewed.

(Sister of Faith goes around the room and stops with the Seniors at Sister of Love's station.)

Sister of Love: Sisters, this station represents that which can never die; it is the abiding presence of love, out of which has grown all devotion, and is the dearest thing in heaven or earth. Will you remember that love is of God, and when you love we are like him? (She lights the candle.) Let this light glow to remind us of our promise. Sister of Faith, you will present these sisters at the second station.

Sister of Religion: Sisters, we would impress upon you the beauties of religion as exemplified by its great Author, whose life was one of gentleness and kindness. Do you promise to let religion have a real place in your life as a Rainbow girl? (She lights the candle.) Let this light glow to remind you that we may not achieve the promise without the guidance of religion. Sister of Faith, you will present these Sisters at the third station.

Sister of Nature: Nature has great lessons for you if you will only heed her. God's first temples were out of doors under the vaulted heavens. Here inspiration to do greater things will spur you on if you will only heed its whispers. Do you promise to try to learn the secrets which nature holds for you? (She lights the candle.) May this light remind you that a part of your time should be given over to communion with Nature. Sister of Faith, you will present these Sisters at the fourth station.

Sister of Immortality: My sisters, the color of this station is green, and is the symbol of immortal life. Every young girl must remember that though death may come to her, her soul is immortal. Will you remember this? (She lights the candle.) To remind you of this sublime truth, I light this candle. Sister of Faith, you will present our Sisters at the station of the Sister of Fidelity.

Sister of Fidelity: My sisters, to be happy, you must be loyal. You must be worthy of trust and confidence, for it was loyalty and trust in God that laid the foundation for our Christian religion. Will you promise to lay a foundation for happiness by keeping every vow? (She lights the candle.) The color of this station is blue, in all

ages a symbol of loyalty. May its rays ever fall upon your pathway. Sister of Faith, you will present these Sisters at the station of the Sister of Patriotism.

Sister of Patriotism: My sisters, patriotism demands courage and sacrifice. Let us rededicate ourselves anew to our country and its flag, symbol of liberty. Do you promise that this flag shall always be a sacred symbol to you, calling forth at all times, your utmost respect and devotion. (She lights the candle.) May this intensified light ever remind you of your duties to your country and its flag. Sister of Faith, you will present these Sisters at the seventh station.

Sister of Service: My Sisters, we are bound together in our promise to be of service, for we can never know the true meaning of the treasure without feeling the joy of helping others. Do you again promise to make your life one of service? (She lights the candle.) Violet is the only ray of light that has healing power. May you remember it as the symbol of service. Sister of Faith, you will present these sisters at the station of Hope.

(Sister of Hope lights the candle when they arrive at her station.)

Sister of Hope: My sisters, I light this candle which is the white light that must always shine in the pathway of a true Rainbow Girl. Hope always awaits you, guiding you in the paths of right living and right thinking. The color white represents the crystallization of all colors and its beams will ever lead you no matter how many trials, temptations or discouragements beset you. Sister of Faith, you will present these Sisters at the station of the Sister of Charity.

Sister of Charity: I hold this miniature lambskin, in the center of which is a star. It is the symbol of the tie that binds. Although we may never fully know its meaning, it should be cherished as one of Rainbow's great treasures. May it remind us that the secrets of Rainbow should be forever sacred and secret from the outside world. Sister of Faith, you will present these sisters at the station of the Worthy Associate Advisor.

Sister of Faith: Worthy Associate Advisor, you will be pleased to explain to these sisters the meaning of the vows they have taken.

Worthy Associate Advisor: My Sisters, you have rededicated yourselves to the obligations of Rainbow. In the obligation there are seven ties that bind Rainbow Girls together; obedience to God, to our parents, to the laws of Rainbow, the interest of our schools, our religion and the pledging of ourselves to a life of service. We hope you will regard these vows you have renewed as holy and under no circumstances violate your promises. Sister of Faith, you will conduct our sisters to the White Altar of Holy Promise, there place them in a kneeling position that they may renew their obligation. Rainbow girls please kneel, all others remain standing.

OBLIGATION: (The Worthy Advisor leads them in the Obligation.)

Mother Advisor: Let us pray. Dear Heavenly Father, Thou has heard the vows which have been renewed at Thine Altar. Grant to these Thy children, strength to be faithful to these promises. May they realize that these are not just spoken words, but a solemn promise made to Thee. May they appreciate more fully the beautiful and impressive lessons taught by the seven colors of the Rainbow. In renewing their obligation, may they remember that they are bound by the most solemn secrecy respecting the work of the Order. It is so easy to forget the responsibility that is assumed when the vows are taken. May the beautiful Order of the Rainbow prosper because the lesson of "True Womanhood" is not forgotten. Bless these girls. Go with them every step of their lives that they may have a happy life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

Worthy Advisor: Sister of Faith, you will seat our sisters.

Chapter 36: What Rainbow is About

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Florida and the Rainbow Task Force.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: Appropriate for explaining about Rainbow to Masonic and other organizations, parents or prospects.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Sister of Love
- Sister of Religion
- Sister of Nature
- Sister of Immortality
- Sister of Fidelity
- Sister of Patriotism
- Sister of Service

Paraphernalia: Pot of Gold.
Seven twelve foot strips of crepe paper; one of each Rainbow color.

Other: Place the Pot of Gold on the Altar and attach one end of each piece of paper inside the pot with tape and fold the paper strips into the pot so that they can be easily withdrawn in the proper order.

(The Worthy Advisor, followed by each of the other stations will stand and say their parts. As each bow Officer is ready to say her part, she will stand, proceed to the Pot of Gold and pull out her color, return to her station, and then say her part, take her seat and hold her ribbon. When the program is completed, the Worthy Advisor will instruct the bow stations to return their ribbons to the Pot of Gold. This is to be done in the proper order.)

Worthy Advisor: The International Order of Rainbow for Girls is a character building organization for girls between the ages of 11 and 20. Any girl, properly recommended by a Master Mason, Eastern Star, Amaranth or a Majority Member of Rainbow, can be invited to apply for membership. She does not have to be from a Masonic or Eastern Star family.

Some people mistakenly believe that Rainbow is nothing more than another social club in which the girls attend meetings and have some social activities. Actually, Rainbow's goal and ideals were created for young women so that they might learn to live lives centered on love and service. Initially, we do not understand the foundations of Rainbow. As the years go by and we begin to serve our Assemblies, we become much more familiar with each lesson and its teaching.

Worthy Associate Advisor: Many girls say, "Why Rainbow?" We have learned that Rainbow teaches us to prepare for womanhood, to be patient, and to seek dignity of character and to believe in the higher things in life. At the Altar, when we are initiated, we obligate ourselves to live by certain standards. First, is our belief in the existence of a Supreme Being. Then to be obedient to God and our Country, its laws and flag, and to attend church. We learn to love our home and family and to serve humanity and the community. The great truths of the Holy Bible are impressed upon the girls and all of these teachings give a brighter outlook on life and enable them to withstand any trial the future may hold.

Sister of Charity: The symbol for the station of Charity is the Pot of Gold. The Pot of Gold was said to be found when we followed the bright colors of the Rainbow. Its symbolic meaning is explained in the "path of initiation" which the Order of Rainbow for Girls tells so beautifully. Our Pot of Gold in daily life can be likened to our heart's desire. Pure thoughts and pure deeds placed in our Pot of Gold will bring us true happiness in loving and serving others. To help make these right decisions, each Assembly has a Mother Advisor to advise and direct the girls. She is selected from the Advisory Board and the Advisory Board is elected by the sponsoring body each year.

Sister of Hope: Rainbow, a name of beauty, was selected for our organization, and has brought to us a further teaching of God's love. The lectures of our beautiful and impressive initiation hold a message that brings to us happiness, contentment, and strength of character. The four principal categories of activities in the Assembly are: #1 Service projects, #2 Charity projects, #3 Money-making projects, and #4 Fun projects. Each Assembly is self-supporting and it is therefore necessary to have various money-making projects. These may include candy sales, rummage sales, car washes and various other activities. Each four-month term, plans are made for a service project according to the needs of the community. It could be to collect for the Heart Fund, to assist with one of the national or local fund raising drives, or to visit and comfort persons in a nursing home. For our fun projects we have dances, picnics, slumber parties and many other things. All activities are under the direct supervision of an adult of the advisory board.

Sister of Faith: The seven colors of the rainbow blend with each other into many beautiful combinations. Each color, when explained in our work, has a spiritual meaning which we learn as we walk the "Path of Initiation." God's rules of conduct are part of Rainbow teachings. We live with a certain amount of doubt, especially

when we are unsure of ourselves. God teaches us to hold firm to the hand of Faith and learn more about God and His place in our lives.

Sister of Love: Love, in the work of Rainbow, has been given the color of Red. The name and the color represent life. Love is a part of every life. It is the foundation of forgiveness, unselfishness, sincere devotion, and all the emotions that make up your intelligent existence. The first emotion in life is love. The baby in its mother's arm feels her loving protection before it knows anything else. Her love surrounds her baby. All through life we are loved and we love because love is part of us. It is the true creative force.

Sister of Religion: The Orange ray represents our religious beliefs. Even though each one of us has our own faith, we all believe and pray to the one Supreme Being, "Our Father who art in heaven." Our religion teaches us to love God and keep His commandments. First to love Him, and then to show our duty and love to our neighbor.

Sister of Nature: The Yellow ray represents God's great out of doors. Here we should commune with nature. Nature teaches us that all of earth's beauty was given to us in order that we may grow in spirit as we grow in body. And, finding beauty, we will know that we have been blessed through God's great love.

Sister of Immortality: When God breathed into man the breath of life, He gave him the gift of immortality. It is represented by the Green ray. The body in which man travels may become old and broken but the spirit of God within that body lives forever. Immortality makes all things new at the end of earthly life.

Sister of Fidelity: Fidelity is a jewel of pure Blue light found in the crown of life. It is ours to wear if we earn it. It ranks among the most precious of gems and gives sparkling beauty wherever it is found, Fidelity teaches us as friends to give each other loyalty and trust as well as acceptance as we are. It is this thread that binds friends together for all time.

Sister of Patriotism: Patriotism, represented by the Indigo ray, reminds us to defend our flag at all times. Patriotism is one of the great virtues needed to build a great nation and a fine citizenship. If we truly love our country, we will never fail or falter in our service to her. Our Christian nation is the hope of the world.

Sister of Service: Violet is the color given to the ray of Service. One could say that Service is the ray that ties all of the others together. This lesson teaches us that service does not have to be a dramatic or public thing. It can be as simple as helping with family chores or visiting a shut-in. We are taught that Service to others should be an everyday part of each of our lives.

Worthy Advisor: Sisters of the Rainbow, you will return your ribbons to the Pot of Gold.

(The Color Station officers return the ribbons, in proper order.)

Worthy Advisor: Thank you for allowing us to tell you a little bit about the teachings of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. We hope that you have enjoyed learning about this wonderful organization as much as we have enjoyed presenting this ceremony to you.

Chapter 37: The “Whys” of Rainbow

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of California.

Who may witness: Open or closed meeting.

Purpose: To explain some of the “unwritten rules” of Rainbow.

Participants:

- Worthy Advisor
- Worthy Associate Advisor
- Sister of Charity
- Sister of Hope
- Sister of Faith
- Chaplain
- Drill Leader

Paraphernalia: None

Worthy Advisor: If each of us will search back in our own minds, I’m sure there we will find memories of impressions that were formed that first night we each were initiated into this beautiful Order. There were certain symbols and colors that took on new meanings to us that night. Although they made a lasting impression, it seems a good idea to renew them from time to time, and to gather any new knowledge that we can. Sister Drill Leader, will you make a tour of the Assembly Room and see what information you can gather for us tonight. Because we are guided by the Light of the Wonderful Book, I suggest that you begin your quest at the station of Chaplain.

(The Drill Leader goes around the Bow and to the Chaplain.)

Drill Leader: Sister Chaplain, there is an unwritten law that no one should pass between the Altar and the Presiding Officer after the Bible is opened, except, as designated during the initiatory work. Can you give a reason for this?

Chaplain: Upon our Altar, we have placed the open Bible, our Guiding Light. The Presiding Officer is guided by these rays of the light that she may see clearly. In order to follow dutifully, no obstacle should mar these rays by passing between their source and the Presiding Officer. Sister Drill Leader, I am interested in the knowledge you are seeking. May I accompany you?

(The Drill Leader and Chaplain go to Sister of Hope’s station.)

Drill Leader: Sister of Hope, it is generally understood that we do not wear gloves in an Assembly Room.

Sister of Hope: To not cover my hands is a symbol that there will be no shield between you and me, and that we shall share true understanding. My hands are yours in fellowship and they are God's to help Him guide you. We may not always understand the task God gave us to do, but we should ever remember our pledge of Fidelity and be willing and happy to do our part.

(The Drill Leader and the Chaplain go to the Worthy Associate Advisor.)

Drill Leader: Worthy Associate Advisor, it is our understanding that we do not wear coats in the Assembly Room. Can you tell us why?

Worthy Associate Advisor: We, as Sisters, meet on a common level and our room is warmed by loyalty, truth, and kindness. We have no need for a coat. It is part of our duty to gather here as often as possible around our Altar and help spread the fraternal fire so it will grow into a bright and constant glow that will warm all our hearts in long and lasting friendship.

(The Drill Leader and the Chaplain go to the Sister of Charity.)

Drill Leader: Sister of Charity, we have learned why we do not wear gloves and coats in the Assembly Room. Can you tell us why not to wear a hat in the Assembly Room?

Sister of Charity: To keep my head bare is a symbol of reverence, and to show that there is nothing between me and the Almighty God. As sisters, we meet in love and bask in pure light.

(The Drill Leader and the Chaplain go to the Sister of Faith.)

Drill Leader: Sister of Faith, can you tell us why our sisterhood was founded?

Sister of Faith: Its lessons are spiritual, its teachings moral, and its purposes beneficent. It is a social organization and its Ritual and teachings are based on the Bible. Reverend W. Mark Sexson, a dedicated Mason and a man deeply interested in the young people of our country, searched and found this common ground on which the young women of the nation could unite in a service that could bring comfort to others and joy into their own lives.

(The Drill Leader and the Chaplain return to Chaplain's station.)

Worthy Advisor: Thank you for the lessons you have brought to us tonight. May the reviewing of them keep minds alert and submissive to them. Let us now, in the morning of this New Year consecrate ourselves anew to those principles upon which

our order is founded; sisterly love and truth. Sister Chaplain, you will lead us in prayer.

(The Worthy Advisor raps three times to call up Assembly.)

Chaplain: Dear God, whose words “Ask and Thou shalt receive” have come to us through the ages, we come to Thee in a spirit of supplication. We know that we have not lived up to promises we have made before the White Altar. Forgive us our shortcomings and help us to live close to Thee. And wilt Thou, most gracious Lord, bless the beautiful friendships that have been formed here. Make our associations steadfast with loyalty to each other and to Thee, and endow us with truth and loving kindness. Be our guide and teach us Thy Way, O Lord. We ask it all in Thy name. Amen.

Response by all: Lord, help us to keep our promise.

